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Ye Hua

Ph.D. Candidate in History

The Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Education

2022–Present	**The University of Hong Kong**, Hong Kong Ph.D. in History Dissertation: *The Making of Landscape-Based Geomantic Knowledge and Technology in China, Twelfth–Eighteenth Centuries*
2022	**Fudan University**, Shanghai | M.A. in History
2018	**Fudan University**, Shanghai | B.A. in History
2016	**National University of Singapore**, Singapore | Exchange Student

Research and Teaching Interests

Early Modern China and East Asia; History of Religion; Environmental History; History of Science and Technology; Knowledge Production; Material Culture; Digital Humanities.

Publications

2027 Forthcoming	"明中後期風水景觀重塑社會秩序、權力關係的方式與過程：以徽州巖鎮水口為例 [Reshaping Social Order and Local Power through Fengshui Landscapes (15th–16th Centuries): The Shuikou of Yanzhen in Huizhou] *Hanxue Yanjiu* 漢學研究, vol. 45, no. 4 (December 2027). In Chinese.
2026	"明中后期徽州的风水空间与宗族形成——以婺东济溪、大畈之水口纠纷为中心 [Fengshui Space and Lineage Formation in Huizhou in Mid- to Late Ming: A Case Study of Shuikou Disputes between Jixi and Dafan in Eastern Wuyuan] *Shilin* 史林, no. 3, pp. 49–65. In Chinese.
2018	"明中後期徽州岩鎮的社會空間與秩序確立 [Social Space and the Formation of Local Order: A Case Study of Yan Town in Late Ming China] *Huixue* 徽學, no. 11, pp. 114–143. In Chinese.
In progress	"Fengshui Expertise and the Making of 'Imperial Masters' (Guoshi 國師) in Late Ming China."

Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

2025	**First Research Article Fellowship**, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany
12/2024–02/2025	**Visiting Research Fellow**, Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Waseda University, Tokyo
2024	**Small Grants Scheme**, Delta on the Move Foundation, Hong Kong
2024	**Conference and Research Support for Research Postgraduate Students**, Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong
2022	**HKU Presidential Fellowship**, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
2022	**Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme–HKUST** (declined), Hong Kong Government
2022	**Outstanding Graduate**, Fudan University, Shanghai
2020	**University Scholarship for Broad Learning**, Fudan University, Shanghai

2019	**China National Scholarship**, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China
2018	**Outstanding Graduate of Shanghai City**, Shanghai Municipal Education Commission
2016	**Shanghai Government Scholarship**, Shanghai Municipal Education Commission
2016	**Xu Bangda Scholarship of Art and Education**, China Guardian International Auction Co. Ltd.

Conference Presentations

Mar 2027 Accepted	"Mausoleum Mountains: The Ming Genealogical Imaginary of the Imperial Landscape." Session "Spatiality and Place-making in China," Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, Boston, MA, USA, March 18–21, 2027.
Nov 2026	"Seeing Mountains as Hands: Visualizing Terrain in Late Imperial Chinese Geomancy." Knowing Hands Symposium on Hand-based Divination and Prognostication, First International ISCSD Conference, Erlangen, Germany, November 8, 2026. Online presentation.
Jan 2026	"Scramble for Water Exits: Geomantic Space and Lineage Formation in 16th-Century Huizhou—A Case Study of Jixi and Dafan in Eastern Wuyuan County." Invited Talk, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany, January 20, 2026.
Dec 2025	"Reading the Landscape: The Daily Uses and Social Practices of Geomantic Diagrams in Late Imperial China (15th–18th Centuries)." Common Knowledge Group Seminar, MPIWG, Berlin, Germany, December 9, 2025.
Oct 2025	"The Evolution of Form School Fengshui in Chinese Daily-Use Encyclopedias since the Sixteenth Century." Common Knowledge in Historical East Asia and Beyond Workshop, MPIWG, Berlin, Germany, October 6–10, 2025.
Oct 2024	"變「局」: 風水景觀與徽州士商群體的形成（15–16 世紀）——以岩鎮水口的營建為中心 [Reconfiguring the 'Ju': Fengshui Landscapes and the Formation of Scholar-Merchant Groups in Huizhou (15th–16th Centuries)—A Case Study of the Construction of Yanzhen's Shuikou] Knowledge Traditions and Everyday Life since the Song Dynasty, Department of History, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, October 26, 2024.
May 2024	"Fengshui, Mountain Land, and Ancestor: A Study of Postmortem Narratives of Fengshui Master He Lingtong (12th–17th Centuries)." China Seen from a Locality: New Perspectives on Huizhou Studies, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, USA, May 13–14, 2024.
Mar 2024	"Constructing the Shuikou/'Water Exit': Geomantic Structure for Social Control in Sixteenth-Century Huizhou." Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, USA, March 16–18, 2024.

Research Projects and Collaborations

2025–Present	**Project Participant and Contributing Author** | *Cosmology and Ecology: Daoism, Society and Sustainability* Collaborative research led by David A. Palmer, The University of Hong Kong. Preparing a chapter on how, from the Song dynasty onward, geomantic knowledge and practice recast mountains and rivers as possessing qing 情—a disposition toward human beings—enabling people to discern, harness, and cultivate these relations.

2025–Present **Research Member** | *Uncovering Traces of Ming Occupations with Sociological Theory* (UTMOST)
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG), Berlin, in collaboration with the University of Warwick, UK. Workshop activities supported by the James P. Geiss & Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation.

2025–Present **Invited Contributing Author** | *Common Knowledge and Its Sources in the Sinosphere, 14th–20th Centuries* (2022–2027)
Collaborative research project at MPIWG, Berlin. Invited to contribute a chapter on geomantic knowledge in Chinese household encyclopedias.

2025–Present **Invited Research Network Member** | *Knowing Hands: Chinese Hand-memory Techniques & Handy Knowledge in Situ, Comparison, and Contact* (2025–2028)
ANR–DFG-funded collaborative research project led by Stéphanie Homola (CNRS, France) and Marta Hanson (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany).

2024–2026 **Core Research Team Member** | *Historical Ecology of Villages in Wuyuan, China*
Collaborative research initiative led by Ian M. Miller, St. John's University, New York. Project planning workshop supported by a US$8,500 grant from the James P. Geiss & Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation.

Academic Training and Workshops

Jun 2024 *New Materials and New Approaches to the Study of Chinese Rural Society*
Participant, academic workshop co-organized by Xiamen University and Harvard-Yenching Institute.

May 2024 *The Workshop on Water in Asia*
Participant, organized by The University of Hong Kong with Yale University and Vietnam National University, Can Tho, Vietnam.

Jun–Jul 2019 *The 9th Annual Summer School "East Asian Arts, Religion, and History"*
Participant, National Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai.

Aug–Oct 2019 *The 5th Fieldwork Training in Local Folk Culture and Society for Chinese Graduate Students*
Institute of Chinese Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

Teaching Experience

Jan–May 2024 **Teaching Assistant**, Spirituality, Religion and Social Change (Common Core Curriculum)
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Supervisor: Prof. David A. Palmer.

Sep 2019–Jan 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, Rural Society of Ancient China
Department of History, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Supervisor: Prof. Nengchang Wu.

Mar–Jun 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, Gender and History (Core Curriculum)
Department of History, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Supervisor: Prof. Yan Chen.

Skills and Languages

Digital Humanities: ArcGIS, QGIS **Data and Programming:** Excel, SQL, Python
Learning Management Systems: Canvas, Zoom, Teams
Languages: Modern Chinese (native); Classical Chinese (research reading proficiency); Japanese (JLPT N2).