

THOMAS MICHAEL
CURRICULUM VITAE, 2015

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EDUCATION

- 2001 Ph.D. University of Chicago, Divinity School: History of Religions.
1992 M.A. University of Chicago, Divinity School: Divinity.
1991 B.A. Portland State University: English Literature; French Language and Literature;
Minor in Philosophy; Chinese Language.

POSITIONS HELD

- 2008- present Assistant Professor, Boston University
2002- 2008 Assistant Professor, George Washington University
2001- 2002 Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee at Knoxville
1999- 2001 Instructor, DePaul University
1999- 2001 Instructor, Columbia College
1998- 2001 Instructor, Graham School of General Studies, University of Chicago

BOOKS

- 2015 *In the Shadows of the Dao: Laozi, the Sage, and the Daodejing*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.
2005 *The Pristine Dao: Metaphysics in Early Daoist Discourse*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.

REFEREED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2017 "Shamanic Eroticism and the *Jiu Ge* (Nine Songs) of Early China." *Monumenta Serica* 65.1 (forthcoming).
2017 "Does Shamanism have a History? With Attention to Early Chinese Shamanism." *Numen* (forthcoming).
2016 "Mountains and Early Daoism in the Writings of Ge Hong." *History of Religions* 56.1 (forthcoming).
2015 "Shamanism Theory and the Early Chinese *Wu*." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 83/3: 649-696.
2015 "Ge Hong's *Xian*: Private Hermits and Public Alchemists." *Journal of Daoist Studies* 8: 24-51.
2015 "Hermits, Mountains, and *Yangsheng* in Early Daoism: Perspectives from the *Zhuangzi*." In *New Visions from the Zhuangzi*, edited by Livia Kohn, 145-60. St. Petersburg, FL: Three Pines Press.
2011 "The That-Beyond-Which of the Pristine Dao: Cosmology in the *Liezi*." In *Riding The Wind: New Essays on the Daoist Classic, The Liezi*, edited by Ronnie Littlejohn and Jeffrey Dippmann, 101-26. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.

- 2005 “Confucius and Laozi- Two Visions of the Dao of Antiquity.” In *Metaphilosophy and Chinese Thought: Interpreting David Hall*, edited by Ewing Chinn and Henry Rosemont, Jr., 169-78. New York, NY: Global Scholarly Publications.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- n.d. “God and Reason: Approaches to Kant’s ‘What Is Enlightenment?’ and *The Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*.” Proceedings of the Association of Core Texts and Courses Annual Meeting, 2015 (forthcoming).
- n.d. “Teaching the *Daodejing* in a Core Curriculum.” Proceedings of the Association of Core Texts and Courses Liberal Arts Institute Conference: The Intersection of Religious and Secular Cores in Liberal Arts Education, 2014 (forthcoming).

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2013 Review of *Daoist Ritual, State Religion, and Popular Practices: Zhenwu Worship from Song to Ming (960-1644)*, by Shin-yi Chao. *China Review International* 18/4, in-press.
- 2006 Review of *The Construction of Space in Early China*, by Mark Edward Lewis. *China Review International* 13/1: 201-04.
- 2005 Review of *Monastic Life in Medieval Daoism: A Cross-cultural Perspective*, by Livia Kohn, and *The Penumbra Unbound: The Neo-Taoist Philosophy of Guo Xiang*, by Brook Ziporyn. *Journal of Religion* 85/2: 345-47.
- 2005 Review of *Korean Shamanism: The Cultural Paradox*, by Chongho Kim. *Journal of Asian Studies* 64/3: 764-66.
- 2004 Review of *Reconsidering the Correlative Cosmology of Early China: Special Issue, Bulletin [of] The Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities*, edited by Magnus Fiskesjo. *China Review International* 11/1: 72-6.
- 2004 Review of *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine*, by Shigehisa Kuriyama. *China Review International* 111:130-33.
- 2003 “Debating the Spirit in Early China: Review of: *To Become a God: Cosmology, Sacrifice, and Self-Divinization in Early China*, by Michael J. Puett. *Journal of Religion* 83/3: 421-29.
- 2003 Review of *Korea- A Religious History*, by James Grayson. *Journal of Asian Studies* 62/4; 1252-254.
- 2002 “Closing the Gap between Daoist Studies and Religious Theory: Two Recent Publications: *Society and the Supernatural in Sung China* by Edward Davis; *Daoism and Ecology: Ways Within a Cosmic Landscape*, N. J. Girardot, James Miller, and Liu Xiaogan, editors. *Journal of Religion* 82/3: 424-29.
- 2002 Review of *Cosmology and Political Culture in Early China*, by Aihe Wang. *Journal of Religion* 82/2: 326-28.
- 2001 Review of *Classic of Mountains and Seas*, by Anne Birrell, and *The Aspirations and Standards of Taoist Priests in the Early T’ang Period*, by Florian Reiter. *Journal of Religion* 81/4: 678-80.
- 2001 Review of *Original Tao: Inner Training and the Foundations of Taoist Mysticism*, by Harold Roth. *Journal of Religion* 81/2: 330-32.
- 2000 Review of *Mysticism and Kingship in China: The Heart of Chinese Wisdom*, by Julia Ching. *Journal of Religion* 80/1: 167-68.

