55th Annual Meeting

of the

SouthWest Conference on Asian Studies



Angelo State University
San Angelo, Texas
November 6-7, 2026

SWCAS and San Angelo

The SouthWest Conference on Asian Studies (SWCAS) is an international conference for scholars, students, and community members interested in the study of Asia. Held annually, the conference provides a welcoming and interdisciplinary forum for presenting new research, sharing pedagogical approaches, and fostering collaboration across the humanities and social sciences. SWCAS also serves as the Southwest regional affiliate of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), connecting regional scholarship to broader national and international conversations.

Since its inaugural meeting in Austin in 1971, SWCAS has developed deep roots in Texas, with conferences hosted across the state in cities such as Houston, Dallas, Denton, Waco, College Station, El Paso, San Marcos, and San Antonio.

In 2026, SWCAS will convene for the first time in San Angelo, Texas, and on the campus of Angelo State University. Located in the Concho Valley of West Texas, San Angelo offers a distinctive setting for the conference, extending SWCAS's longstanding commitment to fostering Asian studies across the Southwest.

Sponsors

Association for Asian Studies

Angelo State University

College of Arts and Humanities
Dean Sergio Ruiz

The Hardeman Family

Dr. Arnoldo De León Department of History
Chair: Jason Pierce
Office Coordinator: Yulia Priest

The Arkansas Chapter of the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia (ARNCTA)

Campus Map & Parking

Campus address:

2601 W Ave N, San Angelo, TX 76909

Conference locations:

- 2nd Floor of the University Center: all in-personal panels
- CJ Davidson Conference Center (1st Floor of the University Center): keynote and lunch

Parking:

Guests are welcome to park in zones A, B, and C.
DO NOT park in D zones. A permit will be emailed to all participants as the conference approaches. You are welcome to print it out and bring it with you. We will also have limited copies at the check-in desk in the lobby of the second floor.

While you are welcome to park in any lot in zones A, B, or C, we recommend **lots 43** and **42**, which are closest to the Houston Harte University Center.



Shuttle Information

Shuttle service will be provided by Concho Valley Transit on **Saturday, November 7** from the conference hotels to the ASU University Center and back to the hotels constantly **throughout the day between 7:45 am and 6 pm**. In addition to this, there will be several scheduled pick-up and drop-off times.

Pick-Up Schedule:

- 7:45 AM - Pick up at Hotels
- 9:30 AM - Pick up at Hotels
- 11:00 AM - Pick up at Hotels
- 1:30 PM - Pick up at Hotels
- 2:45 PM - Pick up at Hotels

Drop-Off Schedule:

- 11:15 AM - Drop off at Hotels
- 3:00 PM - Drop off at Hotels
- 4:30 PM - Drop off at Hotels
- 5:45 PM - Drop off at Hotels

Conference Hotels

Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites
1459 Knickerbocker Rd.
San Angelo, TX 76904

Staybridge Suites
1355 Knickerbocker Rd.
San Angelo, TX 76904

Virtual Participation

All Zoom panels will be accessible through the following link: **https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/j/8589097177?omn=88254601191**

Breakout rooms will match the number of the panel. For example, Virtual Session 2.10, will meet during Virtual Session 2 in Breakout Room 10.

Digital Program & Resources

Please scan the QR code to access the full program, which includes latest updates to both virtual and in-person options, and to visit the SWCAS website.

Full Conference Program

SWCAS Website (swcas.net)

SouthWest Conference on Asian Studies (SWCAS) Leadership

SWCAS Officers 2025-2026

President:
Laurie Dickmeyer, Angelo State University

Vice President:
Allison J. Truitt, Tulane University

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Zhaojin Zeng, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

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Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston

SWCAS Board of Directors

Aryendra Chakravartty, Stephen F. Austin State University (2028)
John Barnett, Emporia State University (2028)
Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston (2027)
Min Suk Kim, University of Texas at Austin (2027)
Miao Dou, Northern Arizona University (2026)
Allison J. Truitt, Tulane University (2026)

Wi-Fi Access

Angelo State University provides complimentary wireless internet for all visitors. Please select “**guest.angelo.edu**” from the network list and complete the short registration form to connect.

Audiovisual Equipment

Conference panel breakout rooms will be equipped with a computer and projector.

Meals

Breakfast, coffee and tea, lunch, and snacks will be provided during the conference.

Conference Schedule

Friday, November 6	
8:00-9:15 am	Virtual Sessions 1
9:30-10:45 am	Virtual Sessions 2
11:00am-12:15 pm	Virtual Sessions 3
5:30-7:00 pm	Welcome Reception at Fairfield by Marriot Inn & Suites
Saturday, November 7	
8:00 am	Breakfast and Coffee Reception
8:30-9:45 am	In-Person Sessions 4
10:00-11:15 am	In-Person Sessions 5
11:30am-1:30 pm	Welcoming Remarks Keynote Address Awards Ceremony Dance Performance Lunch
1:45-3:00 pm	In-Person Sessions 6
3:15-4:30 pm	In-Person Sessions 7
4:45-6:00 pm	SWCAS Board Meeting

Featured Events

Friday, November 6, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Welcome Reception

Join us at Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites for a reception with free drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, November 7, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Keynote and Lunch

Join us at the CJ Davidson Conference Center for Dr. Elora Shehabuddin's keynote address, awards for the best student papers, and an Asian buffet luncheon.

Saturday, November 7, 4:45-6:00 pm

SWCAS Board Meeting

Are you interested in becoming a SWCAS board member or helping to organize SWCAS 2027? Join us at the SWCAS board meeting to join the conversation and learn more.

