



# Quan GAO

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**Quan Gao** is an associate professor (with tenure) at the School of Geography and Planning, SYSU. As a cultural geographer and urban studies scholar, Quan specializes in migration, religion, and their implications for social policy. He has published over 40 papers in prestigious journals such as China Quarterly, Dialogues in Human Geography, Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, Social & Cultural Geography, and Geoforum.

His recent research focuses on the socio-cultural embeddedness of highly skilled international migrants in China. In 2023, he was selected for the **Young Elite Scientists Sponsorship Program** by the Chinese Association of Science and Technology (CAST), becoming the first cultural geographer to receive this award. Quan also serves as the General Secretary (秘书长) of the Working Committee on International Exchange and Collaboration, the Geographical Society of China, and as the associate editor of the journal Transactions on Space, Place, and Culture.

## EDUCATION

Newcastle University, UK	2016-2020
PhD in Human Geography	2020
Certificate of Postgraduate Research Training	2017
South China Normal University	2011-2015
Bachelor (Geography; Experimental Class of Integrated Talent Cultivation)	

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

Associate Professor	2024.04-
School of Geography and Planning, Sun Yat-Sen University	
Assistant Professor	2021.10-2024.04
School of Geography and Planning, Sun Yat-Sen University	
Research Fellow (advisor: Lily Kong & Orlando Woods)	2020.09-2021.09
School of Social Science, Singapore Management University	
Investigator/Evaluator	2016.04-2016.06
Chinese State Department & Chinese Academy of Science	
For “Third Party Evaluation of National Targeted Poverty Alleviation”	

## RESEARCH AREAS

Migration studies; geopolitics; religion and public policy; urban studies

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Article

#### Theme 1: migrant studies and migrant governance

- [1] **Quan Gao**, Junxi Qian. (2019). Migrant workers in an era of religious revival: industrial capitalism, labour and Christianity in Shenzhen. *The China Quarterly*, 24(1): 62-86. **[IF=3.154, JCR Q1, 4/80 in area studies]**
- [2] **Quan Gao**, Nan Wei, Qian Zhang, Siyu Zhou, Jing Xie\*. Visualising the academic mobility of Nobel laureates. *Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science*. 2024, DOI: 10.1177/23998083241264075
- [3] **Quan Gao**. (2021). Reconstituting the neoliberal subjectivity of migrants: Christian theo-ethics and migrant workers in Shenzhen, China. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 47(12): 2725-2744. **[IF=5.34, JCR Q1, 1/29 in demography]**
- [4] **Quan Gao** & Peter Hopkins. (2021). Using intersectionality to explore social inequalities amongst Christian family migrants in China. *The Geographical Journal*, 188:177-189 [IF=3.28, JCR Q2]
- [5] Hui Chen, **Quan Gao**, Brenda Yeoh, Yungang Liu. (2022). Irregular migrant workers and health: A qualitative study of health status and access to healthcare of the Filipino domestic workers in mainland China. *Healthcare* 10, 1204. [IF=3.64, JCR Q2]
- [6] **Quan Gao**, Duo Yin, Hong Zhu & Xiaoliang Chen. (2019). Lived religion under neoliberal transition: work/leisure and migrant workers in Shenzhen, China. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 22 (8): 1122-1142. [IF=3.60, JCR Q2]
- [7] **Quan Gao**. (2019). The aspiration for moral manhood: religion, class, and migrant workers' negotiation of masculinities in Shenzhen, China. *Geoforum*, 106, 287-296. [IF=3.901, JCR Q2]
- [8] **Quan Gao**, Junxi Qian, and Zhenjie Yuan. (2018). Multi-scaled secularization or postsecular present? Christianity and migrant workers in Shenzhen, China. *Cultural Geographies*, 25 (4), 553-570. [IF=2.431, JCR Q3]
- [9] 周妍, 薛德升, 高权\*. (2024). “物质转向”视角下移民地理研究进展与启示. *地理科学进展*, 43(2): 402-416. [The progress of the geographies of migration in the perspective of “material turn”. *Progress in Geographical Science*]
- [10] 高權, 錢俊希. (2017). 十字架下的「農民工」: 宗教、社會轉型與民工基督徒主體性的建構. *台灣社會學刊*, 61, 51-94. [Beliefs at the Margins: Religion, Social Transformation and Subjectivity Construction of Migrant-worker Christians, *Taiwanese Journal of Sociology*]

#### Theme 2: urban studies, spatial governance & religion

- [1] **Quan Gao**, Woods Orlando & Lily Kong. (2023). Squeezed out by the market, seeking strength in the network: Makeshift temples and the spatio-affective logics of survival in Singapore. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*. 48:351- 364 [IF=4.773, JCR Q1]
- [2] **Quan Gao**, Duo Yin & Hong Zhu\*. (2020). Urban regeneration and emotional politics of place in Liede Village, Guangzhou, China. *Habitat International*, 103, 102199 **[IF=5.369, JCR Q1, 4/43 in urban studies]**
- [3] Jing Xie, Nan Wei, **Quan Gao**\*. Assessing spatiotemporal population density dynamics from 2000 to 2020 in megacities using urban and rural morphologies. *Scientific Reports*, 2024, 14, 14166.

