

Darwin H. Tsen

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Positions Held

2021 -	Assistant Teaching Professor of Chinese / Coordinator of Chinese, Syracuse University
2018 - 2021	Coordinator of the Chinese Program, Carthage College
2017- 2021	Assistant Professor of Chinese and Japanese, Carthage College
2017 Jan-May	Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow of Comparative Literature and Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University
2010-2017	Instructor and Teaching Assistant of Comparative Literature and Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University
2015-2016	Program Coordinator for the Pennsylvania State University – Nanjing University The Globally Engaged Humanities Project
2013-2014	Visiting Graduate Instructor, School of Liberal Arts, Nanjing University
2009-2010	Instructor of Comparative Literature, Binghamton University

Education

2016	Ph.D., Comparative Literature and Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University Dissertation: “Postsocialist Collectivities: Institutions, Aesthetics, Politics in the Sinophone Novel.”
2010	M.A., Comparative Literature, Binghamton University (State University of New York)
2008	B.A., Journalism (Japanese minor), National Cheng-Chi University

Areas of Research and Teaching

Modern and Contemporary Chinese & Sinophone Literature, Film, and Culture; Critical Theory; Japanese Literature, Film, and Culture; Asian American Literature; Postsocialism in East Asia and Eastern Europe.

Manuscript in Preparation

Collectivity After Socialism in the Fictions of the Transpacific: Institutionalizing Aesthetics 1960-2010

My book project, *Collectivity After Socialism in the Fictions of the Transpacific: Institutionalizing Aesthetics 1960-2010* is an adoption and expansion of my doctoral dissertation, which explored how novels from the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, and Chinese Malaysia imagined the ways of being-together – a group's "collectivity" – after the Cultural Revolution ended in 1976. These novels were connected via socialism's historical entanglements between China, Taiwan, and Chinese Malaysia: when China's socialist policies shifted after 1976, intellectuals and writers in Taiwan and Malaysia responded to the subsequent changes by envisioning different types of collectivity. *Collectivity After Socialism* expands this project by including Japanese as well as Asian American writers while increasing the mediums of analysis to television, film, and graphic novels. The book project has two primary interventions: first, it aims to excavate the shared historical undercurrents of socialism that ran across the Eastern and Western rims of the Pacific throughout the literary, cinematic, and graphic imagination. The second, and more pressing goal of the book, is to examine how "collectivity" in contemporary literature and culture demonstrate the possibilities, as well as the limits, to the forms in which we currently are able to imagine communities, collective projects, and shared futures – after the recession of socialism in the late twentieth century. This is a book about what sort of "we" can be imagined, and the historical, material, and institutional conditions that allow us to imagine it as such.

Publications

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Published

"Reading While Walking: A Reflection on Interdisciplinary Co-Teaching". With Katherine Anne Keenan. *Teaching Anthropology*. Vol.9, No.2, Spring 2020.

"After the Commune: Postsocialist Collectivity, the Commodity, and Mo Yan's People." *MCLC: Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, Vol.28, Number 1, Spring 2017.

In Progress

"Transnational Aesthetics/Struggle: Xu Lizhi and the Poetics of Necrocapitalism." For: *positions: east asia critique*.

"Fantastic Exchanges: The Global South, a Rising China, and Bodies that Matter in Zhang Yueran's Birds of Vows." For *Prism: Theory and Modern Chinese Literature*.

Book Chapters

Published

"Revisiting Said's 'Secular Criticism': Anarchism, Enabling Ethics, and Oppositional Ethics." With Charles R. Wesley in *The Geocritical Legacies of Edward Said: Spatiality, Critical Humanism, and Comparative Literature*, ed. Robert T. Tally Jr. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, 101-125.

In Progress

“Transition as Dysrhythmia: Luo Yijun, Generational Logic, and Taiwanese Post-postmodernism”, in *Remembering Transitions* (tentative), ed. Ksenia Robbe. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022. (Forthcoming.)

Online Platforms

“Necropower and the Mass in COVID-19.” For *positions politics*. (in progress)

Translations

Karatani, Kojin. “History as Museum: Okakura Tenshin and Ernest Fenollosa.” In *Nation and Aesthetics*, ed. Jonathan Abel and Hiroki Yoshikuni. Oxford University Press, June 2017.

