

Bruce Rusk

curriculum vitae

Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia
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Employment

2012–	Associate Professor Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
2020 Jan–Aug	Visiting Scholar Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei, Taiwan
2013 Spring	Resident Associate National Humanities Center, Durham, NC
2012 Fall	Member of the School of Historical Studies Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
2006–12	Assistant Professor of Chinese Literature Department of Asian Studies, Cornell University
2010 Spring	Visiting Scholar/Research Group Member Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin (Research Group “Concepts and Modalities: Practical Knowledge Transmission”)
2004–06	Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow Humanities Fellows Program & Department of Asian Languages, Stanford University
1997–2002	Teaching Assistant/Fellow Department of History, UCLA

Education

2004	University of California, Los Angeles Ph.D. and M.A., History Dissertation: “The Rogue Classicist: Feng Fang (1493–1566) and his Forgeries”
2002–03	Princeton University Visiting student, Department of East Asian Studies
2000–01	Inter-University Center, Yokohama, Japan Japanese language studies; Audited classes at Tokyo University
1998	Middlebury College, Vermont Japanese language studies (summer program)
1994–95	Inter-University Program, National Taiwan University, Taipei Modern and Classical Chinese language studies
1996	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada B.A., History Honours (Governor General’s Silver Medal)

Awards and Grants

UBC	Scholarly Publication Fund, \$5,000, 2020 Co-Investigator and Data Management Committee Chair, SSHRC Partnership Grant “From the Ground Up” (ca. \$2.5 million), 2016-23
CCS	Center for Chinese Studies Visiting Scholar, January–June, 2020, approx. \$13,000

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Cornell Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for Scholarly Exchange Workshop Grant, 2011, \$4,000 (declined because of schedule change)
Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei, Foreign Researcher Fellowship, 2010, approx. \$25,000 (declined)
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science visiting scholar fellowship, 2010, approx. \$30,000

Publications

in progress *The Brazen and the Forged: The Imaginary Bronzes of the Xuande Emperor*. Monograph on connoisseurship, authentication practice, and material culture in Ming-Qing China

2022 "Forged of Paper: The Busy Afterlives of Xuande Incense Burners." In *Posthumous Art, Law and the Art Market*, edited by Sharon Hecker and Peter J. Karol. Routledge.

2022 "Concepts of Authentication in Pre-Modern China," Oxford Bibliographies, 2022–

2021 *Literary Information in China: A History*, co-edited with Jack Chen, Anatoly Detwyler, Liu Xiao, and Christopher Nugent. Contributor and co-editor. Columbia University Press

2021 "Early to Middle Period Classical Commentaries," with Michael Nylan, in *Information in China: A Literary History*.

2021 "Writer's Block or Printer's Block: The Book and Its Openings in Early Modern China." In *Impagination: Layout and Materiality of Writing and Publication*, edited by Ku-ming (Kevin) Chang, Anthony Grafton, and Glenn Most. De Gruyter

2021 "Xylography," in *Information: A Historical Companion*, edited by Ann Blair, Paul Duguid, Anja Goeing, and Anthony Grafton. Princeton University Press

2020 Review of Yunchiahn C. Sena, *Bronze and Stone: The Cult of Antiquity in Song Dynasty China*, *Journal of Chinese Studies* 70

2020 Review of Endymion Wilkinson, *Chinese History: A New Manual*. 5th ed. *Journal of Asian Studies* 79/2

2020 Review of Chang Woei Ong, *Li Mengyang, the North-South Divide, and Literati Learning in Ming China*, *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 79

2020 "Value and Validity: Seeing through Silver in Late Imperial China" in *Powerful Arguments: Standards of Validity in Late Imperial China.*, edited by Martin Hofman, Joachim Kurtz, and Ari Levine. Brill

2018 Review of Michael Szonyi, *The Art of Being Governed: Everyday Politics in Late Imperial China*, *The China Quarterly* 235

2017– 200+ database records, UBC Open Collections for From the Ground Up: Buddhism and East Asian Religions partnership grant project

