

MEILIN CHINN

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
Santa Clara University
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053
mchinn@scu.edu

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Chinese Philosophy, Aesthetics, Environmental Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Buddhism, Phenomenology

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2021-present Santa Clara University, Associate Professor
2015-2021 Santa Clara University, Assistant Professor
2012-2014 University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu, Instructor
2012-2014 Hawai'i Tokai International College, Honolulu, Hawai'i, Instructor
2006-07 Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing, China, Teaching Assistant
2005 Halawa Correctional Facility (Leeward Community College), Honolulu, Hawai'i, Instructor

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, May 2015
M.A. Social Sciences, Philosophy emphasis, University of Chicago, 1998
B.A. Philosophy with honors, Justice and Peace Studies minor, Georgetown University, 1995

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Classical Chinese & Mandarin

ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

1. "Music in Early Chinese Philosophy." *Routledge Companion to Chinese Philosophy*. London: Routledge. Forthcoming 2025.
2. "On the Chariot of Earth." *The Wandering Dance: Essays in Honor of Graham Parkes*. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2024.
3. "The Jade Casket Between the Heavens and Earth." *Journal of the Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition*, Vol. 4, 2021.

4. "Representing the Great." *Philosophy East and West*, Vol. 71, No. 1, January 2021, 173-192.
5. "Making Way For Nothing." *One Corner of the Square: Essays by the Students of Roger T. Ames*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2021.
6. "Music With and Without Images." *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, Vol. 47, Issue 3-4, Sept-Dec. 2020, 137-153.
7. "Race Magic and The Yellow Peril." *Journal of Aesthetics & Art Criticism*. Fall 2019, Vol. 77, Issue 4, 423-433.
8. "'Knowing the Music' (*zhi yin* 知音) and Other Feats of Understanding." *Journal of World Philosophies*. Winter 2018, 102-105.
9. "Only Music Cannot Be Faked." *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy*, Vol. 16, Issue 3, July 2017, 341-354.
10. "Persona: Resounding Selves and Empty Music." *On the True Sense of Art: A Critical Companion to the Transfigurements of John Sallis*. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2016.
11. "Sensing the Wind: The Timely Music of Nature's Memory." *Journal of Environmental Philosophy*, Vol. 10, no. 1, Spring 2013.
12. "Metaphilosophy and Chinese Thought," *Journal of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy*, Vol. 23, No. 49, Fall 2007.
13. "The Distance to the Near Side," *Journal of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy*, Vol. 23, No. 47, Fall 2006. Winner of the Uehiro Foundation Essay Contest in East Asian Philosophy.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS & PROJECTS

1. "Asian Aesthetics." American Society for Aesthetics curriculum diversity project, 2016. https://aesthetics.online.org/resource/resmgr/files/diversity/Chin_Asian_Aesthetics.pdf
2. "Comparative Aesthetics" curriculum module for Korean Academic Expansion Project.

IN PROGRESS

1. *Listening into the Distance* (Monograph)
2. "Other Orients: Music and Orientalism." *Oxford Handbook on Asian American Philosophy*.
3. "Chinese Philosophy and the Environment." *Philosophy Compass*.

4. “Fengshui Forests and Ahupua‘a: The Winds and Waters of Native Hawaiian and Chinese Environmental Practices.” Research project funded by Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University.
5. “Skilled Virtue” (Article)
6. “Extinction, Utopia, and Change” (Article)
7. “Singing in a Thicket of Questions” (Article)

