



**Ricci Institute**  
FOR CHINESE-WESTERN CULTURAL HISTORY  
利瑪竇中西文化歷史研究所



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL POSTDOCTORAL WORKSHOP  
ON THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN EAST ASIA  
AT BOSTON COLLEGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.**

The Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History at Boston College will hold a four-day international workshop in Boston, Massachusetts from **October 22 through 26, 2023**. Please note that the working language of the workshop will be English.

All participants will be expected to arrive by **Sunday, October 22** and depart on **Friday, October 27, 2023**. They are required to attend all workshop-related activities and sessions.

Located in a newly renovated building on the Brighton Campus of Boston College, the Ricci Institute is inviting post-doctoral level scholars and junior faculty members whose research focuses on Christianity in East Asia and who are currently preparing a book manuscript for publication to apply. Entitled **"Historical Legacies of Christianity in East Asia: Bridging a New Generation of Scholars and Scholarship"**, this workshop is administered by the Ricci Institute.

The workshop has three primary components.

[1] First, through a series of lectures and seminars by senior scholars from Boston College and other universities, participants will have the opportunity to confer with specialists from across the globe regarding the interpretation of complex primary source materials. These include manuscripts, early printed books from different historical periods composed in a variety of East Asian and Western languages (e.g. Classical Chinese, Classical Japanese, Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, etc...), and other objects of material culture.

Another primary focus of the workshop will be to reflect on research methodologies and historiographies, how they developed, and the ways in which they were expressed through different scholarly traditions. The training offered will be further enhanced by visits to local archives, libraries, and museums with specialized collections pertinent to the history of Christianity in East Asia.

[2] Secondly, participants will have the opportunity to interact with a Senior Acquisitions Editor from Brill Academic Publishers (Leiden/Boston) and with other scholars to discuss the entire editorial and publication process of a scholarly monograph (with any major academic press).

[3] Thirdly, participants will be personally mentored by invited senior scholars who are well known internationally for their contributions to the study of Christianity in East Asia. These scholars will critique and discuss the participants' draft manuscripts in view of their preparation for publication. This will take place in an open forum together with fellow participants. Participants will be required to submit their manuscripts well ahead of time, so that the invited senior scholars will have sufficient time to read them carefully.

**Qualifications.** Applicants must have completed their doctoral studies and dissertation defense in order to be eligible to participate in the workshop. Post-doctoral candidates must have completed their doctoral degrees within the past five years and have been involved actively in teaching and/or research (as a post-doctoral fellow, an independent scholar, or a junior faculty member).

**Requirements.**

[1] a most recent Curriculum Vitae;

[2] an 8~10-page double-spaced statement in English that summarizes the manuscript (also to be submitted in English) the candidate has completed and is currently preparing to submit for publication. The theme of the manuscript should be related to some aspect of the history of Christianity in East Asia, i.e. China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam. This can be either in the Catholic or Protestant tradition (16<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries) and may focus on one or more aspect from a wide range of historical topics (e.g., the history of philosophy, theology, science, missionary translation, art, architecture, music, local Christian community life, social and cultural history, etc....).

This statement should include a synopsis of the manuscript, a detailed description of the research methodology employed, plans for additional research and writing to complete the project (if any), and a proposed timeline for the submission of the manuscript to a publisher.

[3] two up-to-date letters of recommendation (preferably from senior scholars familiar with the candidate's work).

**Expenses.** The Ricci Institute will cover the following expenses for all successful applicants:

[1] **Transportation:** return economy airfare from your city/country of residence as well as local public transportation to and from Boston Logan International Airport to the hotel reserved for the workshop participants;

[2] **Lodging** in Boston from the afternoon of October 22 until the morning of October 27, 2023, including most meals during the workshop (Note: lodging will be pre-arranged by the Ricci Institute).

All authorized expenses will be paid as a reimbursement on presentation of official receipts, in compliance with the travel policies of Boston College. Incidental expenses of a personal nature (e.g., travel insurance, phone/SIM card, data purchase, and other incidentals, etc.) are not reimbursable.

### **Medical Insurance**

Please note that all participants are responsible to arrange their own valid medical insurance for the duration of their stay in the United States. Even the most incidental and seemingly minor medical issue (e.g., an emergency room or dentist's visit) can incur exorbitant fees in the U.S. in the thousands or tens of thousands of dollars, so the pre-purchase of medical insurance (before entering the U.S.) for the duration of a participant's stay is mandatory.

### **Visa**

If you are required to apply for a visa to enter the United States, your workshop participation award letter will be considered a formal invitation letter for you to apply for your visa at your local U.S. embassy or consulate.

### **Deadline**

All required documents should be in English and submitted via email no later than May 26, 2023 to Dr. Xiaoxin Wu at: [xiaoxin.wu.2@bc.edu](mailto:xiaoxin.wu.2@bc.edu) with the subject line: "2023 Boston Postdoctoral Workshop Application". Letters from the recommenders must be sent directly to the above email address by the same deadline with the subject line: "2023 Boston Postdoctoral Workshop Reference Letter for xxx". The preferred formats for the letter attachments are PDF or MS-WORD. Inquiries regarding the application and the workshop should also be sent to the above email address.

Application results will be announced by the end of **June 2023**.

For more information about the Ricci Institute at Boston College, please visit: [www.bc.edu/ricci](http://www.bc.edu/ricci).