

(Tiffany) Yun-Chu Tsai, Ph.D., East Asian Languages and Literatures
Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures,
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Charleston, SC 29409
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EDUCATION

- 2016 Ph.D., East Asian Languages and Literatures. University of California, Irvine
Dissertation title: “You Are Whom You Eat: Cannibalism in Contemporary
Chinese Fiction and Film.”
- 2009 M.A., English, State University of New York, Stony Brook
Thesis title: “Traumatic Memory, Gender Melancholia, and Prospective
Multiplicity: Negotiating with the Dead in Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s
Tale*”
- 2005 B.A., English, National Dong Hwa University

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina

- 2017-present Assistant Professor of Chinese, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures
and Cultures.
- Director, Chinese Program, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and
Cultures.

AREAS OF SPECIALITY

Modern and contemporary Chinese and Sinophone literature and culture; the cultural history of
food and cannibalism in China; Chinese and Sinophone modernity; state violence, censorship,
and memory; race, ethnicity, and colonialism; nationalism and national identity; civic
engagement; critical theory

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Published

- 2023 Tsai, Tiffany Yun-Chu. “A ‘Consuming Identity’ in China’s Modernity:
Contextualizing Cannibalism in Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature,”
Forum for World Literature Studies, Vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 25-43. ([Access to the
article attached here](#))

- 2020 Tsai, Tiffany Yun-Chu. "[Cannibal Labyrinth: Narrative, Intertextuality, and Politics of Cannibalism in Mo Yan's *The Republic of Wine*](#)," *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, vol. 32, no. 2, pp. 230-276. ([Access to the article attached here](#))
- 2020 Tsai, Tiffany Yun-Chu, Alexander Jabbari. "[Sinicizing Islam: Translating the Gulistan of Sa'di in Modern China](#)." *International Journal of Islam in Asia*, vol. 1, iss. 1, pp. 6-26. doi: [10.1163/25899996-01010002](#) ([Co-author article, access to the article attached here](#))

Submitted (Revise and Resubmit)

"Cannibalistic Paradox in Yan Lianke's *The Day the Sun Died: The Pathology and Treatment of Modernity in Post-1989 Chinese Literature*" ([attached](#)), *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*.

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts in Preparation

Cannibalism as Pathology: China's Modernity in Crisis

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2022 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2022 Faculty Summer Provost Research Grant, Office of the Provost and Dean of the College, Charleston
- 2021 The Citadel Pandemic Service Ribbon, Charleston
- 2021 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2021 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2020 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2020 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2019 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2019 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2018 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2018 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2017 The Citadel Foundation Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2017 The Citadel Foundation Presentation of Research Faculty Grant, Charleston
- 2016 Center for Asian Studies Research & Event Award, University of California, Irvine
- 2016 Humanities Graduate Research Slam, University of California, Irvine
- 2015 Humanities Commons Individual Research Grant, University of California, Irvine

- 2015 Tien Endowment, East Asian Languages and Literatures, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine
- 2015 Conference Travel Grant, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine
- 2014 Summer Dissertation Fellowship, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine
- 2012 Conference Travel Grant, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine
- 2010 Regents' Fellowship, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine, 5-year award

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2021 "Feminism and Religion," Women Empowered Summit Program, Academic Magnet and Porter Gaud High Schools, Oct 23
- 2021 "Cannibalism as Sociocultural Critique: East Asia and the World in Neoliberalism," Syncopating East Asia Mentoring Workshop, University of California, Irvine, February 4
- 2020 "Cannibalism as Pathology: China's Modernity in Crisis," Workshop on Chinese Science/fiction and Ecocriticism, Duke University, November 30
- 2020 "Cannibal Modernity: China's Century-long Quest for Modernization," Virginia Military Institute, Feb 27
- 2019 "Cannibal Narrative: Narrative Style in Mo Yan's *The Republic of Wine* and Chinese Postmodern Subjectivity," College of Charleston, March 15

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Panels Organized and Proposed:

- 2024 "Consuming Xinjiang: Ethnic Minorities in China's Nation-Building and Beyond," the Association for Asian Studies 2024 Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 14-17, 2024.
- 2024 "Colonial Borders: Ethnicity, Identity, and Agency in Buryat-Mongolian, Tibetan, and Hong Kong Communities," the Association for Asian Studies 2024 Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 14-17, 2024.

