

WENTAO MA

Armstrong Hall #360 | Colorado Springs, CO | (858) 319-5584 | wma@coloradocollege.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego 2026
Ph.D., Department of Literature (Cultural Studies)
Dissertation: *Towards A Theory of Media Care in the Contemporary Sino-World*
Advisor: Daisuke Miyao, Geraldine Fiss, Andrea Mendoza, Brian Goldfarb

Columbia University 2018
M.A., Film and Media Studies
Thesis: *When China Tries to Take Command: Chinese War Film in Dialogue with World Cinema*
Advisor: Jane M. Gaines, Robert King

Swansea University 2016
B.A., Media and Communication
First Class honors

Shandong Normal University 2014
B.A., Theater, Film and Television

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Assistant Professor of Chinese 2026-Present
Colorado College | Colorado Springs, CO

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles:

Ma, Wentao. 2025. "Trans- as a Method: Queer Kinship and Cruising in Louisa Wei's *Golden Gate Girls* (2013) and *Havana Divas* (2018)." *Journal of Chinese Film Studies*, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 511-525.

Ma, Wentao. 2024. "Polylocality, Revisited: Toward A Theory of Solidarity in Relation to Sinophone Filmmaking." *Chinese Literature and Thought Today*. Summer 2024, vol. 55, no. 1-2, pp. 62-66.

Ma, Wentao. 2013. "悲剧的国际化与民族化：论《玉观音》电影和电视剧改编的美学取向" [The Internationalization and Nationalization of Tragedy: The Aesthetic Orientation of Film & TV Adaptations of *Jade Goddess of Mercy*]. 传播与版权 [Communications and Copyrights], vol.6, p.82-84. ISSN : 1674-473X.

Ma, Wentao. “The Ecological Aporia: Necropolitics and Planetary Becoming in *The Ozone Layer Vanishes* (1990)” *Asian Cinema*. (Under Review)

**Translations:
(From English to Chinese)**

William Urrichio. 2021. “Rethinking Documentary in An Interactive Age” In Feng Bao (ed) 全球纪录影像理论前沿 [*Frontiers in Global Documentary Theory*]. China International Radio Press.

Jane M. Gaines. 2021. “Radical Documentary: World Connection Before & After the Internet.” In Feng Bao (ed) 全球纪录影像理论前沿 [*Frontiers in Global Documentary Theory*]. China International Radio Press.

Joseph Vogel. 2018. “Whitewashing Slave Rebellion: The Confessions of Quentin Tarantino.” In 当代电影 [*Contemporary Cinema*], May 2019, 86-93. ISSN : 1002-4646.

Patrick F. Campos. 2011. “The Politics of Naming a Movement: Independent Cinema According to the Cinemalaya Congress.” In 当代电影 [*Contemporary Cinema*], July 2018, 101-109. ISSN : 1002-4646.

(From Chinese to English)

Yanjiao Chen, Gongchang Ge, Ning Li, Xiaofei Li, Katherine Morrow, Raymond Tsang, Belinda Q. He, Wentao Ma & Kelly Fan. “*Wolf Warrior II* (2017) and the Inefficient Main Melody (Zhu Xuanlü): Why Do Filmgoers Have to Take Sides?,” *Journal of Chinese Cinemas*, 15(2-3), pp. 200-225. 2021.

Journal of Beijing Film Academy (ed.) 2019. *Beijing Film Yearbook 2017*, Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2019, 270 pages, ISBN: 9781783209316.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor-of-record:

University of California, San Diego
Department of Literature

“Food in East Asian Media and Beyond”

Summer Session I 2025

Teaching Assistant (Instructor-of-Record in Nature):