Friday, November 6
Virtual Meeting Link:
[Zoom link forthcoming]
8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.1

Breakout Room 1

Archiving Motion: Institutions, Digitisation, Community Memory, and Counter-Memory in South Asian Archives

Chair: Sreemoyee Sarkar, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore

"Indian Archives: Digitisation and Accessibility in Contemporary Times"
Aswin Vijayan, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore

"Tibetan Diasporic Community Archive: Tibetan Settlements in South Asia"
Ngawang Gyatso, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore; The Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education, Karnataka

"Completing the Archive: Silences, Translations, and Editorial Practice in the Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru"
Malavika Menon, Political Science and History, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore

"Archiving the Invisible: Colonial Health Infrastructure, Women's Bodies, and Community Memory in Kolar Gold Fields"
Ananya Kulkarni, Symbiosis Law School (SLS), Pune

"Archiving from Within: Oral Exchange, Curatorial Instinct, and Institutional Memory at the SL Bhatia Museum & Archives"
Radhika Hegde, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore; SL Bhatia Museum & Archives, St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore

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VIRTUAL SESSION 1.2

Breakout Room 2

Unsettled Feeling: Emotion, Politics, and the Unfelt in Modern China

Chair: Xinhao Li, Humboldt University of Berlin

"Transcending Boundaries: The Emotional Transformation and Reading Practice of a Young Man from Countryside in Shanghai Periphery, 1917-1923"
Luqing Lou, University of Macau

"Feeling Brotherhood: Chinese Lyric Reportage and the Making of an Internationalist China, Tashkent 1958"
Xinhao Li, Humboldt University of Berlin

"Narrative Strategies and Emotion Construction in Exhibitions under the Theme of War: Illustrated by the Case of the Permanent Exhibition of the Battle of the Hundred Regiments Museum"
Shengtao Zhao, Fudan University

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.3

Breakout Room 3

Fostering Resilience and Enhancing Competence: An Analysis of Current Social Work Education and Ongoing Development in the Cambodian Context

Chair: Chanvuthy Keo, Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia

“Contemporary Challenges to Social Work Education in Cambodia"
Chanvuthy Keo, Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia

"From Curriculum to Competence: Preparing Social Work Professionals In Cambodia"
Socheata Somchan, Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia

"Strengthening Disability Identification and Registration Systems for Inclusive Social Protection and Development in Cambodia"
Ratana Sann, Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Rehabilitation

"Exploring Resilience and Navigating Challenges: A Deep Dive into the Landscape of Social Work Practicum in the Unique Context of Cambodia"
Chandra Chap-Mespelt, Independent Scholar

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.4

Breakout Room 4

Sacred Landscapes and Ritual Authority

Chair: Leah Renold, Texas State University

“Where Prohibition Becomes Policy: Sacred Prohibition, Ritual Sovereignty, and Gender Theology in the Nanda Devi Raj Jāt Yatra”
Durgma Bisht, University of Delhi

“Sacred Spaces and Devotional Poetics: Shrines, Saints, and Collective Memory in Kashmir”
Shakeel Ahmad Bhat, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, India

“Between Preservation and Innovation: Ritual Music, Modernity, and Amis Identity in Taiwan’s Kiluma’an Festival”
Yat Ho Hsu, Shanghai American School Puxi

“Fire as an Epistemic Boundary: Reassessing Harappan and Rigvedic Ritual Worlds”
Priyanshi Varshney, University of Delhi

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.5

Breakout Room 5

Religion, Knowledge, and Political Power

Chair: Kenna Archer, Angelo State University

"'This Is Not Religion, This Is Tradition': Algorithmic Encoding of Religious Populism on Chinese Social Media Platforms"
Senlin Wang, Qingdao University

"Divine Politics: The Interplay of Religion and Populism in the Asia-Pacific"
Ananda Majumdar, QAHE/Kennedy University of Saint Lucia, North Central Theological Seminary

"Epistemic Diasporas: Islamic Intellectual Mobility and the Politics of Knowledge Production Across South Asia and the Gulf"
Muhammed Razi TP, Darvunnajath Arabic College

"Strategic Neocolonialism in Amish Tripathi's Sita: The Warrior of Mithila"
Sumangala Ravindra Pattar, Government First Grade College and Research Centre, Hunnur

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VIRTUAL SESSION 1.6

Breakout Room 6

Networks of Control: Digital Authoritarianism, Queer Exclusion, and Historical Memory in East Asia

Chair: JongHwa Lee, Angelo State University

"Strategic Visibility on Digital Borders: Platformed Agency and Everyday Legitimacy among Divorced Marriage Migrant Mothers in South Korea"
Yinuo Hou, Korea University

"Scrolling Through Caste: Algorithmic Aesthetics and Brahminical Hegemony on Instagram"
Varsha Thulasi Pillai, McMaster University

"Phone Chalana: Everyday Rural Indian Adolescent Life on Social Media"
Ridhima Garg, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, India

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.7

Breakout Room 7

AI, Digital Systems, and Knowledge Futures

Chair: Sumit Mondal, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

"Narrating the AI Race: China's Media Discourse on Technological Supremacy and Its Asian Comparators"
Muhammed Mishab KP, Darul Huda Islamic University Chemmad

"Is China's First Emperor Still Alive?: The Horrorization of Peach Blossom Spring in Korean Digital Culture"
Jeongwoo Lee, Indiana University

"Algorithms of the East: Navigating AI, Digital Cultures, and Media Sovereignty in South Asia"
Golam Rashid, University of Calcutta

"Khushiyan Chakh Lo: How Pakistani Spice Mix Companies Sell Nation, Modernity, and Clean Convenience to Consumers"
Basmah Arshad, University of North Texas