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

1. “Other Orients: Music and Orientalism.” Asian-American Philosophy Workshop. University of San Francisco. April 14-15, 2025.
2. “The Musical Silence of *Dao* and *Anima Mundi*.” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Volcano, Hawaii. June 4-7, 2024. Conference Presentation.
3. “The Art of Loss.” East-West Philosopher’s Conference. Honolulu, Hawaii. May 25-31, 2024. Conference Presentation.
4. “The Highest Good is Like Water: On Becoming Apprentices to Nature.” Pacific Association for Continental Thought. Hilo, Hawaii. Sept. 9-11, 2021. Conference Presentation.
5. “Placing Korean Aesthetics Globally.” Discovering Korean Arts and Philosophy Conference. Online Meeting. May 26, 2021. Invited Speaker.
6. “Race Magic and the Yellow Peril,” Annual Minorities and Philosophy Conference. Stanford University. May 1, 2020. Invited Keynote Speaker. *Cancelled due to COVID-19.
7. “The Highest Good is Like Water,” Modern Languages Association Conference. Seattle, Washington. January 12, 2020. Invited Presentation.
8. “The Way Back: Daoist Reversal and Phenomenological Reduction,” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Leiden, Netherlands. May 24, 2019. Conference Presentation.
9. “Race Magic and The Yellow Peril,” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting. Denver, Colorado. February 21, 2019. Conference Presentation.
10. “Daoist Inversion and Phenomenological Reduction,” Pacific Association for Continental Thought. Yosemite Valley, California. October 4-7, 2018. Conference Presentation.
11. “Singing in a Thicket of Questions,” Prior Conference. Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California. May 5, 2018. Conference Presentation.

12. "Singing in a Thicket of Questions," North Georgia Student Philosophy Conference. Kennesaw State University. Atlanta, Georgia, April 14, 2018. Invited keynote address.
13. "Musical Thinking," Kennesaw State University. Atlanta, Georgia, April 12, 2018. Invited speaker (Mike Ryan Lecture Series).
14. "Music With and Without Images," Bay Area Conference on Chinese Thought. UC Davis, California, October 14, 2017. Conference presentation.
15. "Lessons for Philosophy from the Frog in the Well," Exploring Truth and Beauty in Worlds of Color: A Conference on Race, Art, and Aesthetics in the 21st Century. Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, September 30, 2017. Invited presentation.
16. "Music With and Without Images," International Society for Chinese Philosophy Conference. Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, July 4, 2017. Conference presentation.
17. "Singing in a Thicket of Questions," Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Phoenix, Arizona. March 31, 2017. Conference presentation.
18. "Lessons for Philosophy from Zhuangzi's Frog in the Well," American Philosophical Association Central Meeting. St. Louis, Missouri, March 2, 2017. Invited presentation.
19. "Socratic Sorcery, Daoist Alchemy, and Nietzsche's Sphnix," Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Conference. Salt Lake City, Utah. October 21, 2016. Conference presentation.
20. "Space is the Place: Music as Place in Early Chinese Philosophy," East-West Philosopher's Conference. Honolulu, Hawai'i. May 29, 2016. Conference presentation.
21. "Space is the Place: Philosophy Musical Space and Thought," Prior Conference. Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California. May 21, 2016. Conference presentation.
22. "Only Music Cannot Be False," Music and Philosophy in Early China Conference. Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. November 28, 2015. Invited presentation.
23. "Singing in a Thicket of Questions." Hawai'i Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. Honolulu, Hawai'i. April 2014. Invited keynote address.
24. "Sensing the Wind: Skilled Listening and the Virtuosity of Virtue." Kennesaw State University. Atlanta, Georgia, November 2012. Invited speaker (Mike Ryan Lecture Series).
25. "Life as Music in Chinese Philosophy." Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington, April 2012. Invited speaker.

26. "The Aesthetics of Chinese Philosophy." California College of the Arts, San Francisco, California, April 2011. Invited speaker.
27. "Why Melody at All? On Music and Emptiness," Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Conference. Cork, Ireland, March 2011. Conference presentation.
28. Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Transcontinental Philosophy: Interpreting Philosophy Across Borders and Idioms. Città di Castello, Italy, July 2010. Participant.
29. "Persona: Resonant Selves and Empty Music," Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Conference. Honolulu, Hawai'i, April 2010. Conference presentation.
30. "A Fidelity of Tendency: Listening to Sound, Listening to Music," Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Conference. Pacific Grove, California, April 2009. Conference presentation.
31. "Chinese Philosophy, Confucianism, and Philosophical Daoism." University of Hawai'i, School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Honolulu, Hawai'i, January 2008. Invited lecture series.
32. "The Daoist Sense of Life as Music," Zhidao Guan Daoist Center. Oakland, California, May 2007. Invited speaker.
33. "Philosophia: Sense and Aesthetics," Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Conference. Pacific Grove, California, June 2007. Conference presentation.
34. "The Distance to the Near Side," Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Conference. Pacific Grove, California, June 2006. Conference presentation.
35. "Meta: Listening into the Distance," University of Hawai'i-Mānoa Graduate Philosophy Conference. Honolulu, Hawai'i, April 2006. Conference presentation.