University of California, San Diego

Chinese Studies Program

CHIN 20AN-BN-CN (Intermediate, non-native track) Winter 2024 – Spring 2026

CHIN 10CM (Beginner, heritage track) Spring 2025

CHIN 20BD-CD (Intermediate, dialect track) Winter – Spring 2024

University of California, San Diego

Culture, Arts, and Technology (Writing Program), Sixth College

CAT 1 “American Popular Culture in 1990s ” Fall 2023

“Un/Natural Environment ” Fall 2022

“A History of Literary Creatures ” Summer Session I 2022

“Origins ” Fall 2021

CAT 2 “History of American Television ” Winter 2023

“Art and Brain ” Winter 2022

CAT 3 “AI Narratives ” Spring 2023

“Futurism ” Spring 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Columbia University

Arts Events Manager & Research Assistant, School of the Arts 2018

Columbia University

Faculty Research Assistant, School of the Arts 2016–2017

Swansea University

Digital Communications & Research Assistant, International Development Office 2016–2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “You Are Being Cared For: Surveillance and Indifference” 2027
Modern Language Association Annual Conference
- “Planetary Becoming under Cold War Anxieties: Ecological Aporia and Necropolitics
in Chinese Ecocinema” 2026
Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference
- “*Havana Divas*: Transpacific Intersubjectivity, Solidarity, and Documentary Filmmaking” 2025
Global Cinema Symposium, University of Texas at Dallas
- “On Media Susceptibility: Virtual Indifference and Coercive Care in *Diagnosia*” 2024
Society of Cinema and Media Society Annual Conference
- “The ‘Penglai’ Imagination: Island, Immortality, and Extraterritoriality” 2022
“Literature and the Sea” International Conference, Association of Chinese
& Comparative Literature
- “A Shift in Anxiety: Double Agent, Melodrama and Collective Identity in Post-1997
Hong Kong Cinema” 2022
Society of Cinema and Media Society Annual Conference, Virtual Event
- “Reincarnation in Transit: Temporality, Parapraxis and Geopolitics in the Cinema of
Apichatpong Weerasethakul”
2021
Society of Cinema and Media Society Annual Conference, Virtual Event
- “Deconstructing ‘Sage Media’: The Moving Image of China in Interactive
Documentary” 2019
Society of Cinema and Media Society Annual Conference
- “Exercising the Everyday: Physical Redemption and Re-mediation in Modern Chinese
Calisthenics” 2018
“Everyday Practice”: The 43rd Annual Art History Graduate Student Association
Symposium University of California, Santa Barbara
- “The Burden of Kung Fu Master: Chinese Masculinity as a Strategy of Mainlandization” 2017
“Failing Masculinity: Male Melodrama” Student Symposium
Columbia University
- “Femvertising on the Rise: Certain Trends and Issues of Feminism in Advertising” 2016
“I Love Pop”: An Interdisciplinary Conference

Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY)

INVITED LECTURES

“Roundtable: Chinese Filmmaking and the World” Columbia China Forum, Columbia University	2024
“Writing an Argumentative Paragraph” Culture, Arts, and Technology (Writing Program), Sixth College, UC San Diego	2022
“ <i>Big Road</i> (1935): Body Politics, Medium Specificity, and Transnationalism” Shandong Normal University	2018

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Suraj Israni Center for Cinematic Arts Research Fellow University of California, San Diego	2025
21st Century China Center Travel Grant University of California, San Diego	2025
Dean’s Travel Fund University of California, San Diego	2024, 2021
GPSA Travel Grant University of California, San Diego	2024, 2023
Speculative Environmental Futures Mellon Grant Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	2023
James K. Binder Fellowship University of California, San Diego	2020
Telegop Prize for Excellence in Media (English-Medium) Swansea University	2016
Swansea Employability Platinum Award Swansea University	2016
Student Ambassador Gold Award Swansea University	2016
Partnership Bursary Swansea University	2015, 2014

First Prize Scholarship
Shandong Normal University 2014, 2013

National Scholarship
Ministry of Education of People's Republic of China 2013

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Interpretation

(From English to Chinese)

Keynote Speech "Radical Documentary: World Connection Before & After the Internet" by Jane M. Gaines, "Documentary & Method" Conference
Northeastern Normal University, Changchun, China 2018