- [4] **Quan Gao**, Duo Yin, Hong Zhu\*. (2019). Secularisation and resistant politics of sacred space in Guangzhou's ancestral temple, China. *Area*, 51(3), 570-577. [IF=2.28, JCR Q3]
- [5] **Quan Gao**, Woods Orlando & Lily Kong. (2023). The Political Ecology of Death: Chinese Religion and the Affective Tensions of Secularised Burial Rituals in Singapore. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*. 6(1), 537-555 [IF=3.758, JCR Q2]
- [6] **Quan Gao**, Orlando Woods, Lily Kong, Siew Ying Shee. (2022). Lived religion in a digital age: Technology, affect and the pervasive space-times of “new” religious praxis. *Social & Cultural Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649365.2022.2121979> [IF=3.60, JCR Q2]
- [7] Xiaomei Cai, Orlando Woods & **Quan Gao**\*. (2021). Running bodies and affective spaces of health in and beyond marathon running. *Health & Place*. 70(102612). [IF=4.078, JCR Q1]
- [8] Lingfeng Li, and **Quan Gao**\*. (2023). Researching Tourism Space in China's Great Bay Area: Spatial Pattern, Driving Forces and Its Coupling with Economy and Population. *Land*, 12(10): 1878.
- [9] Zhou Zekun, Duo Yin\*, and **Quan Gao**\*. Sense of presence and subjective well-being in online pet watching: The moderation role of loneliness and perceived stress. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17.23 (2020): 9093.
- [10] Ouyang Yi, Xiaomei Cai, **Quan Gao**\*. Investigating the “embodied spaces of health” in marathon running: the roles of embodiment, wearable technology, and affective atmospheres. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 19.1 (2021): 43.
- [11] **Quan Gao**, Orlando Woods, and Xiaomei Cai. The influence of masculinity and the moderating role of religion on the workplace well-being of factory workers in China. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2021, 18(12): 6250.
- [12] 高权, 钱俊希. (2016). “情感转向”视角下地方性重构研究——以广州猎德村为例. *人文地理*, 31 (4), 33-41. [Negotiating place-restructuring from the perspective of emotional geographies: a case study of Liede village, Guangzhou. *Human Geography*]
- [13] 朱竑, 高权. (2015). 西方地理学“情感转向”与情感地理学研究述评. *地理研究*, 34 (7), 1394-1406.
- [14] 曾丽,高权,陈晓亮.游客具身体验视角下传统乡村旅游地的地方重构——婺源案例. *旅游学刊*, 2021,36(11):69-79.
- [15] 尹铎,高权,卢薇,等. 超越人类的地理学视角下丽江古城旅游地的营建与消费. *旅游学刊*, 2021, 36 (04): 96-105.
- [16] 尹铎,高权,杨梦琪. 城市失地农民“家”的重构与协商——以鄂尔多斯为例. *地理科学*, 2019, 39 (12): 1849-1856.
- [17] 尹铎,蔡慕言,梁金多,高权. 广州城市流浪乞讨者的空间管治与日常生活实践. *地理科学*, 2019, 39 (03): 450-458.
- [18] 尹铎,高权,朱竑. 广州鳄鱼公园野生动物旅游中的生命权力运作. *地理学报*, 2017, 72 (10): 1872-1885.
- [19] 袁振杰,高权,黄文炜. 城镇化背景下村落神圣空间政治性的建构——以广州 A 村宗祠为例. *人文地理*, 2016, 31 (05): 71-79.
- [20] 陈忠暖,高权,王帅,等. 中国重工业化与城乡收入差距的实证分析. *经济地理*, 2016, 36 (07): 99-106.
- [21] 陈忠暖,高权,王帅. 中国省际城镇化综合水平及其空间分异. *经济地理*, 2014, 34 (06): 54-59.

### **Theme 3: geopolitics & global studies**

- [1] Quan Gao, Justin Tse & Orlando Woods\*. (2021). What and Whose Confucianism? Sinophone communities and dialogical geopolitics. *Dialogues in Human Geography*. 11(2): 244–247. **[IF=27, JCR Q1, 1/84 in Geography]**
- [2] 丁腾飞, 高权\*. 移民地缘政治的西方地理学研究进展与启示. *人文地理*, 2024, 39(02):11-20. [Geopolitics of migrants in Western geographical research. *Human Geography*]
- [3] 高权, Orlando Woods, Lily Kong, 等. 死亡的生态政治: 新加坡丧葬改革中的土地与情感矛盾. *世界地理研究*, 2024, 33(4): 24-35. [Political ecology of death: funeral reform and the conflicts between land and emotion in Singapore. *World Regional Studies*.]