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- 2017– Video and textual training material for From the Ground Up: Buddhism and East Asian Religions partnership grant project
- 2017 Review of Rivi Handler-Spitz, *Symptoms of an Unruly Age: Li Zhi and Cultures of Early Modernity*, *Chinese Studies* 漢學研究 36/4 (2018/12)
- 2017 *The Book of Swindles: Selections from a Late Ming Collection*, by Zhang Yingyu. Co-translated with Christopher Rea. Columbia University Press
- 2017 20+ entries, *Chinese-English Dictionary of Ming Government Official Titles*. Edited by Li Ni, Susan Xue, Xue Zhaohui, and Ying Zhang. University of California, 2017
- 2016 Introduction to online edition of *Goulou feng bei*, Quirin Press. *Quirin Chinese Epigraphic and Calligraphy Sources*
- 2015 “Where the Truth Lies: Evidence and Argument in Late Imperial Debates about the *Great Learning*,” in Anne Cheng and Damien Morier-Genoud, eds., *Lectures et usages de la Grande Etude*. Collège de France, Les conférences du Collège de France
- 2015 Review of Schnapp et al., eds., *World Antiquarianism: Comparative Perspectives*, *East Asian Publishing and Society* 5/1
- 2012 *Critics and Commentators: The Book of Poems as Classic and Literature*. Monograph tracing, from the 6th century BCE through the 17th century CE, tensions and exchanges between classicist and literary readings of the earliest anthology of Chinese verse. Harvard-Yenching Monograph Series, Harvard Asia Center
- 2012 “Artifacts of Authentication: People Making Texts Making Things in Late Imperial China,” in *Antiquarianism and Intellectual Life in Europe and China, 1500–1800*, ed. François Louis and Peter Miller, University of Michigan Press
- 2010 Review of Francesca Bray et al., *Graphics and Text in the Production of Technical Knowledge in China*, *Revue de synthèse* 2010/3
- 2009 “An Interpolation in Zhong Hong’s *Shipin*,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 128:3
- 2007 “Old Scripts, New Actors: European Encounters with Chinese Writing, 1550–1700,” *East Asian Science, Technology and Medicine* 26
- 2006 “Not Written in Stone: Ming Readers of the *Great Learning* and the Impact of Forgery” *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 66/1
- 2005 Review of Chow Kai-wing, *Publishing, Culture, and Power in Early Modern China* (Stanford UP, 2004), *Chinese Historical Review* 12/1

Presentations

- 2021
November “Period Pieces: Approaching the Recent Past in Ming-Qing Connoisseurship,” Hulsewé-Wazniewski Lecture, Leiden University (remote)
- 2021
March “Art Work: Classifying Artifacts as Official Business in Late Imperial China,” Princeton East Asia Program (remote)

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- 2020
November 駕馭文字: 從訊息管理談文學史研究的新方向 (Managing Words: Literary History as a History of Praxis), Dept. of History, National Taiwan University, Taipei
- 2020
October "Information and Its Objects: Provenancing the Censors of the Xuande Court," Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University
- 2020
July 奇貨異物: 從歷史虛擬和科技創新談宣德爐 (Exotic Materials: Innovation and Imagination in the Creation of the Xuande Censer), Center for Chinese Studies, National Central Library, Taipei
- 2020
June Presenter and Session Leader, "Material Culture and Community Formation: Experience of Objects through Sensory Perception," National Tung-Hwa University, Hualien
- 2020
June "Archive-Document-Object: Xuande *lu* in Paper and Bronze," Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica
- 2019
December "Imaginary Workshops: The Fictional Functionaries behind the Xuande Censors," The Maker's Space: Place, Person, and Production in Late Imperial China, Johns Hopkins University
- 2019
April "Leafing the Fold: The Visual Space of the Xylographic Page," Understanding Media, University of Michigan
- 2019
May "Classical Commentaries," Information in China, University of Virginia
- 2019
February "Face to Face with the Xylographic Page," UBC China Cluster
- 2018
June "Dupian xinshu," with Christopher Rea, Richmond Public Library, Richmond British Columbia
- 2018
May "The Impossible Bronzes of Xuande (1425–36)," The Way of the Vessel: Making, Collecting, and Disseminating Ancient Chinese Bronzes, Art Institute of Chicago and History of Art Department, University of Chicago
- 2018
April "A Fifteenth Century Archive of Court Workshops, ca. 1730," Cornell Classical Chinese Colloquium
- 2018
March "Powerful Imagination: Early Ming Maritime Networks in the High Qing World," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Washington DC
- 2018
February "Powerful Imagination: Chinese Maritime Networks of the Fifteenth Century in the Eighteenth Century World," History Early Modern Cluster, UBC
- 2018
February "Chinese Lexicons," Workshop on Information Management, Columbia University
- 2017
September "*Dupian xinshu*," with Christopher Rea, Workshop on *Jianghu*, University of British Columbia
- 2017
September "*The Book of Swindles*," with Christopher Rea, Simon Fraser University Harbour Centre, 2017/9
- 2017
May "Imagined into Existence: Textual Reality in Early Modern China," University of Chicago Beijing Center, 2017/5