Panels Organized, Proposed, and Accepted:

- 2024 "Modernity with Chinese Characteristics: Memories and Identities in Chinese Literature and Culture," the 2024 Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 4-7, 2024.

Panels Organized and Chaired:

- 2023 “The Politics of Reading and Writing in Chinese and Sinophone Literature,” the American Comparative Literature Association 2023 Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, March 16-19, 2023.
- 2022 “Pathologizing China: Duality in Illness and Cure of China’s Modernity,” the Association for Asian Studies 2022 Annual Conference, Honolulu, United States, March 24-27.
- 2021 “Horrors of Capitalist Modernity: The Vampire, Zombie, Cannibal, and Plague,” the Association for Asian Studies 2021 Annual Conference, Seattle, United States, March 25-28.
- 2019 “Bodies in Transition: Corporeal Perspectives on Premodern and Modern China,” the Association for Asian Studies 2019 Annual Conference, Denver, United States, March 21-24.
- 2018 “Healing Is a Many-Splendored Thing: Re-framing Interdisciplinary Relations and Narratives in Asian Medicine,” the Association for Asian Studies 2018 Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., United States, March 22-25
- 2018 “Cannibal Modernity: Cannibalism, Colonialism, and Capitalism in East Asia,” the 2018 Modern Language Association Convention on “States of Insecurity,” New York, United States, January 4-7

Papers Proposed:

- 2024 “Neo-Cannibalism: Forced Organ Harvesting in China,” the Association for Asian Studies 2024, Seattle, Washington, March 14-17, 2024.

Papers Proposed and Accepted:

- 2024 “The Paradoxes of Cannibalism: Eradicating Enemies from 1949, June Fourth, to Today,” the 2024 Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 4-7, 2024.

Papers Presented:

- 2023 “Auto-cannibalistic Censorship: Reading and Writing Between the Lines in post-1989 Chinese Literature,” the American Comparative Literature Association 2023 Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, March 16-19, 2023.
- 2022 “Modernizing Cannibalism: A Pathology and Treatment of Modernity in Post-1989 Chinese Literature,” 6th World Conference of Chinese Studies 2022, Witten and Berlin, Germany, August 12-19.

- 2022 “The Duality of Cannibalism in *The Day the Sun Died*: A Cure or a Pathology?” the Association for Asian Studies 2022 Annual Conference, Honolulu, United States, March 24-27.
- 2021 “Becoming Modern: Culinary Cannibalism and Politics of Consumption in China’s Modernization,” the 12th International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS 12), Kyoto, Japan, August 24-27.
- 2021 “Cannibal Politics: An All-Consuming Crisis of Neoliberal Postsocialist Modernity,” the Association for Asian Studies 2021 Annual Conference, Seattle, United States, March 25-28.
- 2020 “Modernizing Cannibalism: Coloniality, Consuming Identities, and Modernity in China,” Southeastern Association of Cultural Studies 1st Annual Conference, Charlotte, United States, February 7-8.
- 2019 “Human Bodies at Consumption: The Evolution of Medical Cannibalism in the Age of Global Capitalism,” the Association for Asian Studies 2019 Annual Conference, Denver, United States, March 21-24.
- 2019 “Remapping the Genealogy of Cannibalism in Chinese Literature: From Lu Xun to Mo Yan,” Philological Association of the Carolinas 43rd Annual Conference, Asheville, United States, February 22-23.
- 2018 “Cannibal Modernity: Colonizing Cannibalism in Modern China,” “Bites Here and There”: Literal and Metaphorical Cannibalism Across Disciplines, Coventry, England, November 17.
- 2018 “You Are Whom You Eat: Reframing Medicinal Cannibalism in Feudal and Capitalistic China,” the Association for Asian Studies 2018 Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., United States, March 22-25
- 2018 “A Postsocialist Desire for Cannibalism: Self, Other, and Neoliberalism in *The Republic of Wine*,” the 2018 Modern Language Association Convention on “States of Insecurity,” New York, United States, January 4-7
- 2017 “A ‘Postsocialist’ Meat Market in *The Republic of Wine*: Medicinal Delicacies, Cannibalism and the Chinese Dream in Globalization,” the Association for Asian Studies 2017 Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 16-19
- 2016 “Cannibalistic Amnesia: Gender, Class, and Consumerism in *Dumplings*,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference 2016, Pasadena, United States, November 11-13
- 2016 “Modernization between Cannibalism and the Chinese Dream: A ‘Hope’ for Rejuvenating the Nation in *Dumplings*,” AAS-in-Asia Conference 2016 on “Asia in