### **Book Chapters**

- Quan Gao. 2020. Rescralisation. In: Adam Possamai & Anthony Blasi (eds). **The SAGE Encyclopedia of Sociology of Religion**. London: Sage.
- Quan Gao. 2020. Scale. In: Newcastle Social Geography Collective (eds.). **Social Geographies: an introduction**. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 61-69.
- Quan Gao. 2024. Theo-ethics. In: Lily Kong et al. (eds). **Handbook of Geography of Religion**. Dordrecht: Springer

### **Other Publications**

- [1] Quan Gao. Redeeming China's sweatshops: Christianity and migrant factory workers in Shenzhen. *Asian Dialogue* (newsletter). July 31, 2019.
- [2] Duo Yin, Quan Gao\* & Hong Zhu. Rethinking wildlife tourism and conservation during the COVID-19 pandemic: an animal ethics perspective. *Society & Natural Resources*, 2021, 34(10): 1423-1429. (JCR Q2)
- [3] Duo Yin, Quan Gao, Hong Zhu. Public perception of urban companion animals during the COVID-19 outbreak in China. *Health & Place*, 2020, 65: 102399.
- [4] Zhou, Siyu, ... Quan Gao, Jing Xie\*. Identifying the Effects of Vegetation on Urban Surface Temperatures Based on Urban–Rural Local Climate Zones in a Subtropical Metropolis. *Remote Sensing*, 2023, 15.19: 4743.

### **FUNDING & GRANTS**

- National Natural Foundation of China**. Social-cultural embeddedness of foreign skilled migrants in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Great Bay Area: process, mode and mechanism. 2023-2025. 300,000 RMB, PI. Grant Number: 42201240
- **Young Elite Scientists Sponsorship Program by Chinese Association of Science and Technology (CAST)**, [中国科协青年人才托举工程]2022-2025, 300000 RMB. (The only social-cultural geographers who received this Sponsorship in 2022)
- Guangzhou Basic and Applied Science Grant. Place embeddedness of foreign skilled migrants in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Great Bay Area. 2022-2025. 50000 RMB, PI.

## TEACHING

In SYSU:

Introduction to Public Policy (2021-2022 semester 2)

Social Geography and Social Planning (2023-2024 semester 2)

Oversea Chinese: History and Culture (2023-2024 semester 2)

Urban Geography (2023-2024 semester 2) [core curriculum of the school]

English for Human Geography (2022-2023 semester 1) [teaching evaluation **Top 0.02%**]

Political Geography (2024-2025 semester 2)

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Associate Editor of *Transactions on Space, Place and Culture*.

Young scholar editorial board member of *Tropical Geography* (《热带地理》) (2021-2025)

### Journal Peer Review:

2024: Political Geography; Gender, Place and Culture; Urban Studies

2023: Habitat International; Urban Studies; Geoforum

2022: Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers; Habitat International; Applied and Spatial Analysis; Tropical Geography (3); Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Journal of Rural Studies

2021: City: analysis of urban trends, culture, theory, policy, action; Asia Pacific Viewpoint

2020: Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Humanities & Social Sciences Communications (2); Journal of Construction Building and Planning Research

## FUNDING PRIZES & AWARDS

**Best Presentation Prize Awarded by Association of Cultural Geography of China** (“Rethinking postsecular feminism: religious agency and intersectionality of women migrant workers in Shenzhen”).

Newcastle University Research Excellent Academy Studentship (2016-2020)

National Undergraduate Innovative Project 2012-2014. Investigating place-based urban regeneration in Guangzhou from the perspective of placeness. Program Director, granted by Ministry of Education, ¥ 10000 awarded.

**Second Class Innovative Prize of South China Normal University** (2014-2015)

Excellent student of South China Normal University (2011-2012)

Top 10 BA Thesis of South China Normal University (2015)

## PRESENTATIONS

**Invited young scholar keynote speaker** of 2023 National Geographical Conference of China. Social and Cultural Networks of Oversea Chinese in Singapore and its Geopolitical implications.

**Session chair and speaker:** First Workshop for Young Asian Geographers. “Introduction to ‘BRI and Inter-Asia Engagement: Insights from social and cultural Geography’”. 2021.12.18.

**Invited speaker,** Guangzhou University, “Chinese religion in Singapore”. 2021.11.18

**Invited speaker** of International workshop on “China in an era of mobilities: New theoretical dialogues on migration”. (8-10 Nov, 2018, Guangzhou). Presentation: “Reconstituting neoliberal subjectivity of migrants: Christian theo-ethics and migrant workers in Shenzhen, China”.

**Invited speaker** at Centre for Social and Cultural Geography, South China Normal University (26 March 2018) Presentation: Urban homelessness and neoliberal biopolitics in Shenzhen