

Erica Fox Brindley, Ph.D.
Professor of Asian Studies
Penn State University

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Professional Experience

- 2016- Professor, Penn State University, Department of Asian Studies and History
- 2015-2016 Associate Professor, Penn State University, Department of Asian Studies and History
- 2011-2015 Associate Professor, Penn State University, Department of History, Asian Studies, and Religious Studies Program
- 2013-2014 Guest Researcher and Humboldt Fellow at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany (also summer, 2016)
- 2009- Director of Graduate Studies in Asian Studies (hiatus 2013-14)
- 2005-2011 Assistant Professor, Penn State University, Department of History and Religious Studies Program
- 2003-2005 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer; University of Southern California, East Asian Languages and Cultures
- 2002-2003 Visiting Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of History
- 2001-2002 Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Oregon, Department of History
- 1999-2000 Adjunct Instructor at Wesleyan University and University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Departments of History

Education

- 1994-2002 Ph.D., Princeton University, East Asian Studies
- 1998-1999 Exchange scholar, Harvard University
- 1993-1994 Visiting graduate student, National Taiwan University
- 1989-1993 B. A., Princeton University, East Asian Studies, First-prize winner of Marjory Chadwick Buchanan Senior Thesis Prize, graduated *magna cum laude*

Awards, Fellowships, Grants, and Prizes

Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, Nine-month fellowship for research at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany, 2013-2014, and summer, 2016.

International Convention of Asian Scholars (ICAS) Book Award for *Music, Cosmology, and the Politics of Harmony*: “Reading Committee Accolade: Specialist Publication in the Humanities,” 2013.

American Council of Learned Societies/Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, “Comparative Perspectives on Chinese Culture and Society” 25,000 conference grant for “Maritime Frontiers: *Indigenous Communities and State Control in South China*

and Southeast Asia, 2000 BCE - 1800 CE; Co-organized by Erica Brindley and Kathlene Baldanza, April 12-13, 2013.
American Council of Learned Societies, Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellowship, Fall, 2011-Spring, 2012.
American Council of Learned Societies/Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, "New Perspectives on Chinese Culture and Society Grant" \$15,000 workshop grant for "Re-evaluating Religion, Philosophy, and the Arts of Early China Through Excavated Texts: Excavated Texts from Chu," May, 17-19, 2010.
Kent Forster Memorial Junior Faculty Award, Pennsylvania State University, Spring, 2008.
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on the Silk Road, University of Hawaii/East-West Center, 2006.
Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Chinese Thought, University of Southern California, 2003-2004.
Herlee Creel Workshop on Ancient Chinese Paleography, Selected Participant, University of Chicago, July 2000.
Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Fellowship for Ph.D. Dissertations, 1999-2000.
Princeton University, Summer Research Stipend, East Asian Studies, 1995.

Professional Service:

Editorial Board Member: *Early China*, 2010 -
Member of the Editorial Collective: *Verge*, 2014 -
Guest Editor (with On-cho Ng) for special volume on "Asian Empires and Imperialism," 2014 - 2016
Steering Committee: American Academy of Religion, Confucian Study Group, Steering Committee member, 2009-2014.
Program Committee Member: ISSC Philosophy, 2014-15.
Organizing Committee Member: SSEC Society for the Study of Early China, 2014-15.
Graduate Council Member, Pennsylvania State University, 2012 -2013.
College of Liberal Arts, Sabbatical Committee, 2014-2016.
College of Liberal Arts, Immediate Tenure Committee, 2015.
Referee for *Philosophy East and West*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Asia Major*, *Early China*, *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Brill

Publications

Books (Single-authored Monographs):

Ancient China and the Yue: Perceptions and Identities on the Southern Frontier, c.400 BCE - 50 CE. Cambridge University Press, 2015.

Music, Cosmology, and the Politics of Harmony in Early China. State University of New York Press, 2012.

Individualism in Early China: Human Agency and the Self in Thought and Politics. University of Hawaii Press, 2010.

Special Volumes (Co-editor):

Co-editor with Kathlene Baldanza, *Maritime Frontiers in Asia: Sino-Viet Relations in the 2nd Millennium CE*. Special volume and “Introduction” in *Asia Major* 27.2 (November, 2014). Based on the proceedings of the conference, “Maritime Frontiers in Asia: Indigenous Communities and State Control in South China and Southeast Asia, 2000 BCE - 1800 CE, Penn State University, April 12-13, 2013.” (Organized by Erica Brindley and Kathlene Baldanza).

Co-editor with Paul Goldin, *Heng Xian and Early Chinese Philosophy*. Special volume and “Introduction” in *Dao* 12.2 (June 2013). Based on the proceedings of the workshop, “Reading and Understanding the *Heng xian*,” Penn State University, November 12-14, 2010. (Organized by Erica Brindley).