Wang, Xiaoming. “Toward a Great Unity: Theories of Subjectivity in China and the Early Decades of the Modern Era.” *Social Text* 30.1 (Spring 2012): 143-157.

Book Reviews

Review of *Transpacific Community: The Rise and Fall of a Cultural Network*, by Richard Jean So, *Comparative Literature Studies*, 56.4 (Winter 2019): 873-877.

Review of *The Class Strikes Back: Self-Organised Workers’ Struggles in the Twenty-First Century*, Ed. Dario Azzellini & Michael G. Kraft, *Viewpoint Magazine* (in progress).

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

“Asian America – Past, Present, Future, Here!” invited talk with the community at the Kenosha Public Library, Kenosha, WI, May 25th, 2021.

“AAPI, Systemic Racism and Intersectionality.” at the “CRT 120: Critical Thinking and Social Justice” undergraduate seminar, invited by Danesh Singh, Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York, NY, April 13th, 2021.

“The Waves Have Come to the Transpacific: Spatial Thinking in Yamaga Taiji’s *Tasogare Nikki*.” At the Association for Asian American Studies (virtual) annual conference, April 7-10, 2021.

“Necropolitical Displacement: Quarantining with the State in Fang Fang’s *Wuhan Diary*.” at the American Comparative Literature Association (virtual) annual conference, April 8-11, 2021.

“Learning to Compare: Critical Thinking with Intercultural Content.” at the “Content-based Instruction and Cultural Literacy in Chinese and Japanese Language Teaching” panel, organizer & presenter, Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers annual conference, November 6-7, 2020. (Online.)

“COVID-19, the Art of Necropower, and Social Movements”, at the Association for Asian Studies in Asia annual conference, Kobe, Japan August 31 – September 2, 2020. (Online.)

“The Bureaucrat Class: Mao, Tito, Ceaușescu, and Theories of Power in Actually Existed Socialisms”, at the Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies. San Francisco, November 23-26, 2019.

“Species-Being, Artistic Praxis, and Political Possibilities”, at the “Aesthetics, Politics, Revolution” graduate seminar, invited by Jennifer Dorothy Lee, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, November 6, 2019.

“Determined by Heaven: The Aesthetics of Violence in Jia Zhangke’s *A Touch of Sin*.” Association of the Arts in the Present (ASAP) annual conference, College Park, October 10-12, 2019.

“Mapping Early Japanese Anarchism: The Travels of Kotoku Shusui, Osugi Sakae, and Yamaga Taiji”, at the ASIANetwork. San Diego, April 12-14, 2019.

“Kyoto U, Four Tatami Rooms, and Nights at the Ramen Stand: Postsocialist Specters in Morimi Tomohiko’s *The Tatami Galaxy*”, at the American Comparative Literature Association. Georgetown, March 7-10, 2019.

“Art Can’t Go On, Art Must Go On: Exhaustion Cycles in East Asian Activism”, at the “Art, Politics, & Collective Action in East Asia” undergraduate seminar, invited by Jennifer Dorothy Lee, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, November 5, 2018.

“Teaching Gender Equality and Romantic Ambiguity with *The King’s Avatar*” at the “Popular Culture, Pedagogy, and Cultural Literacy in Chinese and Japanese Language Instruction” roundtable,” organizer & presenter, Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers annual conference, Appleton, WI, November 1-3, 2018.

“Capital Realism’s Imperial Eye: Imaginaries of the Global South in Hou Hsiao-hsien’s *Goodbye, South, Goodbye*”, in “Imagining the End of Capitalism in the Global South” Seminar, co-organized by Carlos M. Amador, Dorian Lee Jackson and Darwin H. Tsen, Association of the Arts in the Present (ASAP) annual conference, New Orleans, October 17-21, 2018.

“Fantastic Exchanges: The Global South in Zhang Yueran’s *Birds of Vows*.” European Association for Chinese Studies, Glasgow, University of Glasgow, August 29-September 1, 2018.

“Marxism as Mental Illness: Immunization, Necropolitics, and Socialism’s Afterlives in Luo Yijun’s *Nativity of the Zodiacs*.” Marxist Reading Group Annual Conference, Gainesville, University of Florida, March 23-24, 2018.