- 2000 Review of *Asceticism in Early Taoist Religion*, by Stephen Eskildsen. *Journal of Religion* 80/1: 165-66.

CONFERENCE AND COLLOQUIUM PAPERS

- 2015 “Teaching the *Daodejing* in A Core Curriculum.” Liberal Arts and Sciences and Core Texts in the European Context. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2015 “God and Reason: Approaches to Kant’s ‘What Is Enlightenment?’ and *The Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*.” Association of Core Texts and Courses Annual Meeting. Plymouth, MA.
- 2014 “Teaching the *Daodejing* in a Core Curriculum.” ACTC Liberal Arts Institute Conference on The Intersection of Religious and Secular Cores in Liberal Arts Education. Memphis, TN.
- 2014 “Hermits, Mountains, and *Yangsheng*.” Ninth International Conference on Daoist Studies, Boston, MA.
- 2011 “Where Have All the Women Gone: The Role of Women in the *Zhuangzi*.” Seventh International Conference on Daoist Studies. Changsha, Hunan, China.
- 2010 “Ge Hong and the Formation of the Medieval Daoist *Xian*.” American Academy of Religion, Session A31-315. Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 “The Knowledge and Brightness of Sages in the *Daodejing*.” Fifth International Conference on Daoist Studies. Hubei, China.
- 2008 “The Influence of *Wu*-Shamanism on *Xian*-transcendents in Ge Hong’s *Shenxian Zhuan*.” American Academy of Religion, Session A2-317. Chicago, IL
- 2007 “The Bodhisattva Path in the Diamond Sutra.” The Bodhisattva Path: A Colloquium of Recent Work by Faculty of the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area. Washington, D. C.
- 2007 “‘Following Peng and Xian to the Place Where They Live’: Ecstatic Journeys in the Land of Chu: Comparing Jiu Ge Shamans, Li Sao Poets, and Daoist Sages in the Period of the Warring States.” The 8th International Conference of the International Society for Shamanistic Research. Budapest, Hungary.
- 2007 “Solemn, Like a Guest”: Laozi’s Archetype of the Sage.” The International Forum on the *Daodejing*. Xian, China, and Hong Kong.
- 2006 “Ecstatic Journeys in the Land of Chu.” Third International Conference on Daoist Studies. Fraueninsel Chiemsee, Germany.
- 2005 “‘The Bright Dao Appears Dark’: Is Early Daoism Possible?” American Academy of Religion, Session A20-27. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2005 “Is Early Daoism Possible?” Southeast Early China Round Table. Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2005 “Eroticized Gender Relations Among Shamans and Deities in the *Jiu Ge (Nine Elegies)* of Early China.” 9th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women: Embracing the Earth: East-West/North-South.” Seoul, Korea.
- 2005 “The Influence of *Wu*-Shamanism on *Xian*-transcendents in Ge Hong’s *Shenxian Zhuan*.” International Conference on Daoist Studies. Zhejiang, China.
- 2005 “Two Visions of the Dao of Antiquity.” Association of Asian Studies, Southeast Early China Roundtable Special Session. Chicago, IL.
- 2004 “Within It: Sages, Gourds, and Cauldrons.” Daoist Studies Today: An International Conference. Sichuan, China.

