

CURRICULUM VITAE

LAU TING HUI

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APPOINTMENTS

Jan 2021– Assistant Professor of Social Science (Anthropology), Yale-NUS College,
National University of Singapore

EDUCATION

2020 PhD Anthropology, Cornell University
Under the supervision of Magnus Fiskesjö (Chair), Andrew Willford, Lucinda
Ramberg, and Steven Sangren

Dissertation title: “Colonial Wounds, Development, and the Politics of
Affliction on the China-Myanmar Border”

2015 MA Anthropology, Cornell University (en route to PhD)

2009 BA Land Economy, University of Cambridge (First-Class Honors)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Psychological and medical anthropology
Indigenous Studies
Colonialism and development
Accidents and disasters
East/Southeast Asia borderlands

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

Wounds of Progress: Colonialism, Loss, and Endurance on the China-Myanmar border, in progress.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Conjuring Spirits: Melancholic play and refusal among alcohol-drinking Lisu men on the China-
Myanmar border,” *Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute*, accepted.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Book Reviews

2021 Review of *Rituals of Care* by Felicity Aulino in *Somatosphere*, medical anthropology
blog.

2020 Review of *The Lisu: Far from the Ruler* by Michele Zack in *Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute* 25(4).

Editorial Note

2011 Arial, Anni, Ting Hui Lau, and Lisen Runsten. "Land Tenure Challenges in a Changing Climate, to the Thematic Issue," *Land Tenure Journal* 2: 5-15.

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2018–19 SAGE Doctoral Fellowship, Cornell University

2016-17 **Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Dissertation Fieldwork Grant**

2015–17 **National Science Foundation (NSF), Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant**

2015 Cornell East Asia Program Travel Grant

2014 C.V. Starr Fellowship, Cornell East Asia Program, spring semester.

2014 Lemelson Fellowship, Psychological Anthropology Society, American Anthropological Association.

2014 Cornell Graduate School Summer Foreign Language Instruction Grant

2013 Cornell Institute for Social Sciences Research Grant

2013 Association for Asian Studies, China and Inner Asia Council (CIAC) Small Grant

2013 Cornell Mario Einaudi International Research Travel Grant

2013 Cornell East Asia Program Lam Family Travel Grant

2012–2013 SAGE Doctoral Fellowship, Cornell University

2008 Gordon Cameron Award (top student in Regional Economics)

2006–2009 Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholar

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION AND INVITED TALKS

Panels Organized

"Asian Healthcare Colonialisms: Ethnographic and Comparative Approaches to Governance Through Care." Association for Asian Studies Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, March 24-27, 2022.

Conference and workshop presentations

"The Politics of Endurance: The politics of Endurance: Forced sterilization, chronic pain, and strength loss among the Lisu on the China-Myanmar border." Sci-tech Asia webinar, 15 March 2022.

“Unnatural Disasters: Landslides, Flash Floods, and Infrastructure Development on the China-Myanmar border.” presented at the China Made: Asian Infrastructures and the ‘China Model’ of Development Workshop, a three-year initiative funded by The Henry Luce Foundation. Co-hosted by the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, and the Asian Institute at the University of Toronto. Singapore, 19–21 May 2021.

“Rituals of Care, Acts of Affliction.” presented as part of a roundtable on “Therapeutic Politics of Care: New Ethnographies of Asia” at the Association for Asian Studies meeting, 25–28 March 2021.

“Rituals of Care, Acts of Affliction,” presented as part of a roundtable on “Therapeutic Politics of Care: New Ethnographies of Asia” for the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University, New York, USA. 20 November 2020.

“Therapeutic Politics of Care: New Ethnographies of Asia” roundtable, American Anthropological Association, St Louise, MO. 18–22 November 2020. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

“Zones of Disaster: Christianity, Development, and Environmental Degradation on the China-Burma border.” East Asian Anthropology Association Conference, Taiwan. 28–29 November (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

“Unnatural Disasters: Landslides, Collapsed Mines, and Flash Floods in Southwest China.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) 117th Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada. 21 November 2019.

“Colonial Afflictions: Strength Loss and Indigenous Theories of Well-Being on China’s Ethnic Borderlands.” To be presented at Indigenous Psychology and Mental Health in China Workshop, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. 23–24 November 2019.

“Leftover Men: Self-Abjection, Death, and Haunting on the China-Burma Border.” Society for East Asian Anthropology (SEAA) Meeting, Tokyo, Japan. 2 August 2019.

“Haunted Modernities: Fiends, Ghosts, and Headless Witches on the China–Burma Border.” Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA) Early Career Scholar Writing Workshop, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM. 7 April 2019.

“Counting and Recounting Dead Bodies: Uncanny Discourses of Death and the Displacement of Anxieties about Development in Rural Southwest China.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) 117th Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA. 16 November 2018.

“The Body Snatchers: Rumor and the State in Southwest China.” Annual Conference of the Australian Anthropological Society/Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth/Association of Social Anthropologist of Aotearoa/New Zealand Adelaide (AAS/ASA/ASAA), Adelaide, Australia. 14 December 2017.

“Lisu and Nu Minority Experiences of Mobility and Social Change in China.” 22nd Annual ASIANetwork Conference, Chicago, IL. 11 April 2014.

“Youthful Passions: Love and Dating among Lisu Minority Youth in Southwest China.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) 112th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. 20 November 2013.

“State Classification of Ethnicity and Local Ways of Being Ethnic in Southwest China,” 2013 Columbia University Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, New York, NY. 15 February 2013.

Invited Talks

“Doing Medicine: Forced Sterilization, Chronic Pain, and Strength Loss among the Lisu in Southwest China.” To be presented at the Sci-Tech Asia Webinar, March 2022.

“Conjuring Spirits: The Melancholic Play of Alcohol-Drinking Lisu Men on the China-Myanmar border. To be presented at the Yale Council on Southeast Asia Studies, New Haven, Connecticut, 17 March 2021.

“Wounds of Progress: Colonial Development and the Politics of Development.” Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, 13 March 2020.

“Wounds of Progress: Colonial Development and the Politics of Development.” Yale-NUS College, National University of Singapore, Singapore. 25 January 2020.

“Social Death and Cultural Loss among the Lisu on the China-Burma Border.” Cornell University Southeast Asia Program Gatty Lecture Speaker Series, Ithaca, New York. 24 October 2019.

“Colonial Wounds: Power, Community, and Social Change on the China-Burma Border.” Cornell University Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series, Ithaca, New York. 18 October 2019.

“马来西亚华人的困惑：经验和身份分类的紧张和矛盾” [Malaysian Chinese Troubles: Tension and Contradictions between Experience and Identity Categories]. Kuige Society Colloquium, Yunnan Minzu University, Kunming, China. 5 January 2016. (Presented in Mandarin Chinese.)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Yale-NUS College

Comparative Social Inquiry (Common Curriculum course)

Ethnography

Anthropology of Development

Psychological Anthropology

TEACHING AWARD

James Slevin Teaching Award (Spring Semester 2019): Awarded by the Cornell University Knight Writing Institute for excellence in course planning and assignment design.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA)
Society for Medical Anthropology (SMA)
Society for East Asian Anthropology (SEAA)
Anthropology and Environment Society (AES)
Association for Asian Studies (AAS)