

# PENG HAI

[penghai-history@pitt.edu](mailto:penghai-history@pitt.edu)

---

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

**Assistant Professor** Department of History, University of Pittsburgh

July 1, 2023 –

## EDUCATION

**PhD in Asian Studies**

**May 2023**

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

**MA in History**

**June 2016**

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

**BA in English Literature**

**July 2010**

Xi'an International Studies University, Xi'an, China

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

### Monographs:

*Cine-Populism: Visualizing Han Ethnocracy in Chinese Cinema* (in progress)

### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles:

2025. "Heterogenesis and the Affective Economies of Catastrophes." *Positions* 33 (2): 319-43.

<https://doi.org/10.1215/10679847-11626801>.

2024. "Deracinating Ethnic Minors: The Affect of Authoritarian Certitude." *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 24 (6): 924-42. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649373.2023.2265680>.

2023. "Before Social Death: Cultural Rule and Ethnic Expression in 1980s Xinjiang." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 47 (1): 24-44. doi: 10.1080/01419870.2023.2211657.

2023. "Who Are the Hui? A Necessary Footnote of Inconvenience." *Twentieth-Century China* 48 (1): 48-69. doi:10.1353/tcc.2023.0003

2022. "Parameters of Ethnic Minorhood: Inner Mongolia and the Cinematic Production of Ethnic Hierarchy in Early PRC." *Inner Asia* 24 (2): 221-44. Doi: 10.1163/22105018-02302028

2020. "The Consecration and Profanation of 'Madonna and Child': Seeing Religious Art in the Age of Cinematic Mobility." *ARC* 48: 109-28.

2016. "Imposing Nationalism on Diaspora Peoples: Korean Chinese in the Master Narrative of Chinese Nationalism." *Global Societies Journal* 4: 56-69.

### Forthcoming Peer-reviewed Articles:

“Re-marking Xinjiang: from Liberation to Westward Expedition,” forthcoming with the *Journal of Asian Studies* on Volume 84 (2025) no. 4

“Reply to 1994 – Farewell to the Schmittian Political in Chinese Islam.” (*Prism*)

Articles Under Peer Review:

“Wedding Script and Love Letter in *Xiao'erjin*” (a translation and essay entry for *Muslims in Modern China: A Source Book* contracted by Columbia University Press)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS: EXTERNAL

2025. The University of Tokyo CIRJE Visiting Faculty Fellowship

2024. U.S. – Central Asia Research Network (U.S.-CARNet) Fellowship Grant (declined)

12, 2023 – 7, 2024. Resident Research Fellow at Waseda University, Japan, project titled: “Greater Japan Muslim League” and the Making of the Modern “Muslim World”

2022. The Esherick-Ye Family Foundation Fellowship, project titled: A Study of the Ethno-visibility of Non-Han Peoples in Modern China

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS: INTERNAL

2025. University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center Grant

2024. University of Pittsburgh Hewlett Research Grant

2024. University of Pittsburgh Research in Japan Endowment Grant

2024. University of Pittsburgh Momentum Fund – Humanities Microgrant

2024. University of Pittsburgh Asian Studies Center Faculty Research Grant

2023. University of Pittsburgh REEEC Faculty Research Grant

2023. University of Pittsburgh The Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies Grant

2022. Harvard University Fairbank Center Graduate Student Summer Research Grant

2021. Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Undergraduate Teaching

2021. Weatherhead Center Summer Language (Kazakh) Study Grant

2020. Fairbank Center Summer Language (Uyghur) Study Grant

2019. Korea Institute Summer Language (Korean) Study Grant

INVITED TALKS

2025. The Consecration of Mao in the Religious Economy of Socialist Tibet [Invited talk given on February 20 in the Socialist Studies Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University]

2024. “Burma Road” in the Muslim Northwest: Centering Borderlands in *Kukan*  
[Invited talk given on July 26 in the Center for Chinese Studies, Keio University, Japan]