- 2004 “Within It: Sages, Gourds, and Cauldrons,” Washington Area Traditional China Colloquium. Washington, D.C.
- 2004 “Huangdi Had 25 Sons: Early Chinese Myth.” Association of Asian Studies, Southeast Early China Roundtable Special Session. San Diego, CA.
- 2003 “The Arrival of the Spirits Darkens the Sun: Early Chinese Shamanism.” American Academy of Religion, Session A273. Atlanta, GA.
- 2003 “‘The Descent of the Spirits Darkens the Sun’: Two Visions of Shamanism in Early China.” Mid-Atlantic Regional/ Association of Asian Studies. Washington, D.C.
- 2003 “Shamans and the Wu: Textual Representations from Early China.” Southeast Early China Round Table. Berea, KY.
- 2003 “*Kongzi Wen Yu Laozi*: Two Faces of the Tao.” Conference in Honor of David Hall. Trinity University, TX.

INVITED LECTURES AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2014 Presentation of “Shamanism Theory.” One day lecture series at the Tuvan Cultural Center. Kyzyl, Tuva, Russia.
- 2014 Presentation of *In the Shadows of the Dao*. One day lecture series at Baiyun Guan (White Cloud Monastery). Organized by the Daoist Studies Group section of the Beijing Kexue Shehui Yuan (Beijing Academy of Social Sciences).
- 2005 “Some Issues Relating to the Study of Early Chinese Shamanism.” Faculty Lecture Series, Elliott School of International Studies. George Washington University.
- 2005 One day lecture series at Sichuan University. Organized by the Institute of Daoism and Religious Studies. Sichuan University.
- 2005 “Introduction to the I-Ching,” One day seminar, Smithsonian Museum. Washington, D.C.
- 2004 “Early Daoism and Metaphysics.” Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- 2004 “Daoist Studies in America.” National Cheng Kung University. Taiwan.
- 2004 “South-east Asian Buddhism.” Foreign Service Institute. Arlington, VA.
- 2003 “South-east Asian Buddhism.” Foreign Service Institute. Arlington, VA.
- 2003 “Tibetan Buddhism.” Knoxville Museum of Art. Knoxville, TN.

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE TO THE FIELD

- 2015 External peer reviewer for article manuscript, *Numen*.
- 2015 External peer reviewer for article manuscript, *Numen*.
- 2015 External peer reviewer for book manuscript, The Davies Group.
- 2014 Back-cover endorsement for Three Pines Press, *Rediscovering the Roots of Chinese Thought: Laozi’s Philosophy*, by Chen Guying, translated by Paul D’Ambrosio (2015).
- 2014 External peer reviewer for book proposal, Bloomsbury Publishing.
- 2014 Conference Co-coordinator, 9th International Conference on Daoist Studies, Boston University, May 29- June 1.
- 2013 External peer reviewer for article manuscript submission, *Journal of Chinese Religions*.
- 2012 External peer reviewer for article manuscript submission, *Journal of Daoist Studies*.
- 2009 External peer reviewer for book manuscript, State University of New York Press.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2014 Junior Scholar Academic Leave of Absence, Boston University.
- 2012 Humanities Foundation Junior Faculty Fellowship, Boston University.

- 1999 Dissertation Writing Fellowship from the Center for East Asian Studies, University of Chicago.
- 1994 Chinese Language Scholarship, National Taiwan Normal University.
- 1991 Outstanding Student Award, French Department, Portland State University.
- 1990 Scholarship of Merit Award, English Department, Portland State University.