Motion: ‘Horizons of Hope’,” Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27

- 2016 “The Past in the Present: “Wave After Wave in Honghu Lake” in Lillian Lee’s and Fruit Chan’s *Dumplings*,” History? The Past in the Present: UCI Annual History Graduate Student Association Conference and Workshop, Irvine, United States, April 22
- 2015 “A Delicacy to Rejuvenate the Nation: Fetus Consumption in Lillian Lee and Fruit Chan’s *Dumplings*,” Asia: Conflict and Cooperation, 44th Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies (MAR/AAS) Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, United States, October 9-11
- 2013 “The Melancholic Consumption of the Object: Cannibalism in *The Republic of Wine*,” Cannibal Modernisms: King’s College London 2nd Annual Comparative Literature International Conference, London, United Kingdom, November 7-8
- 2012 “(In)Visible Ghosts and (Un)Intelligible Knowledge in Li Ang’s *Visible Ghosts*: Exclusion and Othering in the Formation of Colonial Citizenship,” Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies (WCAAS), Brigham Young University-Idaho, West Yellowstone, United States, October 11-13

CAMPUS OR DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2016 “You Are Whom You Eat: Cannibalism in Chinese Fiction and Film,” Humanities Graduate Research Slam, May 27
- 2016 “English Grammar Review for Chinese Speakers,” English Grammar Workshop Series for English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Language Learners (ELL), January 12
- 2015 “From ‘Serve the People’ to ‘Feast on the People’: China’s Post-Mao Transitions in *Dumplings*,” Access Asia: the *Journal of Asian Studies*’ Talks on Asia, October 1
- 2015 “Traversing Postcolonial Hong Kong and Postsocialist China: Gender, Class, and Desire in *Dumplings*,” Family, Community, Boundary and Crossing: East Asian Film and Discussion Series, May 26
- 2014 “Premature Love and Death on Gu-Ling Street: 1960’s Taiwan in *A Brighter Summer Day*,” Power and Resistance: East Asian Film and Discussion Series, March 6

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Culture, The Citadel

Assistant Professor of Chinese:

Chinese Literature and Culture Courses

Contemporary Chinese Literature and Films	(Fall 2017) [Face to face]
Chinese Cinema	(Fall 2018) [Face to face]
Chinese Civilization	(Spring 2019) [Face to face]
Sinophone Cinemas	(Fall 2019) [Face to face]
Contemporary Taiwan through Media	(Spring 2020) [Face to face and online]
Civic Values in China	(Spring 2021) [Online]
Banned in China	(Fall 2021) [Face to face]
Wolf Warrior: Chinese Film and Music	(Fall 2022) [Face to face]
Food and Appetite in Chinese Culture	(Spring 2023) [Face to face]

Chinese Language Courses

Introduction to Chinese I	(Fall 2017-2021) [Face to face and online]
Introduction to Chinese II	(Spring 2018-2021) [Face to face and online]
Intensive Intermediate Chinese I	(Fall 2017-2021) [Face to face and online]
Intensive Intermediate Chinese II	(Spring 2018-2021) [Face to face and online]
Advanced Speaking, Reading, and Writing I	(Fall 2017-2020, Spring 2022) [Face to face and online]
Advanced Speaking, Reading, and Writing II	(Spring 2018) [Face to face and online]
Chinese Relation I – Intro to Chinese I	(Fall 2022) [Face to face]
Chinese Relation II – Intro to Chinese II	(Spring 2023) [Face to face]
Chinese Experience I – Intermediate Chinese I	(Fall 2022) [Face to face]
Chinese Experience II – Intermediate Chinese II	(Spring 2023) [Face to face]

Independent Studies

Taiwan and U.S.- China Cultural Relations	(Spring 2018) [Face to face]
Medicine and Modernity	(Fall 2020) [Online]
Introductory to Teaching Chinese	(Spring 2022) [Face to face]

School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine

Teaching Associate:

Writing-intensive Humanities Core Courses (Instructor of record)

Humanities Core: War	(Fall 2015 and Spring 2016) [Face to face]
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Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of California, Irvine

Teaching Assistant:

East Asian Literature and Culture Courses

Introduction to East Asian Cultures: Japan	(Spring 2015) [Face to face]
Fantastic Fiction	(Fall 2014) [Face to face]