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.8

Breakout Room 8

Maritime Worlds and Oceanic Asia

Chair: Noriaki Hoshino, Hong Kong Baptist University

"Maritime Routes: Reimagining Diasporic Space in The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea"
Shalini Attri, BPS Women's University

"Modern Japanese Intellectual Discourses on Historical Maritime Actors and Transnational Mobility: The Case of Japanese Pirates"
Noriaki Hoshino, Hong Kong Baptist University

"Commercial Resilience: Revisiting the Chinese Junk Trade in Maritime China and Southeast Asia, 1842–1900"
Gary Luk, Chinese University of Hong Kong

"From Arab Traders to Language Diaspora: Indian Ocean Trade Networks and the Genesis of Arbi-Malayalam among the Mappilas of Malabar"
Sinan CK Koottilangadi, University of Calicut, Kerala, India

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.9

Colonial Legacies, Nationalism, and Politics of Identity in South Asia

Breakout Room 9

Chair: Chettupally Anvesh, University of Delhi

"Across Colonial and Postcolonial Plantation Regimes: Exploring Systematic Slavery and Structural Trauma among Bangladeshi Tea Workers in the Light of Mulk Raj Anand's 'Two Leaves and A Bud'"
Hossain Al Mamun, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology

"You Are Nobody of This Country: Caste, Memory, and the Post-Partition Lives of Dalit Tea-Plantation Workers in Sylhet, Bangladesh"
Md Syful Islam, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet

"Mapping the Margins of Partition: Literary Narratives from Jammu and Kashmir"
Aazib Ahmad, University of Kashmir

"Colonial Cinema and the Making of Place: Visual Power and Sinhala-Buddhist Nationalism in Early Twentieth-Century Ceylon"
Nalaka Wijewardhane, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.10

Refugees, Statelessness, and Humanitarianism

Breakout Room 10

"Stateless at the Crossroads: The Rohingya Crisis and Shifting Geopolitics of Security in the Indo-Pacific"
Jannatul Ferdous, Comilla University

"Rohingya Testimonial Writing and the Politics of Place: Displacement, Land, and Counter-Cartography"
Shreya Manna, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Tirupati, India

"Protected in Theory, Abandoned in Practice: Humanitarian Protection and Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in India"
Sachin Bhambu, NIT Jaipur

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.11

Geopolitics, Trade, and Maritime Connectivity in the Indian Ocean Region

Breakout Room 11

Chair: John H. Barnett, Emporia State University

"From Trade Routes to Travel Routes: Business Diplomacy and the Tourism Sector under BRI"
Muhammad Arif Khan, International Business School, Jilin International Studies University

"The Bay of Bengal as a Borderland: Rethinking Maritime Sovereignty Between India, Myanmar, and Bangladesh"
Muskan Sanjay Jain, Independent Scholar

"Elephant's Charge in the Indian Ocean: Opportunities and Challenges for Asian Partners in the IOR"
Chahat, Independent Scholar

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.12

Gender, Identity, and Cultural Politics in Asia

Breakout Room 12

Chair: Yangyu Zhang, The University of Tokyo

"The Geography of Nationalist Poetry in Urdu: Mapping Identity and Space After 1857"
Muhammed Naeem, University of the Punjab, Lahore

"From cultural custodians to Regulated Bodies: A Biopolitical Reading of Tawaif Identity in Colonial India"
Himani Saxena, Banaras Hindu University

"Nüxia as Method: The Female Floating Population and Nüxia's Double Escape"
Yangyu Zhang, The University of Tokyo

8:00 - 9:15 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 1

VIRTUAL SESSION 1.13

Breakout Room 13

Asian Diasporas and Migration

Chair: Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston

"Lifestyle, Migration and Political Socialization: Chinese Migrant Women on Xiaohongshu in France"
Waner Shi, University of Hong Kong

"Performing Belonging: Resistance and Orientalist Architecture in San Francisco's Chinatown for its Survival"
Lewen (Angela) Hao, Stevenson School

"'Politics of Mobility' in The Lowland and Typical American: Asian Americans' Negotiations of Roots toward Place and Power"
Safi Ullah, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

"Toward Desired Futures: Asian/American Community Writing against Anti-Asian Hate"
Eunjeong Lee, University of Houston
Soyeon Lee, The University of Texas at El Paso

10:45 - 11:00 AM PANEL BREAK

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.1

Breakout Room 1

Remaking Borderlands of Power: Transnational Mobilities, Economies and Identities in East Asia from the 20th Century to the 21st Century

Chair/Discussant: Steven Lee, The University of British Columbia

"A Canadian Missionary Hospital on the Manchuria-Korea Borderland: Transnational Networks and Humanitarian Space during the 1920 Kando Intervention"
Ben Park Hang Fung, Hong Kong Baptist University

"The Money Wormhole: Hong Kong and the Yen Bloc During the Pacific War"
Brian Tsz Ho Wong, The University of Edinburgh

"Inclusionary Memory, Colonial Erasure: Abandoned Japanese Settlers in Manchuria and the Politics of Postwar Memory"
Ray Matsumoto, The University of California, Los Angeles

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.2

Voices from the Margins: Oral History, Memory, and Asian Diaspora Communities in Texas and Beyond

Breakout Room 2

Chair/Discussant: Amy Pozza, Saint Mary's Hall/University of Texas at San Antonio

"Burden of Remembrance: Oral History as Refugee Agency and Historical Reconstruction among the Bhutanese Nepali Diaspora"
Lopita Nath, University of the Incarnate Word

"Chapel, Curriculum, and Community: Oral History and the Asian Experience at an Independent School"
Amy Pozza, Saint Mary's Hall/University of Texas at San Antonio