Keynote Speech "Invisible Geographies: Interactive Documentary and Postcolonial Environmental Humanities" by Dale Hudson, "Documentary & Method" Conference
Northeastern Normal University, Changchun, China 2018

Serial Lectures "World Cinema after the 1990s" by Richard Peña
Communications University of China, Beijing, China 2017

(From Chinese to English)

Screening of *Four Springs* (2019) followed by Q&A with filmmaker Lu Qingyi
Symphony Space, New York, NY 2019

Lecture "Under the Heel: The Legitimacy of Revolution, Wasted Capital City & Bottom-class Narration" by Li Daoxin
Lenfest Center for the Arts, New York, NY 2019

Screening of *Kalie Blues* (2015) Q&A with Bi Gan and Richard Peña
Lenfest Center for the Arts, Columbia University 2018

Lecture "Li Daoxin on the History of Chinese Cinema"
School of the Arts, Columbia University 2017

Subtitle Producer

The Sun Island, Dir. Thomas Elsaesser (Chinese Subtitle) 2018

Roundtable Participant

“Indian Horror Cinema with Kartik Nair” 2024
Suraj Israni Center for Cinematic Arts, UC San Diego

“A Deep Focus on Global Chinese Cinephilia” 2022
Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley

Event Coordinator/Organizer

Language Table 2025
International House, UC San Diego

Screening of *Bel Ami* (2024) ft. In-person Q&A w. Geng Jun 2025
CineCina Film Festival

“Media Care” Talk Series: Season One (Creator) 2022-2023
Suraj Israni Center for Cinematic Arts, UC San Diego

Screening of *Havana Divas* (2018) ft. In-person Q&A w. Louisa Wei 2022
Department of Literature, UC San Diego

“Beloved Community”: The 3rd Literature Graduate Student Conference 2022
Department of Literature, UC San Diego

“Legacies of Leftism in Film and Media Theory: East Asia and More” Conference 2019
School of the Arts, Columbia University

“Where is Cinema?": A Film and Media Studies Graduate Conference
(Chair of Committee) 2019
School of the Arts, Columbia University

“Zoom Out: Columbia Film & Media MA Graduate Showcase” 2018
School of the Arts, Columbia University

“Failing Masculinity: Male Melodrama” Student Symposium 2017
School of the Arts, Columbia University

Reviewer

Challenger Research Journal 2026
University of California San Diego

First-Round Reviewer, Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program 2025
American Councils for International Education

LEADERSHIP & OUTREACH

Dollar Lunch Club 2022-present
Chef and Co-Organizer, UC San Diego

Literature Graduate Student Committee 2021-2023
Co-Chair, UC San Diego

Graduate Professional Student Association, UCSD 2021-2022
Representative, UC San Diego

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Chinese Language Teachers Association, USA, Inc. (CLTA) 2024 – Present
Society for Cinema and Media Studies 2017 – Present
Film Independent 2017 – Present
Modern Language Association 2018 – Present
Association for Asian Studies 2018 – Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF) New York, NY
Juror, One to Watch Youth Filmmaker Category 2025

San Diego Asian Film Festival (SDAFF) San Diego, CA
Film Programmer 2023 - present

CineCina Film Festival New York, NY
Co-Director 2019
Film Curator 2018 – 2019

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Mandarin Native
English Near native

French
Welsh

Elementary
Elementary

REFERENCES

Daisuke Miyao
University of California, San Diego
Professor and Hajime Mori Chair in Japanese Language and Literature
Chair, Department of Literature
Committee Co-Chair
dmiyao@ucsd.edu

Géraldine A. Fiss
University of California, San Diego
Associate Teaching Professor in Inter-Asia and Transpacific Studies
Department of Literature
Committee Co-Chair
gfiss@ucsd.edu

Qin-Hong Anderson
University of California, San Diego
Faculty
Chinese Language Program
qinhong@ucsd.edu