HONORS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

1. Hackworth Grant (\$4000). The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics. 2024-25
2. Curriculum Diversification Grant, American Society for Aesthetics, 2016, 2020
3. Charles Fu-International Society for Chinese Philosophy Award, Biannual Winning Essay by a Junior Scholar, 2017 ("Music With and Without Images")
4. Dean's Arts and Sciences Grant, Santa Clara University, 2016, 2017, 2019
5. Mansfield Freeman Doctoral Dissertation Award, 2012
6. University of Hawai'i-Mānoa Arts and Humanities Dissertation Research Award, 2012
7. University of Hawai'i-Mānoa Arts and Sciences Graduate Award, Summer 2011

8. Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Taiwan, 2011
9. Dai Ho Chun Fellowship, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, 2009-10
10. Honolulu Chinese Women's Club, 80th Anniversary Graduate Award, 2008
11. Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (Chinese), 2007-08
12. Wing-tsit Chan Graduate Fellowship in Chinese Philosophy, 2006-08
13. Peking University – University of Hawai'i Scholar Exchange, 2006-07
14. Uehiro Award for Best Graduate Essay in Comparative Philosophy, 2006
15. Excellence in Chinese Studies Award, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, 2006
16. John Young Scholarship in the Arts, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, 2005-6
17. Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (Chinese), Summer 2005
18. Graduate Scholarship, University of Chicago, 1997-8

TEACHING

Santa Clara University (2015-current)

Chinese Philosophy
 Buddhist Philosophy
 Philosophy of Music
 Ethics and The Environment
 Cultures & Ideas 1&2: Beauty, Truth, and Goodness
 Introduction to Ethics in Chinese Philosophy

University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu (2012-2014)

Environmental Ethics
 Philosophy of Law
 Contemporary Philosophy: Aesthetics
 The Religious Dimension of Experience
 Buddhist Philosophy
 Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy
 Social and Political Philosophy
 Asian Philosophy
 Introduction to Philosophy

Hawai'i Tokai International College (2012-2014)

Asian Philosophy
 Introduction to Social Theory
 Introduction to Philosophy

Beijing Foreign Studies University (2006)

Classics of Chinese Philosophy

Halawa Correctional Facility (2005)

Introduction to Philosophy

University of Hawai'i-Mānoa (2004-2006)

Introduction to Ethics

SERVICE

Director of Asian Studies, SCU, 2025 –

Associate Editor, *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* journal, 2024 – present

Faculty Senate Council Representative, SCU, 2023 – present

Climate Committee, Department of Philosophy, Santa Clara University, 2017 – 2024 (Chair 2024 – present)

Center for Arts and Humanities Advisory Council, SCU, 2023 – 2025

Advanced Writing Core Committee, SCU 2021 – 2023

Student Research & Writing Committee, SCU, 2021 – 2024

Faculty Mentor for Women in Philosophy student group, SCU, 2021 – 2022

Social Media Committee, SCU, 2021 – 2022

First Generation Student Mentorship Program, SCU, 2020-2021

Co-director, Austin J. Fagothey Annual Conference, SCU, 2018 & 2019

Philosophy Department Library Liason, SCU, 2017 – 2020

Faculty Senate Council Representative, SCU, 2017

Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy, SCU, 2015-16

MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association

American Society for Aesthetics

Continental and Comparative Philosophy Circle

Pacific Association for Continental Thought

Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy

Society for Teaching Asian and Comparative Philosophy

International Society for Chinese Philosophy