2024. “The Kimono and the Turban” Revisited: Charting Turkestan in Japan’s Muslim Policy  
[Invited presentation given on June 3 in the Eurasian Research Institute in Almaty, Kazakhstan]

2023. Eurasian Ethnofederalism, Dead and Alive  
[Invited lecture given on September 26 in the Slavic Languages and Literatures Department, Yale University]

2023. What Did Global Maoists Miss? Ethnocratic Paternalism in the Mao Era and Its Aftermath  
[Invited talk given on February 6 in the Department of History, University of Pittsburgh]

2023. The Visuality of Ethnicity in China and Its Platforms  
[Invited talk given on January 17 in the Department of Communications and New Media, National University of Singapore]

2022. “Re-reading *The History of the Souk*: An Epic of Heterodoxy.”  
[Lecture given on March 7 at Harvard University’s Sinophone Borderland Literature Seminar]

2021. “TV Enriches Post-socialist China: The Culture of Serialized Drama in 1990s PRC”  
[lecture given on Nov. 8 at Harvard University’s Popular Culture and Modern China lectures]

2020. “Critical Methods in Reading the Ethnic Frontier in Contemporary China”  
[Lecture given on Oct. 24 in the School of Literary Studies, Zhejiang University]

### BOOK REVIEWS

2024. *The Sound of Salvation: Voice, Gender, and the Sufi Mediascape in China*. By Guangtian Ha. New York: Columbia University Press, 2022. xiv, 293 pp. ISBN: 9780231552486. *Journal of Asian Studies* 1 May 2024; 83 (2): 425–427. doi: 10.1215/00219118-11058411

2024. *Questioning the Chinese Model: Oppositional Political Novels in Early Twenty-First Century China*. By Zhansui Yu. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2023. 266 pp. \$70.00 (hbk). ISBN 9781487544348. *The China Quarterly*. Published online 2024:1-2. doi:10.1017/S0305741024000584

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025. “Burma Road” in the Muslim Northwest: Centering Borderlands in *Kukan*” January 8  
@HICCS Hawaiian International Conference on Chinese Studies held in Honolulu, Hawaii

2024. “*No Man’s Land* from Hoh Xil to Tarim: Images and Discourse of Subimperialism” June 8  
@CESS: “Turco-Tibetan Sociality – Diplomacy, Migration, and Subimperial Territorialization” held in Almaty, Kazakhstan

2023. “Heterogenesis and the Affective Economies of Catastrophes” June 25 @AAS-in-Asia:  
“Memories and Silencing: All the Richness We Remember Too Narrowly As China” held in Daegu, South Korea

2023. “Before Social Death: Cultural Rule and Ethnic Expression in 1980s Xinjiang” June 9 @ International Workshop at the Centre for Advanced Studies “Multiple Secularities – Beyond the West, Beyond Modernities” at Leipzig University

2023. “Inter-Asian China’s Short, Tight Skin: A Cinematic History of Inner Asians in Modern China” April 11 @EALC Dissertation defense at Harvard

2023. “Children, Language, and the Weather Forecast: Negotiating Authoritarian Certitude in Contemporary Non-Han Cinema” March 17 @The Association for Asian Studies, Boston Annual Conference

2023. “The Constraints of a Chinese Kazakhology in the Dengist Reform Era” March 14 @ The Central Asia Scholars Symposium on Reading Historical Maps of the Kazakh Khanate and Its Adjacent Regions in the 16-19 Centuries

2023. “*Xiao’erjin*, Cultural Governance and China’s Monolingualism” February 16 @Harvard Asia Center Graduate Students Associate Colloquium

2022. “Re-marking Xinjiang: from Liberation to Westward Expedition” November 13 @119<sup>th</sup> Annual PAMLA Conference (PAMLA 2022)

2022. “Probing Environmental Justice in China: *Plastic China* and the Visuality of Unimagined Communities” June 18 @American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) 2022

2018. “Producing Indigeneity: Impoverished Media and the Fertility of Organic Sound in *Knife in the Clear Water*” April 6, International Symposium on the Environment and Indigeneity @Harvard