“Toward a Comparative Postsocialist Temporality.” American Comparative Literature Association. Utrecht, Netherlands, July 6-9, 2017.

“The Community as Wound: Teaching Justin Chin’s Poetry in the Era of Trump.” *Queer Places, Practices, and Lives*. Ohio State University, May 12-13, 2017.

“Postsocialist Positions in Non-socialist Places: The Case of Taiwan’s Luo Yijun.” Society for Comparative Literature and the Arts. New Orleans, October 15-17, 2015.

“Under Institutional Eyes: The Search for Collectivity in the Postsocialist Transpacific Novel.” Center for Global Studies, Pennsylvania State University, April 22, 2015.

“It's About Us, and We Occupy Alone: The Language of Exceptionalism of Occupy Wall Street and Taiwan's “Sunflower” Movement.” Social Thought Conference, Pennsylvania State University, April 11, 2015.

“Institutional Memory in Postsocialist China: Mo Yan's Cancerous Collectivity.” Modern Language Association. Vancouver, January 8-11, 2015.

“Literature, Institutions, and Collectivity in Contemporary Chinese Life.” History of Modern Chinese Literature course, invited by Prof. Puguang Zhao. Nanjing Normal University, November 4, 2015.

“From the World to the Village: Mo Yan's Cancerous Collectivity.” 3rd International Summit on Global Chinese Literature in the 21st Century. Nanjing University, November 1-4, 2014.

“Said and the State: Institutions, Culture, Transformation.” American Comparative Literature Association. Nominated for the 2014 Horst Frenz Prize, Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.

“The Exilic Creation of Prestige: The Intellectual Positions of Bei Dao and Gao Xingjian.” American Comparative Literature Association. Providence, March 29 - April 1, 2012.

“Silent Accusations: Jennifer Baichwal's Manufactured Landscapes.” American Comparative Literature Association. New Orleans, April 1-4, 2010.

“The Residual Tekhnē: Material (dis)continuity in Samuel Butler's Erewhon.” Machines and Machination Graduate Conference. Cornell University, September 18-19, 2009.

“The Subaltern Screams: Carlos Bulosan as the Transnational Organic Intellectual.” Inhabiting the Transnational Graduate Conference. Binghamton University, February 20, 2009.

Summer Programs, Workshops, and Presentations at Public Panels

“StoryTeching/Immersive Tales Exhibit: Pop-up Virtual Conversation with Nadav Assor.” With Nicholas Pilarski, Carthage College, October 29, 2020.

WAFLT Summer Leadership Institute, participant, co-hosted by University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 29-30, 2019.

“Chinese Underground Music Primer.” Chinese New Year Celebration Week, Carthage College, February 15, 2019.

“Worlding Postsocialist Literature.” Institute for World Literature Colloquia 5 (Postcolonialism and World Literature 2), University of Tokyo, July 10, 2018.

The Institute For World Literature, participant, co-hosted by the University of Tokyo and Harvard University, Tokyo, July 2-26, 2018.

“California Histories, Wisconsin Futures.” *FoxConn in Wisconsin* public forums, Carthage College, Kenosha, February 28, 2018.

“Modernism after Postmodernism: Luo Yijun and Taiwan’s Post-postmodernist Writerly Collective.” The Modern and Contemporary Studies Initiative at Penn State, June 12-16, 2017.

Summer School of Transcultural Theory, moderator, organized by Academia Sinica hosted in Shih-Hsin University, Taiwan, July 11-August 1, 2011.

Grants, Honors, and Awards

- 2018 The Krueger Fund for Faculty Development, Carthage College
Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant, Carthage College
- 2017 Professional Development Grant, Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research, Pennsylvania State University
- 2016 Keith R. Karako Program Fund in Asian Studies, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University
Janssen Family Fund in Asian Studies, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015 Summer Writing Fellowship, Department of Comparative Literature, Pennsylvania State University
MLA Travel Assistance for Graduate Students.
Fellow of the Center for Global Studies, Spring 2015, Pennsylvania State University
- 2014 Summer Support for Dissertation Writing, Department of Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University
- 2011 Keith R. Karako Program Fund in Asian Studies, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University
Teaching Moderator at the Summer School of Transcultural Theory, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
- 2010 Keith R. Karako Program Fund in Asian Studies, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University

Languages

English (native fluency), Chinese (native fluency), Japanese (advanced), Taiwanese Min Nan

Teaching

Chinese Language

As Carthage College’s Chinese program coordinator, with *Integrated Chinese*:

CHN 1010/1020: Introductory Chinese I&II, 2018-2019, 2019-2020 (spring online).