Articles (Peer-reviewed):

“Spontaneous Arising: Creative Change in the *Hengxian*,” *Journal of Daoist Religions* 9 (2016): 1-17.

“Cultural Identity and the Canonization of Music in Early China,” *Monumenta Serica*, forthcoming, 2017.

“Authoring Non-Action in Early China,” *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, special volume by Tim Connolly, ed., *Action Theory in Chinese Philosophy*, December 2014, forthcoming, late 2016.

“The Polarization of *Si 私* and *Gong 公* (‘Private interest’ and ‘Public Interest’) in Early Chinese Thought,” *Asia Major* 26.2 (2013): 1-31.

“The Cosmos as Creative Mind: Spontaneous Arising, Generating, and Creating in the *Heng Xian*,” in Erica Brindley and Paul Goldin, eds., *Dao*, special volume on *Heng xian and Early Chinese Philosophy*, 12.2 (June 2013): 189-206.

“Moral Autonomy and Particularistic Sources of Authority in the *Analects*,” *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 38.2 (June, 2011): 257-273.

“Representations and Uses of Yue 越 Identity Along the Southern Frontier of the Han, ~200- 111 BCE,” *Early China* 33-34 (2010-11): 1-35.

“The Perspicuity of Ghosts and Spirits” and the Problem of Intellectual Affiliations in Early China,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 129.2 (2009): 1-22.

“‘Why Use an Ox-cleaver to Carve a Chicken?’ The Politics of Individual Cultivation in the *Lun Yu* of Confucius,” *Philosophy East and West* 59.1 (2009): 47-70.

“Sound Phenomena: The Cosmic Power of Sound in Late Warring States and Han Texts,” *Journal of Chinese Religions* 35 (2007), 1-35.

“Human Agency and the Ideal of *Shang Tong* (Upward Conformity) in Early Mohist Writings,” *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 34.3 (September 2007), 409-425.

Translated into Chinese for the book series, *Chinese and Comparative Philosophy*, vol. 2. Edited by Center for Chinese and Comparative Philosophy, Renmin University of China (Beijing: Renmin University Press, 2009).

“Music and ‘Seeking One’s Heart-mind’ in the ‘Xing Zi Ming Chu,’” special publication on moral psychology in *Dao* 5.2 (June 2006), 247-255.

“Music and Cosmos in the Development of ‘Psychology’ in Early China,” *T’oung Pao* 92.1-3 (2006), 1-49.

“Barbarians or not? Ethnicity and Changing Conceptions of the Ancient Yue (Viet) Peoples (~400-50 B. C.),” *Asia Major* 16.1 (2003), 1-32.

Chapters in Edited Volumes (Peer-reviewed):

“Layers of Meaning: Hairstyle and Yue Identity in Ancient Chinese Texts,” in Victor Mair and Liam Kelley, eds. *Imperial China and Its Southern Neighbors*, 16-42. Nalanda-Srivijaya Series. Singapore: Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, 2015.

Translations:

“A Philosophical Translation of the ‘Heng Xian,’” translated with Paul Goldin and Esther Klein. In “*Heng Xian*” and *Early Chinese Philosophy*, Special volume edited by Erica Brindley and Paul Goldin, *Dao* 12.2 (June 2013): 141-151. [Newly excavated text; first complete translation into a Western language.]

Encyclopedia articles (Peer-reviewed):

“Individualism in Classical Chinese Thought,” *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, (July 2011), <http://www.iep.utm.edu/ind-chin/>

Encyclopedia articles (Not Peer-reviewed):

“Founding of Mohism,” in *Great Events from History: The Ancient World, Prehistory-476 C. E.*, Mark Chavalas, ed., 482-484. Pasadena: Salem Press, 2004.

“Mozi: Chinese Philosopher,” in *Great Lives from History: The Ancient World, Prehistory-476 C. E.*, Christina Salowey, ed., 576-578. Pasadena: Salem Press, 2004.

Commentaries:

A Commentary to the Article by Taymiya Zaman, “Nostalgia, Lahore, and the Ghost of Aurangzeb,” *Fragments* 4 (2015): 1-22. Brindley, “Commentary on Zaman: Brindley,” same volume, pp. 28-31.

Book Reviews:

Brashier, K. E. *Public Memory in Early China*. *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, forthcoming, 2016.

Cai, Liang, *Witchcraft and the Rise of the First Confucian Empire*. *American Historical Review* 120.3

(June 2015): 988-989.

Sterckx, Roel. *Food, Sacrifice and Sagehood in Early China*. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 80.2 (2012): 544-546.