2016. “Constructing Pan-Chinese & Deconstructing Pan-Asianism: Republican Hui Intellectuals in the Invention of Modern China” December, “China-Arabia Encounters and Engagements” @National University of Singapore

2016. “Representing the Land of the Internal Other: Screen Capitalism and the Popular Discourse of Difference on Xinjiang” April, “Expanding Eurasia: New Approaches to the Study of Central Asia” @UCLA

#### CONFERENCE PANELS DISCUSSED

2024. *Beyond Collaborative Nationalism in Manmō: Revisiting East Asian Colonialism in Manchuria and Inner Mongolia* July 9@ AAS-in-Asia, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

2023. *China’s Growing Influence in Central Asia* October 21 @Annual Conference at the Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS), University of Pittsburgh

2023. *Memories and Silencing: All the Richness We Remember Too Narrowly As China* June 26 @AAS-in-Asia, Kyungpook National University, South Korea

#### TEACHING AND MENTORING

##### Graduate Courses:

The Forgotten Asianist Metropolises (HIST 2409)

Spring 2025, University of Pittsburgh

China and its Inner Asian Regions (HIST 2410) Fall 2023, University of Pittsburgh

Undergraduate Courses:

Modern East Asian Civilizations (HIST 0401) Spring 2025, University of Pittsburgh

Nationalism in Asia (HIST 1046) Fall 2024, University of Pittsburgh

Attention in World History (HIST 0700) Fall 2024, University of Pittsburgh

East Asian Cinema (General Education 1049) Spring 2022, Harvard University

Popular Culture and Modern China (GenEd 1111) Fall 2021, Harvard University

Classical Chinese Ethical and Political Theory (GenEd 1091) Fall 2021, Harvard University

Introduction to the Study of East Asia (EASTD 97) Spring 2021, Harvard University

Korean Cinema as World Cinema (EAFM128) Fall 2020, Harvard University

East Asian Cinema (GenEd 1049) Spring 2020, Harvard University

Directed Graduate Study:

Regional field of Chinese and East Asian history Fall 2024, University of Pittsburgh

Mentoring:

Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies for East Asian Studies Concentrators 2019-2020

Training in Pedagogy:

2024 Fall: AI across the Disciplines

2023 Fall: Speaking in the Disciplines

2021 May: Inclusive Teaching as Method

2019 Fall: EALC Teaching Practicum

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Member, Association of Asian Studies 2022 –

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Russian, Eastern European & Eurasian Studies, Pitt 2023 –

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Governance and Markets, Pitt 2023 –

Faculty Affiliate, Global Studies Center, Pitt 2023 –

Member, American Comparative Literature Association 2021-2022

Member, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association 2021-2022

Graduate Student Associate, Harvard University Asia Center 2021 – 2023

Graduate Student Associate, Harvard University Fairbank Center	2022 - 2023
Graduate Student Associate, Harvard University Weatherhead Center	2021 – 2022

## SERVICES

### University Services:

Dietrich School Faculty Diversity Committee	2024-2025, University of Pittsburgh
MENA/Islamic Studies Working Group	2024-2025, University of Pittsburgh

### Departmental Services:

Planning and Budget Committee	2024-2025, University of Pittsburgh
Graduate Liaison Committee for DEIB	2022-2023, Harvard University
Department Representative to the Graduate Student Council	2017-2019, Harvard University

### Film Curations:

September 28, 2024. *Black Dog* (2024) @Harris Theater in Pittsburgh, PA

November 7, 2019. *Fukuoka* (2019) @Harvard Tsai Auditorium in Cambridge, MA

April 6, 2018. *Knife in the Clear Water* (2016) @Brattles Theater in Cambridge, MA

## LANGUAGES

### Writing Languages:

English and Chinese

### Research Languages:

Korean: intermediate reading and writing

Uyghur: intermediate reading

Japanese: intermediate reading

Tibetan: basic reading

Kazakh: basic reading