"Preserving Heritage Across Generations: Oral History Narratives of Tamil-Speaking South Asian Americans"
Harini Logan, Stanford University

"South Asian Faculty at University of Texas at San Antonio: Oral History techniques and lessons learned"
Anne Hardgrove, University of Texas at San Antonio

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.3

South Asian Statecraft and Regional Politics

Breakout Room 3

Chair: Chahat, Independent Scholar

"Asian Geopolitics vis-à-vis Bangladesh Parliamentary Election"
Paulami Sanyal, Birsa Munda College, University of North Bengal

"Communicating Regional Power: India's Strategic Narratives toward Bangladesh after the 2024 Political Transition amid Great Power Competition"
Md Imran Hossain, Heidelberg University

"Spatial Dynamics of Borderlands and Regional Disparities in India: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis"
Sourav Basak, Sikkim University, Sikkim, India

"Performative Emancipation or Development Paradigm: Rethinking the Interest behind the Telecast of Series like Meena"
Aakhya Isha, Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.4

Breakout Room 4

China: Power, Connectivity, Development, and Cultural Representation

"Official Friendship, Popular Hostility: Reassessing Deng Xiaoping's Visit to the United States in 1979"
Shouyue Zhang, The University of Melbourne

"'License-Out': How Chinese Pharmaceutical Companies Sustained Innovation under Cost Containment Reform"
Victoria Chuxuan Liu, Stanford University

"Digital Infrastructure and the Spatial Reimagination of Asia in Sino-Gulf Technology Cooperation"
Ajay M. Reje, Christ University, Bangalore, India

"'But at What Cost?' Orientalism in Western Media Coverage of Chinese Development"
Eli Marx, Stanford University

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.5

Breakout Room 5

Gender, Citizenship, and Belonging

Chair: JongHwa Lee, Angelo State University

"The Legitimacy of Exclusion: Qualification, Citizenship, and Politics in South Korea Queer Perspectives"
Yeon Jae Hwang, University of California Los Angeles

"Caring Without Security: Imported Elderly-Care Workers and the Politics of Labor Protection in Hong Kong"
Jiaxun (Jerry) Zhong, Chinese International School

"Place, Power, and Precarity: Gendered Labor Migration and the Constrained Possibilities of Bangladeshi Women Abroad"
Jannatul Ferdous, Comilla University

"Factuality, Education, and Digital Repression Under the Military Rule in Burma"
Eaint Thet Hmu, Parami University

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.6

Diplomacy, Alliances, and Cold War Asia

Breakout Room 6

Chair: John H. Barnett, Emporia State University

"Dissonance and De-classified Realities: The Japan-Gulf Voting Alliance in the 1971 UN Resolution 2758"
Zhang Daidaji, University of Tsukuba
Shujie Jia, SOAS, University of London

"The Role of the U.S.–Japan Alliance in Strengthening Extended Deterrence"
Simran Walia, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA), New Delhi

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VIRTUAL SESSION 2.7

Empire, Mobility, and Colonial Networks

Breakout Room 7

Chair: Hossain Al Mamun, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology

"Playing Networks: Transnational Flows of Knowledge and the History of Playgrounds in Colonial India, 1900-1930"
Srinita Majumdar, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

"Haunted by the Sea: Faith, Fear and the Sea Journey of Manipuri Recruits in World War I"
Sandham Nitishkumar, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Pune

"Tracing the Global Circulation of Ginseng: Commerce, Culture, and the Qing Empire in Transnational Context"
Audrey Ke Zhao, University of California, Santa Cruz

"Belonging Across Borders: The Case of Vincent Tissera"
Karunatilleka Rivindu de Zoysa, University of Colombo

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.8

Translation, Interpretation and Cultural Meaning in Asian Literatures

Breakout Room 8

Chair: Ranita Chakraborty Dasgupta, Independent Scholar

"Translating A Memoir: Implications of a Glossary and other Linguistic Translation Decisions"
Mukta Kher, University of Wisconsin, Madison

"Mapping Asian Literary Mobilities: Translation, Diaspora, and Decolonial Knowledge Production"
Ranita Chakraborty Dasgupta, Independent Scholar

"Poetics of Translation in Akananūru: Semiotic and Philological Readings in Tamil and Malayalam"
Vismaya PK, SRM University AP

"Language Choice on Indonesian Floral Boards in a Multilingual and Multicultural Context"
Przemysław Wiatrowski, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.9

Power, Knowledge, and Identity in Chinese History and Society

Breakout Room 9

Chair: Min Wha Han, West Texas A&M University

"Under the Mandate of Tengri's Power: The Formation of the Standard Opening of Edicts in Mongolian Pidgin Chinese"
Junyu Sun, The Ohio State University

"The Cultural Ideology of the Transitional Period of the New Era"
JinYuan Huang, Guangdong Maoming Preschool Teacher Training College

"Counting with the Body: Mental Abacus, Sensation, and the Making of Mental Labor in Reform-Era China"
Nan Xu, Stanford University

"Growing into Society: Childhood Socialization and Identity Formation in Zhou Dynasty Northern China"
Rui Wang, Independent Scholar

9:30 - 10:45 AM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 2

VIRTUAL SESSION 2.10

Breakout Room 10

Education, Pedagogy, and Knowledge Transmission

Chair: Bruna Navarone Santos, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation - Joaquim Venâncio Polytechnic School of Health

"Classrooms of Assertion: Dalit-Bahujan Literature and Spatial Politics in Social Welfare Colleges"
Chettupally Anvesh and Pallavi Negi, University of Delhi

