
Xiangli Ding
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Assistant Professor, Rhode Island School of Design, 2019-
Lecturer, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2018-2019

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. 2018 Department of History, The State University of New York at Buffalo,
M.A., 2011 Department of History, Nanjing University
B.A., 2008. Department of History, Henan Normal University

PUBLICATIONS:

Book Project: *Hydropower Nation: Dams, Energy, and Political Changes in Twentieth-Century China* (under contract with the Cambridge University Press)

Research Articles:

“Concrete Sublime and Somatic Intensity: Visualizing Water Engineering in Socialist China”

Made in China Journal(forthcoming)

“Nowhere to Call Home: A Study of Sanmenxia Reservoir Resettlement from Henan to Gansu, 1956-1965”

Journal of Chinese History Vol.6 Issue 1, January 2022, pp.123-144.

“The Yellow River Comes from Our Hands: Silt, Hydroelectricity, and the Sanmenxia Dam, 1929-1973”

Environment and History Vol.27, November 2021, pp. 665-694.

“Save the Nation with Electricity Generation: A Study of the Hydroelectric Industry in Chongqing during the War of Resistance against Japan”

Historical Research in Anhui(Hefei), Vol. 5, October 2017, pp.91-98(in Chinese)

“Arid Spring and Flooded Autumn: The Predicament of Eastern Henan Agricultural Society under the Impact of Climate and People during the Qing Dynasty”

Journal of the Yellow River Civilization and Sustainable Development(Kaifeng), Vol. 11, December 2015, pp. 35-44.(in Chinese)

Book Reviews:

Review of *Carbon Technocracy: Energy Regimes in Modern East Asia*, by Victor Seow

Asian Review of World Histories(forthcoming)

Review of *The Yellow River: A Natural and Unnatural History*, by Ruth Mostern, H-Net Reviews, November 2022.

“Review of *Natural Resources and the New Frontier: Constructing Modern China’s Borderlands*”

Journal of East Asian Studies, Volume 19, Issue 3, November 2019, pp.399-400.

“Review of *Building New China, Colonizing Kokonor: Resettlement to Qinghai in the 1950s*”

Twentieth-Century China, Volume 44, Number 3, October 2019, pp.E19-E21.

“As Long as the Water is Under Control, the State is Under Control: Review of David A. Pietz, *The Yellow River: The Problem of Water in Modern China*”
Modern Chinese History Studies(Beijing), Volume.6, December 2015, pp. 138-145.(in Chinese)

“Beyond Colonizing and Colonized: Review of Jun Uchida, *Brokers of Empire: Japanese Settler Colonialism in Korea, 1876-1945*”
Cheng Kung Journal of Historical Studies(Taiwan), Volume.48, June 2015, pp. 281-290.(in Chinese)

“Gun, Fist, and the Imagination of Violence in Modern China: Review of William Rowe *Crimson Rain: Seven Centuries of Violence in a Chinese County*”
Historical Review(Shanghai), Volume.1, February 2011, pp. 170-177.(in Chinese)

Public Writing:

“The Human Costs of ‘Swan City’”, [China Dialogue](#), June 14, 2019

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS AND ENGAGEMENTS:

“Roundtable: Teaching Contentious China in Polarized American Colleges”
American Historical Association Annual Conference, Philaphedia, January 5-7, 2023

“Internationalization of Dam Building in Modern China”
Globalization of Dams Workshop, Bielefeld University, Germany, November 28-29, 2022

Peer Reviewer for *Technology and Culture* journal, 2022

“The Great Leap of Small Hydro in Socialist China”
Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine (JAS-EASTM), Harvard University, May 5-6, 2022

“Experts from the Old Society in the Making of Red Hydro-technostructure in Maoist China” The Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii (virtual), March 26, 2022

Invited Discussant, East Asia: Transregional Histories Workshop, Center for East Asian Studies, University of Chicago(virtual), November 4, 2021

“A New Man-Made Disaster: Hydropower Infrastructure in Wartime Southwest China” Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine, John Hopkins University(virtual), April 17, 2021

“The Making of a Swan City: An Environmental History of the Sanmenxia Dam” The Six Biennial Conference of East Asian Environmental History, Kyoto University, Japan(virtual), September 8, 2021

Invited Talk, “Water Management Infrastructure in China”, “Environment in Asia” series, Fairbank Center for China Studies, Harvard University(Webinar), August 6, 2020;

Invited Talk(in Chinese), “[The Yellow River Comes from Our Hands: A Historical Study of the Sanmenxia Hydropower Project](#)” Taikang Space, Beijing(virtual). August 1, 2020; (also presented in English at The New England Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Dartmouth College, November 2, 2019)

Invited Q & A on my research project with Micah Muscolino, Department of History, University of California, San Diego. February 21, 2020;

“The River, the Dam, and the Swans: A History of the Sanmenxia Hydropower Project” The Liberal Arts Brown Bag Graduate Research Forum, Rhode Island School of Design, September 11, 2019

“Rivers Transformed by War: Hydropower Plants, Local Communities and the War of Resistance against Japan in Southwest China.” On the Natural History of Destruction Workshop, Columbia University, Oct. 5, 2018 (Also presented at Our World of Water: Histories of the Hydrosphere Conference, Georgetown University, November 4, 2017.)