Zhou, Yiqun, *Festivals, Feasts, and Gender Relations in Ancient China and Greece*. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 132.1 (2012): 344-346.

Littlejohn, Ronnie, and Jeffrey Dippmann, eds. *Riding the Wind with Liezi: New Perspectives on the Daoist Classic*. *Journal of Chinese Religions* 39 (2011): 120-125.

Milburn, Olivia. *The Glory of Yue: An Annotated Translation of the Yuejue shu*. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 39.1 (May 2012), 163-165.

Moeller, Hans-Georg, *The Philosophy of the Daodejing*. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, (35.1 (March 2008), 185-188.

Kinney, Anne Behnke. *Representations of Childhood and Youth in Early China*. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* (June 2007), 442-444.

Kerr, Rose, and Nigel Wood. *Science and Civilization in China*, vol. 5, no. 12: "Ceramic Technology." *China Review International* 13.1 (2006).

Goldin, Paul R. *After Confucius: Studies in Early Chinese Philosophy*. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 32.4 (December 2005).

Hobson, John M. *The Eastern Origins of Western Civilisation*. *Pacific Affairs*, 78.1 (Spring, 2005).

Poo Mu-chou. *In Search of Personal Welfare: A View of Ancient Chinese Religion*. *China Review International*, 10.1 (Spring, 2003), 233-238.

Workshops and Conferences (Organized and Hosted)

Collaborative, Interdisciplinary Institute Series: "Contacts, Conquests, and Commerce: The Emergence of a Greater South China Sea Interaction Zone, 4000 BCE - 1700 CE," to be held at Penn State University, 2017-2019. Explores the intimate and complicated interactions between South China and Southeast Asian regions through networks of exchanges

"Maritime Frontiers in Asia: Indigenous Communities and State Control in South China and Southeast Asia, 2000 BCE - 1800 CE, April 12-13, 2013. International conference on the cultures of the South China Sea. Obtained \$25,000 in external funding for, co-organized, and co-directed with Kate Baldanza. Pennsylvania State University, April 12-13, 2013.

"Re-evaluating Religion, Philosophy, and the Arts of Early China Through Excavated Texts: Excavated Texts from Chu." Obtained \$15,000 in external funding for, organized,

directed, and hosted an international workshop on excavated texts. Pennsylvania State University, May 16-19, 2010.

“Reading and Understanding the *Heng xian*.” Organized, directed, and hosted a regional follow-up workshop on an excavated text. Pennsylvania State University, November 12-14, 2010.

Selected Lectures (Guest speaker)

Rutgers University (April 21, 2016), China Lecture Series Invited Speaker: “Spontaneous Arising and an Ethics of Creative Change in the Early Daoist Text, *Heng xian* [The Primordial State of Constancy].”

Keynote Address, “Civilizing the South: Colonialism and the Question of Cultural Change in Han Times.” Southeast Early China Roundtable (SEECR), University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 30, 2015.

University of Zürich (December 3, 2013), University of Heidelberg (December 13, 2013), and University of Munich (Ludwig Maximilians-Universität, January 22, 2014), “Ritual Modeling and Political Masquerading at the Court of the Southern Yue, ~200-111 BCE.” Pennsylvania State University, Conference on Maritime Frontiers in Asia: Indigenous Communities and State Control in South China and Southeast Asia, 2000 BCE - 1800 CE, “Representations of Yue 越 Identity Along the Southern Frontier of the Han, ~200-111 BCE,” April 12-13, 2013.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), at the Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre (NCS), Singapore, Conference on Imperial China and Its Southern Neighbors, “Tropes of the Savage: Physical Markers of Yue Identity in Early Chinese Texts,” June 28-29, 2012.

Columbia University, Early China Seminar: “Physical Markers of Yue Identity: Rhetoric and Realities,” May 12, 2012.

University of Hawaii, Manoa, Department of Philosophy: “Cosmic Arising and Self-Generation in the ‘Heng Xian’: The Development of a Logic of Necessity in Early Chinese Thought,” December 2, 2011.

University of Hawaii, Manoa, History Forum: “Yue/Viet Identity and ‘Sinicization’ Along the Southern Frontier of the Han, 200-111 B.C.E.,” December 5, 2011.

University of Pennsylvania, East Asian Studies Humanities Colloquium: “Representations and Uses of Yue Identity Along the Southern Frontier of the Han, ~200 - 111 BCE,” Philadelphia, October 15, 2009.

Columbia University, Early China Seminar: “Sound and Cosmology in the Late Warring States and Han Periods,” February 9, 2008.

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, East Asian Studies: “The Cosmic Power of Sound in the Late Warring States and Han Periods,” November 3, 2006.

Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey: "In Search of the Ancient Viet: Yue and Hua-Xia ethnicity in Early South China," March 7, 2006.

University of Chicago, Department of East Asian Studies: "Reading Excavated Texts," May 24, 2004.

University of Southern California, Department of East Asian Studies: "Barbarians or Aliens? Who were the Yue in late Zhou and early Han Times?" March 17, 2004.

University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of History: "The Yue in late Zhou and early Han Times," April 24, 2003.

University of Michigan, Center for Chinese Studies: "Warring States Discourses on Human Agency: Revisiting the Question of 'Individualism' in Chinese Culture and History," April 1, 2003.

Selected Presentations (Panel Participant or Discussant)

Association For Asian Studies, Discussant: "Beyond 'Han' and 'Man': Premodern Interactions on China's Southern Frontier," Seattle, April 1, 2016.

Roundtable Panel on Empires and Imperialism in Asia, Past and Present: "Global Asias" conference, Pennsylvania State University, April 9-11, 2015. Co-organized with On-cho Ng.

Society for the Study of Early China, Presentation: "Yue identity and Armed Resistance to Colonial Han Rule," Chicago, March 26, 2015.

Association For Asian Studies, Discussant: "The Han Empire at its Peripheries and Beyond," Toronto, March 17, 2012.

Association For Asian Studies, Panel Presentation: "Elite Writers and the Rhetoric of Cultural Superiority in the Warring States and Early Imperial Periods," Honolulu, March 31, 2011.

Leiden University, Conference on Reading Matters: Chinese and Western Traditions of Interpreting the Classics, "The 'Heng Xian' and How Excavated Texts are Affecting Interpretations of the Classics," June 10, 2011.

Academy of American Religion, Panel Presentation: "Music in Confucian Moral Cultivation," Chicago, November 2, 2008.

Association For Asian Studies, Panel Presentation: "Han, Yue (Viet), or Something Else? Constructions of Identity in Several Ruling Families of the Yue, ~220- 100 BCE," Atlanta, April 4-7, 2008. Also given at the Critical Han Studies Conference and Workshop, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California; April 24-27, 2008.

Association For Asian Studies, Panel Presentation: "A Psychology of Sound in Recently Excavated Manuscripts from China," San Diego, March 5, 2004.

Association For Asian Studies, Panel Presentation: "Barbarians or Aliens? Who were the Yue in late Zhou and early Han Times?" March 27-31, 2003.

Harvard University, Conference Paper: "Music and the Moral Psychology of Sound in late Warring States and Early Imperial Times," May 24-25, 2003.

New Book Symposium

April 15, 2016, Penn State University. Discussion of book: Erica Brindley, *Ancient China and the Yue: Perceptions and Identities on the Southern Frontier, c.400 BCE - 50 CE*. Cambridge University Press, 2015, led by Robert Hymes, the Horace Walpole Carpenter Professor of Oriental Studies and East Asian Languages and Culture, Columbia University

Foreign Languages

Fluency: Mandarin Chinese, Classical Chinese, German

Literacy, Conversational Speaking Ability: Japanese, French

Familiarity: Vietnamese, Taiwanese, Classical Greek, Hawaiian, Spanish

Courses Taught (as Course Instructor)

Penn State University, 2005 -

Buddhism: Large survey course (taught 2 times)

Daoism and the Traditional Chinese Arts and Sciences, Freshman seminar (designed and taught 3 times)

History of Early Chinese Thought (taught 3 times)

Pre-modern Chinese History through 1800 (taught 4 times)

Religions of the East: Survey (taught 5 times)

Religions of China and Japan (taught 4 times)

Religion and Science in China, upper level (designed and taught 2 times)

Religions of the World (taught one time)

Silk Roads and Maritime Highways (designed and taught 3 times)

Confucius and the Great Books of Premodern China (designed and taught 2 times)

University of Southern California, 2003-2005

Culture and Identity in Pre-modern East Asia, China

Culture and Identity in Pre-modern East Asia, Korea and Japan

Chinese Civilization, A Survey

East Asian Civilization, A Survey

Studies in Chinese Thought

Graduate Seminar: Bibliography and Research Methods in Chinese Studies

History of China before 1000 CE

University of California, Santa Barbara 2002-2003

Foundations of East Asian Civilization

History of Early China

History of China from the Sixth through Fifteenth Centuries

Early Chinese Thought
Graduate Seminar: Great Questions in the Recent Historiography of China

University of Oregon, 2001-2002

History of Early China

History of China from Song to Yuan

History of China from Ming to Qing

History of Pre-modern Korea, Japan, and China

Wesleyan University (once course, 2000)

History of China

University of Massachusetts at Amherst (one course, 1999)

History of China Through the Mongols