CHN 2020: Elementary Chinese II, Spring 2019.

CHN 3010/3020: Intermediate Chinese I&II. 2017-2018, 2020-2021.

CHN 3011/3021: Intermediate Oral Chinese I&II. 2017-2018, 2019-2020 (spring online), 2020-2021.

CHN 4070: Advanced Chinese. Fall 2019, Fall 2020.

CHN 4010: Senior Thesis. Spring 2019, Spring 2020 (online).

At Penn State, with the *Routledge Course in Modern Mandarin* & Self-Designed Materials:

CHNS 001: Elementary Chinese. General Education. Fall 2012 & Spring 2013.

CHNS 110: Intermediate Chinese. General Education. Spring 2017.

CHNS 401/402: Level Three Chinese A&B. General Education. Fall 2016, Spring 2017.

Japanese Language

JPN 1010: Introductory Japanese 1. General Education. Fall 2017 & Fall 2018.

JPN 1020: Introductory Japanese 2. General Education. Spring 2018.

Chinese Literature and Culture, Asian Studies

CHNS 120: Introduction to Chinese Literature and Culture. General Education. Summer 2011.

ASN 1000: Interdisciplinary Introduction to Asian Studies. Spring 2020 (online), Spring 2021 (online).

Comparative Literature

CHN/JPN 3080: Introduction to Chinese and Japanese Literature and Culture. Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021.

CMLIT 120: Literature of the Occult. General Education. Spring 2017.

CMLIT 453: Comparative Postsocialist Literature and Film. Advanced Level, Fall 2014.

East-West Comparative Studies. Graduate Level, Nanjing University. Spring 2014.

Introduction to Modernist Literature. Graduate Level, Nanjing University, Fall 2013.

CMLIT 005: Literatures of the Americas. General Education (LEAP), Summer 2013.

COLI 214B: Literature and Society: Intellectuals Reconsidered. General Education, Spring 2010.

COLI 214B: Literature and Society: Literatures of Violence, Modernity, and the Everyday. General Education, Fall 2009.

Film and Visual Culture

CHNS 453: Chinese Film. Advanced Level, Fall 2011.

ARH 3730 B-01: Masterpieces of Asian Art and Architecture. Advanced Level, Fall 2020.

Interdisciplinary Courses:

SOC 675C S J-1: Ethnography/Literature of Kenosha, Winter 2019, co-taught with Katharine Keenan.

Online Teaching

ASIA 100: What is Asia? General Education. Summer 2013.

Study Abroad Courses

MLA-CDM 3170: Tokyo: Collective Identity, Mediated Selves, and the Built Environment. Winter 2020.

JAPNS 496B: Global Experiences in Japan. Summer 2014.

Teaching Assistantships

CMLIT 130: Banned Books. General Education, Fall 2016.

JAPNS 121: Japanese Film and New Media: The Cooling of Japan. General Education, Fall 2011.

ASIA 100: What is Asia? General Education, Fall 2010 & Fall 2011.

Service

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- 2021 -
 ASAP Motherboard member, Conference Liaison
 Conference Planning Committee Member, ASAP (Association for the Study of the Arts in The Present)
 Peer Reviewer, *Pacific Coast Philology*, The Pennsylvania State University
 Anti-Racist Reading Group member & facilitator
 Statement on AAPI discrimination and violence, facilitator & drafter
 MA Thesis committee member for Japanese Target Language Expert, Risa Kageyama.
- 2020 -
 Member, CEAS Scholars Across Wisconsin (Center for East Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison)
 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Asian Studies*, Cambridge University
 Hiring Committee Member, Assistant Director of Equity & Inclusion
 Carthage Left Alliance club adviser
- 2019 -
 Academic Senate Elections Committee Member
 Fulbright Committee co-organizer
 Medical Humanities minor steering committee member
 SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience) Advisor