COURSES TAUGHT AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

- CAS CC101: Core Humanities I: The Ancient World
- CAS CC102: Core Humanities 2: Antiquity and the Medieval World
- CAS CC 202: Core Humanities 4: Enlightenment to Modernity
- CAS CC 203: Core Social Science 1: Religion and Secularism
- CAS RN 100: Introduction to Religion
- CAS RN 103: World Religions: Eastern
- CAS RN 210: Buddhism
- CAS RN 211: Chinese Religion
- CAS RN 243/ AN 243: Shamans and Shamanism
- CAS RN 360/ GRS RN 660/ STH TX 860: Daoist Religion
- CAS RN 361/ GRS RN 661/ STH TX 801: Confucian Religion; CAS LC 280: Chinese Classics
- CAS RN 363/ GRS RN 663/ STH TX 808: Zen Buddhism
- CAN RN 364/ GRS RN 664/ STH TX 878: Buddhist Literature
- CAS RN 430/GRS RN 730/ STH TX 880: Shamanism in East Asia
- CAS RN 430/ LC 470/ GRS RN 730/ STH TX 860: The Story of the Stone
- CAS RN 430/ LC 470/ GRS RN 730/ STH TX 860: The Romance of the Three Kingdoms
- CAS RN 430/ LC 470/ GRS RN 730/ STH TX 860: The Journey to the West
- CAS RN 453/ GRS RN 753/ STH TX 893: The Body and Sexuality in Classical Religious Texts

OTHER COURSES TAUGHT

- HIS 22: World Religions in Historical Perspective
- REL 11: Chinese Religions
- 2015 Sinoway International Education, International Summer School, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China.
- 2014 Sinoway International Education, International Summer School, University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China.
- 2012 Sinoway International Education, International Summer School, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China.

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

- 2015 Faculty Member, Program in Scripture and the Arts.
- 2014 Faculty Member, Program in Scripture and the Arts.
- 2014 Faculty Coordinator, Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar.
- 2013 Faculty Coordinator, Program in Scripture and the Arts.
- 2013 Third Reader for School of Theology Ph. D. Candidate.
- 2013 Faculty Coordinator, Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar.
- 2012 Faculty Member, Program in Scripture and the Arts
- 2012 Humanities Curriculum Committee.
- 2012 Faculty Coordinator, Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar.

- 2011 “Where Have All the Women Gone: The Role of Women in the Zhuangzi.” Presentation for Tertulia: Junior Faculty Research Seminar. Boston University.
- 2011 “Ge Hong and the Formation of the Medieval Daoist Transcendent.” Sponsored by the Boston University Program for Scripture & the Arts. Boston University.
- 2011 Humanities Curriculum Committee.
- 2011 Faculty Coordinator, Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar.
- 2011 Additional Reader for Oral Examination for the Degree of Ph. D.
- 2010 Search Committee for Modern Languages and Comparative Literature (MLCL): Assistant Professor of Chinese, Japanese and Comparative Literature
- 2009 Faculty Coordinator, Program in Scripture and the Arts.

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2013 Boston University Arts Initiative Award for the Program in Scripture and the Arts (\$2000).
- 2013 Boston University Center for the Humanities Off-cycle Grant Award for the Program in Scripture and the Arts (\$1500).
- 2013 Boston University Center for the Study of Asia Award for the 9th International Conference on Daoist Studies (\$1000).
- 2013 Boston University Academic Enhancement Fund Award for taking CAS RN/ AN 243 students to a city event (\$200).
- 2013 Boston University Center for the Humanities, Humanities Enhancement Project Award for Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar (\$3500).
- 2012 Boston University Center for the Humanities, Humanities Enhancement Project Award for Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar (\$3500).
- 2011 Boston University Academic Enhancement Fund Award for taking CAS RN/ AN 243 students to a city event (\$200).
- 2011 Boston University Center for the Humanities, Humanities Enhancement Project Award for Tertulia: Junior Faculty Seminar (\$3500).

LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency in classical Chinese.
 Reading proficiency in modern Chinese.
 Reading proficiency in French.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

American Academy of Religion
 Association of Asian Studies
 Association of Core Texts and Courses

EDITORIAL BOARD

Journal of Daoist Studies