“Silt, Dam, and Energy: Hydroelectric Power and the Sanmenxia Project, 1941-1973.” The Fourth Conference of East Asian Environmental History, Nankai University, October 26, 2017.

UCLA-SJTU-UChicago Summer Text and Translation Workshop: New Materials and Interdisciplinary Methods of Studying Twentieth-century Chinese History, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, July 16-22, 2017.

“‘The Yellow River Comes from Our Hands’: Hydroelectricity and the Sanmenxia Project on the Yellow River.” International Water History Association Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, June 14, 2017.

“The Social and Environmental Consequences of the Sanmenxia Reservoir Displacement, 1956-1965.” New England Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, January 28, 2017.

“‘A New Man-made Disaster’: The War of Resistance against Japan and

Hydroelectric Projects in Southwest China.” New York Conference on Asian Studies, Utica, NY, September 24, 2016.

“Nowhere to Call Home: A Study of Land Reclamation and Resettlement Programs from Henan to Gansu in the Late 1950s.” The Theory and Practice of Environmental History: National Young Scholars Symposium, Beijing, June 19, 2015.

“Arid Spring and Flooded Autumn: The Yellow River and Local Society in Eastern Henan, 1644-1795.” The American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, March 14, 2014. Chinese version presented at the Sixth International Symposium on Yellow River Studies, Kaifeng, Henan, November 22, 2014.

“Green as Civilized: Forests in South and Central Manchuria, 1860-1945” Symposium on Urban China, Buffalo, NY, April 20, 2013. Also presented at the New York Conference on Asian Studies, Binghamton, NY, September 27, 2013.

“A History of Mills in China During the Late Imperial Period and the Early 20th Century.” New York Conference on Asian Studies, New Paltz, NY, September 29, 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Rhode Island School of Design:

Environment and Power in East Asia

Chinese History through Films

Historical Origin of Global Inequalities

Modern China

Making of Modern East Asia

Global Environmental History

Independent Study Project with Marco Nuno Mourao, research topic: Avenida of Dream: Urban Identity of Macau (Winter 2020)

The University of Alabama in Huntsville:

HY 104 World History Since 1500 (Face to Face and Online) (2018/2019)

HY399/HY598 Modern East Asian History (Fall 2018)

HY399 Comparative Environmental History (Spring 2019)

The College at Brockport:

HST 202 Modern World History (Spring 2017)

HST 386 From Opium to Hiroshima (Spring 2017)

SUNY University at Buffalo:

Teaching Assistant for:

HIS391 China in the World (Fall 2017)

HIS182 Asian Civilizations II (Spring 2013)

HIS181 Asian Civilizations I (Fall 2012)

HIS 162 U.S. Society Since 1865 (Spring 2017)

HIS161 American History I (Fall 2015)

UGC112 World Civilizations II (Spring 2012)
 UGC111 World Civilizations I (Fall 2011; Summer 2013)

SERVICE:

HPSS Department Term Appointment Search Committee;

Guest Critic, MDes Interior Studies (Adaptive Reuse), RISD Graduation Show, May 26, 2022;

Guest Critic, Rethinking Green Urbanism, RISD, May 18, 2022.

Metcalf Professorship in Sustainability Search Committee, RISD, 2021-2022;

Guest lecture, Plastic China and Environmental Injustice, HPPS-S101, RISD, April 29, 2021;

Guest critic, ID-24ST Adaptive Ecologies Studio, RISD, May 18, 2021;

Guest critic, "Ethics of Representation", Global Arts and Cultures Program, Graduate Seminar, RISD, May 12, 2020;

Admissions Committee, RISD, 2019-2021;

"East Asian Names: History, Culture, and Pronunciation" International Education Week Workshop, Rhode Island School of Design, November 20, 2019

Comparative Cultures and Conflict Certificate Committee, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2018-2019;

TA Leader for 2017 Conference for Graduate Teaching Assistants, University at Buffalo, August 26, 2017;

Panel chair for 2016 Milton Plesur Graduate History Conference;

Member of the Review Council for the Mark Diamond Research Fund, University at Buffalo, Fall 2016.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS:

Humanities Fund, Liberal Arts Division, RISD, 2021

Professional Development Fund, RISD, 2021

Liberal Arts Division Research and Event Collaboration Grant, Rhode Island School of Design, 2019;

New Faculty Research and Development Grant, 2019;

The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Faculty Development Award, 2018-2019;

Mark Diamond Research Grant, University at Buffalo, 2016;

New York State and Graduate Student Employees Union Professional Development Award, 2016/2018;

Plesur Dissertation Fellowship, Department of History, University at Buffalo, 2014-2015;

Morgan and Jeanie Sherwood Travel Grant, American Society for Environmental

History, 2014;
Asian Studies Research Grant, Asian Studies Program, University at Buffalo, 2014;
Plesur Fellowship, Department of History, University at Buffalo, 2011-2013;
2015-2016;
Graduate Student Scholarship, Nanjing University, 2008-2011.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Association for Asian Studies
Association for East Asian Environmental History
Chinese Historians in the United States