Japanese Ghosts (Winter 2014) [Face to face]

Chinese Language Courses (Instructor of record)

Fundamental Chinese 1C, No-Background Track (Spring 2014) [Face to face]
 Fundamental Chinese 1DA, Dialect Track (Fall 2013) [Face to face]
 Fundamental Chinese 1, No-Background Track (Fall 2011-Spring 2013) [Face to face]
 Advanced Chinese 3B (Winter 2015) [Face to face]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Editor, and Journalist

Publication Project of National Digital Archives Program, Department of Journalism,
 National Cheng-Chi University, National Science Council, Taiwan, 2005-2006

Research Assistant

Institute of Public Administration, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan, 2003

SERVICE

Service To Profession

Board Member of the World Association for Chinese Studies

The Citadel, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Director of the Chinese Program, Fall 2017 – present
 Member of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Spring 2019
 Member of Athletics Advisory Committee, Fall 2023 – present
 Member of Faculty Awards Committee, Fall 2019 – Spring 2023
 Member of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Tenure and Promotion
 Guideline Revision Committee, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
 Evaluator of the Chinese Program Assessment, Fall 2022 – present
 Program Leader of Project Global Officer in Taiwan, Fall 2017 – present
 Advisor of Project Global Officer Working Group, Fall 2018 – present
 Supervisor of The Citadel's Intelligence and Security Studies Major / Chinese Minor
 students at the University of Oklahoma's 8th the Intelligence and National Security
 Symposium: Shaping the US-China Relationship, Spring 2022
 Advisor of the Chinese Club, Fall 2017 – present
 Advisor for the Internship in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (TCFL), Fall
 2017 – Spring 2018
 Coordinator with Student Success Center for Supplemental Instruction Program and
 Subject Area Tutoring, Fall 2019 – present
 Organizer of Modern Languages Award Annual Banquet, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
 Organizer of Chinese Program Bi-annual Festival Banquets, Spring 2018 – present
 Contact for Academic-Industrial Partnership with Boeing South Carolina, Spring 2018
 Contact for Academic-Industrial Partnership with Jinbu Chinese Learning App, Fall

2019 – present
Department Meeting Secretary, Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

University of California, University of California Humanities Research Institute

Mentor of Syncopating East Asia, University of California, Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

University of California, Irvine, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures

Workshop Co-organizer

Media in Translation: Visual and Material Perspectives on East Asia, East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of California, Irvine (2015)

Workshop Co-organizer and Presenter

Family, Community, Boundary and Crossing: East Asian Film and Discussion Series, East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of California, Irvine (2015)

Power and Resistance: East Asian Film and Discussion Series, East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of California, Irvine (2013-2014)

CERTIFICATES

- 2017 Certificate of Completion Stewards of Children Online Training, The Citadel
- 2016 Activate to Captivate Communication Certificate, University of California, Irvine
- 2009 Women's Studies Certificate, State University of New York, Stony Brook
- 2007 Certificate in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language, National Cheng-Chi University
- 2006 Research Assistant Certification Program, National Cheng-Chi University
- 2005 Certificate of Information and Cultural Mass Media, National Dong Hwa University

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Panelist,

Women Empowered Summit Program, Academic Magnet and Porter Gaud High Schools, Charleston, SC (2021)

Program Leader and Curriculum Builder,

Project Global Officer, Soochow University, Taiwan (2017-present)

Web Manager,

Chinese Program, The Citadel (2018-present)

Executive Officer and Web Manager,

Anteater Tango, University of California, Irvine (2013-2015)

Teaching Assistant,

Tango Class, Campus Recreation Center, University of California, Irvine (2013-2014)

Vice President,

Taiwanese Graduate Student Association, University of California, Irvine (2011-2012)

Publicist,

Taiwanese Graduate Student Association, State University of New York, Stony Brook
(2008-2009)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Published Interview from Radio/TV Program:

2023 Tsai, Tiffany Yun-Chu Tsai. Interview by Leyla Gulen. "[Celebrations and Traditions of the Chinese New Year](#)." *Fox 24 News Now*, Feb 7, 2023.

LANGUAGES

Native fluency in Chinese

Near-native fluency in English

Fundamental Japanese

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Asian Studies

Modern Language Association

Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association

World Association for Chinese Studies

Society of Sinophone Studies