"Teaching Portuguese as a Heritage Language in Japan: Challenges and Possibilities in a Diasporic Context"
Janina Tiemi Enomoto, Tsukuba University

"Conceptions of Science, Nature, and Individual in Science Education Initiatives in Brazil and Japan"
Bruna Navarone Santos, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation - Joaquim Venâncio Polytechnic School of Health

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VIRTUAL SESSION 2.11

Breakout Room 11

Diasporic Literature and Transnational Belonging

"Being Gay and Kinless: A Study on Transnational Disaffection in The Carpet Weaver"
Amala Kavya B, Indian Institute of Technology Madras

"Negotiation of Home and Homelessness: The Immigrant in Uma Parameswaran's Poetry"
Minakshi Kaushik, Jawaharlal Nehru University

"From Chennai to California: Global Asia, Place-Making, and Decolonial Futures in Nawaaz Ahmed's Radiant Fugitives"
Mohana Govindarajan, University of Madras, Tamilnadu, India

"Transnationalism: Overcoming Liminality and Inbetweeness in Hanif Kureishi's The Buddha of Suburbia"
Rabia Wasif, Forman Christian College

10:45 - 11:00 AM PANEL BREAK

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.1

Gendered Visual Regimes and Their Discontents in Chinese Art and Their Discontents in Chinese Art and Diaspora

Breakout Room 1

Chair: Shen Qu, Arizona State University

"Transposed Beauties: Female Imagery and Pictorial Function in Jin Dynasty (1115–1234) Tomb Decoration"
Jinglin Li, Arizona State University

"Visualizing Women at War: A Cross-Regional Comparison of Chinese and Euro-American Wartime Images"
Tianyi Zhang, Nanjing University

"Embodied Migration: From Chinese Femininity to Midwestern Landscape in Hong Chun Zhang's Scrolls"
Huixian Dong, Washburn University

"Love languages in a Queer Eye–a close looking of Ching Ho Cheng's Waterfall"
Shen Qu, Arizona State University

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.2

Building South Asian Studies in Brazil: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on India

Breakout Room 2

Chair: Tais Leite de Moura, Universidade de São Paulo

"Basic Sanitation in India: a conversation between Ambedkar and Gandhi"
Mariana Faiad B Alves, Universidade Federal de São Carlos

"Subaltern Studies beyond South Asia: an exploration of social theories of the Global South"
Mirian Santos Ribeiro de Oliveira, Universidade Federal da Integração Latino-Americana

"The Arthashastra and the Origins of Indian Strategic Culture"
Nicoli França Rocha, Universidade de São Paulo

"Contemporary readings of the Ramayana: women in comparison"
Tais Leite de Moura, Universidade de São Paulo

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.3

Breakout Room 3

Gendered Everyday Bordering: Women's Lives and Mobility in Chinese and Transnational Contexts

Chair: Shaoyu Yang, University of Warwick

"Rewriting the 'Barbaric': Zhao Yintang, Gendered Bordering, and Naxi Cultural Identity in Wartime Lijiang (1937–1949)"
Dalu Zhong, Heidelberg University

"Everyday Afterlives Across Borders: How Seven Media Formats Shape a Comfort Woman's Testimony"
Jocelyn Xu, University of York
Ruyi Zhang, Shanghai Normal University

"Affective Labour as Everyday Bordering: Chinese Female International Students' Digital Practices on Xiaohongshu"
Zhuo Wang, University of Manchester

"Affective (Un)Bordering: Transnational Herstory and Diasporic Daughterhood in Jung Chang's Wild Swans (1991) and Fly, Wild Swans (2025)"
Shaoyu Yang, University of Warwick

"Gendered Everyday Bordering among Female Descendants of Immigrants in China"
Chengzhi Zhang, University of Manchester

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.4

Breakout Room 4

Performing Heritage Across Diasporas

Chair: Min Wha Han, West Texas A&M University

"'The Art is Us': The Tibetan Diasporic Identity in Literature and Dialogue"
Samten Dolkar, University of Washington, Seattle

"Embodied Continuity Beyond the Nation-State: Diaspora, Governance, and the Hanthawaddy System of Bando"
Michael Martin, The American Bando Association/National Bando Association of America

"Bharatanatyam in Diaspora: Hybrid Identity Formation Among Tamil American Youth"
Sayyaf Pukayoor, University of Calicut, India

"Haunted Homelands: Spectrality and Female Intergenerational Transmission in Sinophone Diasporic Cinema"
Shuaiwei Cheng, Independent Scholar

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.5

East Asian Literature, Art, Empire, and Ideology

Breakout Room 5

"Beyond the Collaborator Resistor Binary: Reinterpreting 'Autumn Letter'"
Lauren Barnes, Stanford University

"Pessimism for the Party? Broken Families in Japanese Manchurian Literature"
Joshua Lee Solomon, Hirosaki University

"Zhong Kui in the Mirror: Place, Power, and Genealogical Rupture in Chen Chieh-jen's Star Chart"
Kexin Lyu, University of Pittsburgh

"Always Sunset in the Twentieth Century: Spatial Nostalgia and Collective Forgetting in Contemporary Japanese Media"
Amanda Weiss, Georgia Institute of Technology

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.6

Religion, Myth, and Literary Imagination

Breakout Room 6

Chair: Tulika Chakravorty, Bangabasi Morning College, Kolkata

"To Die and Live Again: A Comparative Study of Two Katabatic Journeys of Tang Taizong"
Leona Lu, University of British Columbia

"Religious Perspectives in Art: The Images of Heaven in Buddhism and Islam"
Selin Ozdemir, Tohoku University