- 2018-2019 Academic Senate Secretary
Faculty Handbook Committee member
DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) Strategic Planning Committee Member
DEI Subcommittee member for “Access and Equity”
- 2018 - Academic Senate Standing Committee member
Fulbright Committee member
Undergraduate Adviser for Chinese, Japanese, and Asian Studies Majors
DEIL (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Leadership) Fellows Program Mentor
Peer Reviewer, *Comparative Literature Studies*, Pennsylvania State University
Field Trip Leader, Chinese American Museum of Chicago, 4/7, 5/19, 9/30
Target Language Expert in Chinese search & hiring committee, Modern Languages Department
Interviewer and Essay Reader, Lincoln Scholarship Awards
Interviewer and Essay Reader, Modern Languages Scholarship Awards
Interviewer and Essay Reader, Transfer Scholarship Awards
Organization & Supervision, Chinese New Year Celebration Week
Organization & Supervision, International Mid-Autumn Festival
Tabletop RPG club adviser
Chinese club adviser
- 2018 Colloquium leader, “Postcolonialism and World Literature 2”, Institute For World Literature, 7/2-7/26, 2018, University of Tokyo
- Founder and Co-organizer, *Building a Healthy Community* workshop series, Modern Languages Department, 4/26, 5/08
- Founder and Co-organizer, *FoxConn in Wisconsin* public forums, 2/28, 3/14, 3/21, Carthage College, with full Campus and Community Participation.
- Community Discussion about Race and Justice, discussion facilitator, 2/13, Carthage College
Secretary, Department of Modern Languages, 2017-2018 academic year.
- MA Thesis committee member for Japanese Target Language Expert, Takumi Nakano.
- 2017 Subcommittee Member, “Diversity in the Curriculum” under the Equity and Inclusion Committee, Carthage College
- Boren Fellowship application reviewer, December 2017
Discussion volunteer of *Just Mercy*, First Year Read event, Kenosha, September 4, 2017.
Revision of Chinese and Japanese Program Curriculum Roadmaps, 2017-2018.
- Panelist, undergraduate workshop “Is graduate school right for you?”, Kensoha, November 7, 2017.
- Learning Community Member, “Promoting Student Independence Through Active Learning”, Carthage College, Fall 2017 & Spring 2018.

- Seminar Organizer. "Postsocialist Literature and Culture Under Comparative Lenses." American Comparative Literature Association. Utrecht, Netherlands, July 6-9, 2017.
- 2016 First respondent. "Flash-Forward at ACL(X): Extra Disciplinarity." State College, September 24, 2016.
- Panel judge. "Global Eyes: Critical Perspectives of an Interconnected World." 2016 Global Studies Undergraduate Research Symposium, State College, April 11, 2016.
- Seminar Co-Organizer. "Modern Chinese Literary and Cultural Studies in the Age of Theory: Re-imagining a Field 2.0." American Comparative Literature Association, Cambridge, March 17-20, 2016.
- 2014-2015 President, Graduates in International Languages and Literatures, (departmental graduate organization)
- Organizer, Peer Review Sessions, Graduates in International Languages and Literatures, Steering Committee Member, Progressive Student Coalition
- 2012-2013 President, Graduates in International Languages and Literatures.
2012 Organizer, Asian Studies Film Series, Pennsylvania State University
2011-2012 Secretary, International Languages and Literatures Graduate Organization
2009-2010 Treasurer, Binghamton Education Workers Union, Branch of Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)
- 2008–2009 Editing Member, *Crossings: A Counter-Disciplinary Journal*. Department of English, Binghamton University
- 2008 Conference Reading Committee Member, "Desire, Praxis and the Commons." Binghamton University

Certificates

Equity & Inclusion Certificate Program, 2018-2019, Carthage College
 Mental Health First Aid USA Certificate, August 2018, Carthage College
 Certificate of Participation, Institute for World Literature, July 2018, University of Tokyo
 Writing Across the Curriculum Workshop, August 2017, Carthage College

Professional Associations

American Association of Comparative Literature (ACLA)
 Association of Asian Studies (AAS)
 Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
 The Association for the Study of the Arts in The Present (ASAP)
 European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS)
 Modern Language Association (MLA)
 Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers (WAFLT)