"River, Spiritual Practices and Livelihood: Ganga Puja among the Fishing Communities of Kashi"
Tulika Chakravorty, Bangabasi Morning College, Kolkata

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.7

Breakout Room 7

Labor, Remittances, and Transnational Economies

Chair: Ashley Jones, University of Guam

"Qualitative Evaluation of Experiences and Perceptions of Social Mobility, Filial Piety, and Long-distance Caregiving amongst Migrant Millennial Filipinos in Western Washington"
Kariza Nolasco, University of Washington, Seattle

"Indian Migrant Labour in the Gulf: A Human Security Perspective"
Navodita Kumari, University of Allahabad, India

"Labor, Dependency, and Collapse: Filipino Migrant Workers and the CNMI Garment Industry, 1980-2008"
Ashley Jones, University of Guam

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.8

Breakout Room 8

Social Justice, Resistance, and Alternative Futures in South Asia

Chair: Sumit Mondal, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

"Womanist and Dalit Intersections: Spirituality, Survival, and Resistance"
Arvind Theodore, Union Theological Seminary

"Stages of Resistance, Archives of Possibility: Bengali Political Theatre, Place-Memory, and the Counter-Hegemonic Public Sphere in Neoliberal India"
Sumit Mondal, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

"Hybrid Spatiality and the Making of Modern Public Space in Contemporary South India"
Dhanesh Mankulam, Christ University

"Childhood in/and Red-Light District: Spatial Politics, Memory and Movement"
Jigeesha Bhargavi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.9

Space, Environment, and Resilient Communities

Breakout Room 9

"Human–Environment Conflict and Landscape Transformation in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam: A Geospatial Perspective on Community Resilience"
Deepjyoti Bora, The Assam Royal Global University

"Scarcity and Climate Futures: Ecological Precarity, Political Neglect, and Excluded Lives in South Asian Climate Fiction Earthbound: Climate Stories from South Asia (2025)"
Deepti Bhardwaj, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India

"From Adivasi Landscapes to Smart Cities: Climate Anxiety and Environmental Futures in Contemporary Indian Fiction"
Treenasri Ghosh, IMS Unison University

Sovereignty And the Spatial politics of Enclosure: Caste slavery in Early modern Travancore"
Neethu B S, University of Calicut, Kerala

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.10

Governance, Society, and Literature in Japan

Breakout Room 10

Chair: Connor Mills, University of St. Thomas

"'So Much Going on Behind the Scenes': Military Procurement and Local Business Owners in Postwar Japan"
Connor Mills, University of St. Thomas

"The LDP's Proposal of a Revised Constitution of Japan"
Tatsuya Fukushima, University of Arkansas

"Because the Dead Return: Reading Repetition Across Ōe Kenzaburō and Han Kang"
Shelby Oxenford, The University of Texas at Austin

"Demonic Pedagogy: Dharma Lessons from the Mountain Demon in Noh Plays Yamamba and Kurozuka"
Dunja Jelesijevic, Northern Arizona University

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM VIRTUAL SESSIONS 3

VIRTUAL SESSION 3.11

Asian Diaspora and Memory

Chair: Chahat, Independent Scholar

Breakout Room 11

"Memory, History and Identity: "Chineseness" and "Re-Sinicization" of the Overseas Chinese – the 80th Anniversary of the End of World War II Photo Exhibitions in the Philippines"
Chung Ling Hui, The University of Hong Kong

"Archiving the Golden Venture: Aesthetic Testimony and Chinese Diasporic Memory"
Liyang Dong, Binghamton University

"Migration, Memory, and Segregation: Ruth Asawa, Bernice Bing, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, and the Making of Asian American Women's Art in Northern California"
Yipaer Aierken, California State University, Sacramento

"Institutional strategies and community resistance: Songkran Festival in Kowloon City of Hong Kong"
Yan Yan Conchita Fung, The University of Hong Kong

Saturday, November 7

Location: University Center, 2nd Floor

8:30 - 9:45 AM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 4

IN-PERSON SESSION 4.1

University Center, 201

AAS and Arkansas NCTA-Sponsored Educational Workshop I: The Korean Wave and Its Educational Possibilities

Chair/Discussant: Zach Smith, Arkansas NCTA Director, University of Central Arkansas

Workshop Keynote: "Beyond the Korean Wave: Critical Pedagogies for Teaching Korea"
Youjeong Oh, The University of Texas at Austin

"Teaching Hallyu with an audience-centered approach: K-Pop Demon Hunters as a text"
Min Wha Han, West Texas A&M University

IN-PERSON SESSION 4.2

University Center 203-204

Hong Kong Studies Roundtable: The State of the Field

Chair/Discussant: Gina Anne Tam, Trinity University

Quinton Huang, University of Toronto

Justin Chun-yin Cheng, University of Michigan

Kennedy Wong, King's University, Canada

Zhang Qingyi, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Jeffrey Ngo, Georgetown University

Macabe Keliher, Southern Methodist University

8:30 - 9:45 AM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 4

IN-PERSON SESSION 4.3

University Center, 206

Literature and Culture in China

Chair: Allison Truitt, Tulane University

"Appropriating Ritual: Spirit-Writing and Cultural Capital in Late Ming Literati Culture"
Yiru Wang, Columbia University

"Xu Xiake 徐霞客 (1587-1641) and the Cultural Discourse on Rock Shelters and Caves in Late Imperial China"
Allan Barr, Pomona College

"Ecology, Data, and Posthuman Bodies: Reconfiguring Place, Power, and Possibility in Contemporary East Asian Science Fiction"
Phuong Khanh Nguyen, Danang University

"How Pigs Shaped Early China's History"
Bruce Jones, Taiwan National University

IN-PERSON SESSION 4.4

University Center, 211

Faith, Culture, and Identity in Asia

Chair: Leah Renold, Texas State University

"Crossing Borders, Translating Faith: The Emergence of Christianity in Modern Bhutan, 1600s–Early 2000s"
Kinley Tenzin, Baylor University

"Making Islam Legible as Culture: Islam-Related Periodicals in Prewar and Postwar Japan"
Yoko Yamashita, Yokohama National University

"Laments of Exclusion: Indigenous Women's Mobilization in the Karbi Borderlands of Northeast India"
Jasodhara Borthakur, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University of Delhi

"Is a River Holy? The Impact of Christian Theology on the Ganges River"
Leah Renold, Texas State University

9:45 - 10:00 AM PANEL BREAK

10:00 - 11:15 AM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 5

IN-PERSON SESSION 5.1

University Center, 201

AAS and Arkansas NCTA-Sponsored Educational Workshop II: The Korean Wave and Its Educational Possibilities

Chair/Discussant: Zach Smith, Arkansas NCTA Director, University of Central Arkansas

"From K-Pop to K-Drama: Teaching Asia through the Korean Wave"
Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston

"Games 'R' US: Teaching Hallyu Games with Netflix"
JongHwa Lee, Angelo State University

IN-PERSON SESSION 5.2

University Center, 203-204

Hong Kong and the Global Exchange of Ideologies

Discussant: Macabe Keliher, Southern Methodist University

"There is Always Someone You Can Learn from: Hong Kong in Japan's Transimperial Writings"
Justin Chun-yin Cheng, University of Michigan

"The transnational origins of Hong Kong Feminism"
Gina Anne Tam, Trinity University

"Milk Tea Alliance and a leftist Hong Kong diaspora"
Kennedy Wong, King's University, Canada

IN-PERSON SESSION 5.3

University Center, 206

Culture, Identity, and Politics in Southeast Asia and Its Diasporas

Chair: John Carlo Colot, Polytechnic University of the Philippines

"Filipino and Indigenous Relationalities: Place, Power, and Possibility Amidst and Against Canadian Colonialism"
Ashley Caranto Morford, Weber State University

"Engineered Harmony: Singapore's National Day Songs"
Edmund Song, University of Iowa

"Transparency in Governance: The Influence of Open Data on Public Trust in Philippine Context"
Florenda S. Frivaldo, Polytechnic University of the Philippines

"Blue Economy is Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam 2015-2025"
John H. Barnett, Emporia State University

10:00 - 11:15 AM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 5

IN-PERSON SESSION 5.4

University Center, 211

Pedagogy in and about Asia

Chair: Rebekah McMillan, Angelo State University

"People, Language, and the Future—Creating Together: Japanese Language Education in a Multicultural Era"
Loch Leaksmy, Royal University of Phnom Penh

"Designing and Facilitating COIL between U.S. and Korean Universities: Insights from a Virtual Exchange Partnership"
Alice McCoy-Bae, The University of Texas at Austin

"Teaching Urbanization and Sustainability in India"
Rebekah McMillan, Angelo State University

IN-PERSON SESSION 5.5

University Center, 202

Cultural Representation and Identity Across Asia and the West

Chair: Taylor Gruman, Angelo State University

"Myth, Memory, and Modernity: Feminist Solidarity in Kirun Kapur's Women in the Waiting Room"
Subrata Chandra Mozumder, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

"The Shaping of Tibet through Media"
Jacqueline Willingham, University of the Incarnate Word

"The Dalai Lama's Journey to the West"
Joseph Garland, Angelo State University

11:15 - 11:30 AM PANEL BREAK

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM KEYNOTE & LUNCHEON
Location: CJ Davidson Conference Center

Welcome Remarks
Dean Sergio Ruiz, Angelo State University College of Arts and Humanities

Keynote Address
"Red Schoolgirls:
Cultivating a Global Radical Imagination
in Mid-20th-Century South Asia"
Elora Shehabuddin
Professor of Gender and Women's Studies and Global Studies
Director, Global Studies
Director, Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies
University of California, Berkeley

Student Paper Awards Ceremony

Asian-Style Lunch Buffet

1:45 - 3:00 PM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 6

IN-PERSON SESSION 6.1

Hong Kong land, property, and industrialization in the socially embedded economy

University Center, 201

Discussant/Chair: Gina Anne Tam, Trinity University

"Scribbles near Shaukiwan: Squatter Formalization and Everyday Colonial Relations in Late Nineteenth-Century Hong Kong"
Quinton Huang, University of Toronto

"Printed Cloth, Drafted Darts: How Industrialisation Reached the Hong Kong Cheongsam, 1920s-1960s"
Qingyi Zhang, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

"An Entrepôt of Refuge: Containerization, A. P. Møller-Mærsk, and the Origins of Maritime Humanitarianism at Kwai Chung"
Jeffrey Ngo, Georgetown University

"The Gender Embedded Economy: Female Labor in Hong Kong's Industrialization, 1950-1990"
Macabe Keliher, Southern Methodist University

IN-PERSON SESSION 6.2

Beyond the Textbook: Experiential Learning and Asian Studies Across Educational Contexts

University Center, 203-204

Chair/Discussant: Adrian Viccellio, Saint Mary's Hall, Director of Global and Experiential Programs

"Learning by Doing: Virtual Journeys Through East Asian History In Online Courses"
Andria Crosson, University of Texas at San Antonio

"Exploring South Asian Religions in College Courses: A case for Experiential Learning"
Anne Hardgrove, University of Texas at San Antonio

"Crossing Sacred Thresholds: Experiential Pedagogy and Interfaith Understanding in Secondary Religious Studies"
Amy Pozza, Saint Mary's Hall/University of Texas at San Antonio

"From Rome to the Han: Comparative Political Culture and Experiential Learning at the San Antonio Museum of Art"
Alejandro Manso, Saint Mary's Hall

1:45 - 3:00 PM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 6

IN-PERSON SESSION 6.3

University Center, 206

Infrastructures of Violence, Memory, and Security in Korean and Transnational Cultural Politics

Chair: Min Suk Kim, The University of Texas at Austin

"Reimagining Gwangju: State Violence, Citizen Solidarity, and Memory as Infrastructure in Korean Literature and Film"
Min Suk Kim, The University of Texas at Austin

"KPop Demon Hunters and the Global Politics of Identity and Security"
Jooyoun Lee, St. Edward's University

"'All We Can Do Is Teach the World': 'Comfort Women' Statues and the Peril of Advocacy"
Marcy Tanter, Fulbright Association, Dallas Chapter

IN-PERSON SESSION 6.4

University Center, 211

Chinese Diaspora and Identity

Chair: Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston

"Defying Ethnicization: Flexible Citizenship and Chinese Composers in the United States at the Turn of the Millennium"
Hon Ki Cheung, The University of Texas at Austin

"Political Uncertainty and Chinese Student Mobility under President Trump's Second Term: A Yangtze River Delta Case Study"
Perilla Wang, Colorado College

"Under Her Name"
June Xu, Asian American Art & Cultures Initiative

1:45 - 3:00 PM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 6

IN-PERSON SESSION 6.5

University Center, 202

War, Mobility, and Resource Politics in South and Central Asia

Chair: Aryendra Chakravartty, Stephen F. Austin State University

“Anatomy of a War: Anarchy and State-Making in Early Modern South Asia”
Aryendra Chakravartty, Stephen F. Austin State University

“From Colonial Mobility Control to Refugee Securitization: Afghan Displacement and the Politics of Governance in Pakistan”
Muhammad Uzair Hashmi, National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan

"Afghanistan Resurgent: The Looming Water Crisis in Central Asia"
David Smith, Angelo State University

3:00 - 3:15 PM PANEL BREAK

3:15 - 4:30 PM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 7

IN-PERSON SESSION 7.1

University Center, 201

Technologies of Youth: Cultural Form and Political Formation across Modern Asia and its Diasporas

Chair: Adam Manfredi, University of North Texas

"The Post-history of the Japanese Student Movement"
Adam Manfredi, University of North Texas

"It's Not About Love: Celibacy and Youth in the Diary of Cai Wenxing"
Miao Dou, Northern Arizona University

"Cuteness and the Politics of Diasporic Memories in Houston's Chinatowns"
Melody Yunzi Li, University of Houston

IN-PERSON SESSION 7.2

University Center, 203-204

Cinema, Culture, and Identity in Asia

Chair: Allison Truitt, Tulane University

"Hou Hsiao-hsien and the Global 'Readability' of Art Cinema"
Jie Zhang, Trinity University

"Chinese Neo-Socialist Cinema: A New Cultural Formation in the Xi Jinping Era"
(Aaron) Feng Lan, Florida State University

"Han, Heung, and BTS's ARIRANG: Cultural Exchange through Korean Aesthetics"
Eniya Kaleemullah, University of Houston

"Where the Past Flows Anew: Reinterpreting Classics Through Screen and Site in Wangchuan Fenghua Lu"
Yin-Fang Lin, Columbia University

3:15 - 4:30 PM IN-PERSON SESSIONS 7

IN-PERSON SESSION 7.3

University Center, 206

Digital Politics, Local Power, and Transnational Networks in Asia

Chair: Florenda S. Frivaldo, Polytechnic University of the Philippines

"Digital Governance and Local Political Accountability: Evidence from Philippine Local Governments"
John Carlo Colot, Polytechnic University of the Philippines

"Digital Populism and Local Identity on Indonesian YouTube: Political Performance, Platform Power, and Public Emotion"
Shela Kusumaningtyas, Universitas Indonesia

"Digital Intimacies, Gendered Power, and South–South Connectivity: Feminist and Decolonial Perspectives on Cyber Relationships Across Africa and Asia"
Aaron Sandow, Ohio University

IN-PERSON SESSION 7.4

University Center, 211

China in Historical Perspective

Chair: Paxton L. Stover, Angelo State University

"From Korea to Vietnam: China, Political Memory, and Lyndon Johnson's Strategy of Limited War"
Paxton L. Stover, Angelo State University

"How Animals Shaped and Were Shaped by China's Early Expansion"
Bruce Jones, National Taiwan University

4:45 - 6:00 PM SWCAS Board Meeting

University Center, 202

All are welcome!

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Please refer to official websites for hours, tickets, parking, and other information.

Fort Concho National Historical Landmark



Hours:
Monday-Saturday 9 am-5 pm
Sunday 1-5 pm

Admissions:
Adults $5
Seniors (60+) $3
Military $3
Students (7-17) $2
Children (6 & under) Free

San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts



Hours:
Sunday 1-4 pm
Monday Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday 10 am-4 pm
Thursday 12-7 pm

Admissions:
Free

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Please refer to official websites for hours, tickets, parking, and other information.

San Angelo State Park



Hours:
Daily 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Admissions:
Adults $4
Children (12 & under) Free

Angelo State University Mayer Museum



Hours:
Tuesday-Saturday,
10 am-5 pm

Admissions:
Free

International Waterlily Collection



Hours:
Open 24/7

Admissions:
Free



Angelo State University
San Angelo, Texas
November 6-7, 2026