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- 2017
May "On Libraries," Workshop on Literary Information, University of Virginia, 2017/5
- 2017
April "Vaporware, Or, How the Rediscovery of Brass Has Fooled the Chinese Art Market, from the 16th Century to the Present," Workshop on Techne in the Early Modern World, Yale University
- 2017
March "Writer's Block or Printer's Block: Controlling the Page in Late-Ming Commercial Xylography," Impagination: Forms, Media, and Circulation of Writing and Publication. International Conference in Comparative History of Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei
- 2016
September "Workplaces: Locating Literary Labour in Seventeenth-Century China," The Literary History of Information Management in China, Pennsylvania State University
- 2016
May "Imagining a Manuscript in an Age of Print," PWIAS Research Roundtable on East Asian Manuscript and Print Culture, University of British Columbia
- 2016
April "Cultural Capital: Anthologizing the Beijing Sojourn in Dijing jingwulüe," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Seattle
- 2016
April "Commodious or Commodity? Unminted Silver Money in Ming China (1368-1644)," Circle of Money Workshop, Harvard University
- 2015
March "Navigating Rivers and Lakes: Imagining the Ethics of Late Imperial Commerce," Panel on "Swindling by the Book: Chinese Stories of Fraud and Deception," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago
- 2014
October "Paratexts of *Xuande dingyi pu*," Luce/ACLS Workshop on "How to Read a Chinese Book: Through the Lens of Paratexts," Williams College, Massachusetts
- 2014
May "Recycling Binge: Finding Text Reuse in Manuals of Elite Taste from Late Imperial China," Luce/ACLS Workshop on Reading, Information, Quantification in Traditional China, UCLA
- 2014
April "Silver, Liquid and Solid: The Matter of Money in the Ming-Qing Marketplace," Conference on Coin of the Realm: Money and Meaning in Late Imperial China, Harvard University
- 2014
April "*Wanli yehuo bian*," Ming Documents Reading Group, UBC
- 2014
March "An Assay on Man: Assessing Silver in Late Imperial China," Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia
- 2014
January "The *Xuande dingyipu* as a Source for...?" China History Cluster, Dept. of History, UBC
- 2013
December "Electronic Resources for the Study of Chinese History," China History Cluster, Dept. of History, UBC
- 2013
November "A Pamphlet on Silver in *Dupian xinshu*," Ming Documents Reading Group, UBC
- 2013
October "Seeing through Silver in Late Imperial China," International Conference on Standards of Validity in Late Imperial China, Cluster of Excellence on Asia and Europe in a Global Context, University of Heidelberg

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- 2013
April "Seals of Appraisal: Inventing and Reinventing the Reign Mark in Late Imperial China," Department of Art History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2012
December "Zheng He's Thermos: Ming Artifacts, Ming Relics, and Some Problems of Provenance," East Asia Colloquium, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study
- 2012
November "Putting the Classics to the Test: Questioning Textual Traditions in Examination Contexts," Conference on Examination Literature, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- 2012
November "Does Ming Studies Have a Future" (roundtable), East Asia Program, Princeton University
- 2012
October "Ingot We Trust? Imagining Fake Silver in Early Modern China," Lunchtime Colloquium, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study
- 2012
March "The Art of Confidence in the *New Book of Swindles*," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Toronto
- 2011
November "Public Spaces in Beijing in *Dijing jingwulue*," Workshop on Sites of Sociability in 17th Century China, Yale University, New Haven
- 2011
November "Reignmakers: Ming Imperial Production and Its Imitators," China Project Workshop, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
- 2011
November "Imagined into Existence: How the Ming-Qing Art Market Made History," Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
- 2011
June "Where the Truth Lies: Late Imperial Debates about the *Great Learning*," Colloquium "Lectures et usages de la *Grande Etude*," Collège de France, Paris
- 2011
April "Imperial Production and the Culture of the Duplicate," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Honolulu
- 2011
March "Show and Tell: How to Visit a Ming Collection," 60th Anniversary Conference, Cornell East Asia Program.
- 2011
February "Making a Mark: Toward a Semiotics of Reign Marks on Late Imperial Manufactures," History with Chinese Characteristics: From Ming to Globalization, University of Minnesota Center for Early Modern History
- 2010
October "Fabricating Technology: Imagining Production in Early Modern China," Science & Technology Studies Colloquium, Cornell
- 2010
September "*Dupian xinshu* (New book of swindles)," Cornell Classical Chinese Colloquium
- 2010
June "Chinese Nonsense," Workshop on "Lapses, glitches, blunders—Going astray in writing systems," University of Zurich/Oechsli Library, Switzerland.
- 2010
May "Market Information in a 17th Century Guidebook to Beijing," Workshop on News and Rumors in 17th Century China, Yale University
- 2010
April "Ceramics in Chinese Translation: Forging Bronzes on a Jingdezhen Model," Cultures of Ceramics in Global History, 1300 to 1800, University of Warwick, UK (not presented because of volcanic travel disruption)
- 2010
April Invited commentary, "Borderlines and Intersections: Exploring Science and Society in Song China," Institute for the History of Natural Science/Max Planck Partner Group, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing

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- 2010
January Roundtable participant, "Technological Cultures," Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin
- 2009
November "Circulation in the Troposphere: Classicism and Innovation in Chinese Poetics," Institute for Asian Research, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- 2009
October "What the Master Did not Hear: The *Songs of Chu* as a Post-Canonical Classic," New York Conference on Asian Studies, Ithaca
- 2009
October "Pre-Modern Chinese Books: An Introduction," Cornell University Library
- 2008
March "Han Stele Inscriptions," Cornell Classical Chinese Colloquium
- 2007
May "Antiques that Never Grow Old: A Curious History of the Xuande Bronzes," China before Print/Literature & Cultural History in Early Modern E. Asia, U. of Chicago
- 2006
January "Immaterial Sources: Rereading the Histories of Ming Bronzes," Needham Research Institute, Cambridge, England
- 2005
April "The Illegible Truth: Reading Ancient Scripts in the Late Ming," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago
- 2004
March "Artifacts of Authentication: People Making Texts Making Things in Late Imperial China Antiquarianism and the Early Modern Age, Bard Graduate Center, New York
- 2003
November "The Tianyi ge as a Daoist Library," Ming Studies Group, Princeton University
- 2002
December "Old Scripts, New Actors: Ming Philology before the Jesuits," Princeton Workshop on Global Science and Comparative History
- 2002
April "Paleography and Archaic Scripts in Sixteenth-Century China," Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington DC
- 2000
April "The Case of the Qin Seals: Skepticism and Authority in Ming China," presented at Beyond Belief, Townsend Center for the Humanities, UC Berkeley
- 2000
February "Criticism and Authenticity in Ming *Shijing* Studies," Columbia University Graduate Student Conference on East Asia
- 1999
September "Book Learning in the Mid-Ming: Yang Shouchen (1425–1489) and his Approach to Textual Studies," Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Boise, ID
- 1998
May "Private Collection and Scholarly Property: The Tianyi ge and Ming Private Libraries," California Chinese History Graduate Student Symposium, UCLA

Teaching

- 2022 Asian Internets (ASIA 150)
- 2020 Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300)
- 2018 Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300)
The Profession of Asian Studies (ASIA 592)
- 2017 Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300)
Professional Development Proseminar (ASIA 570)
- 2016 Professional Development Proseminar (ASIA 570)

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2015	Freer/Sackler Gallery and Los Angeles County Museum of Art, graduate summer seminar
2015	Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300) Advanced Readings in Classical Chinese (CLCH 401) Approaches to Asian Literature: Authorship and Authority (ASIA 570)
2014	Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300) Advanced Readings in Classical Chinese (CLCH 401) Confucianism in China and Beyond: Reinventions of Tradition (ASIA 332) Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300)
2013	Writing and Culture in East Asia (ASIA 300) Asian Classics: Using the <i>Book of Changes</i> (ASIA 490A) Confucianism in China and Beyond: Reinventions of Tradition (ASIA 332) Advanced Readings in Classical Chinese (ASIA 512)
2012 S	Introduction to China (ASIAN 2212) Introduction to Classical Chinese II (CHLIT 2214)
2011 F	Introduction to Confucianism (ASIAN 3316/RELST 3316) + graduate add-on Introduction to Classical Chinese I (CHLIT 2213)
2011 S	Introduction to China Introduction to Classical Chinese II
2010 F	Script and Culture in East Asia (ASIAN 2209/ARTH 2901/HIST 2891) + graduate add-on Late Imperial Literary Prose (CHLIT 4466/6666)
2009 S	Introduction to China / Moodle CMS Teaching Technology Pilot Introduction to Classical Chinese II
2008 F	Script and Culture in East Asia / Moodle CMS Teaching Technology Pilot Readings in Classical Chinese Literature (CHLIT 3307)
2008 S	Introduction to China Introduction to Classical Chinese II
2007 F	Methods in Chinese Studies (ASIAN 437/611) Stories of Deception (FWS) / Confluence wiki Teaching Technology Pilot
2007 S	Introduction to China Commerce and Culture in Late Imperial China (ASIAN 467/667)
2006 F	Technologies of Knowledge (ASIAN 352/COM L 332) Readings in Classical Chinese Literature

Scholarly Service

2018	Panel Chair, "Histories of Literary Information in China, Part 1: Search and Retrieval," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Denver
2018	Conference organizer, Scaling the Ming, UBC and Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, Vancouver
2017	Panel chair, "Authorship and Authenticity in Early Modern China," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto
2016	Panel organizer, "Language in the Ming," Society for Ming Studies, 2016/4
2015	Conference co-organizer, "New Directions in Chinese Studies," New York University

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2014 Panel organizer, "Craft and Crucible: Metal and Its Makers in Late Imperial China," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia

Institutional Service

2016–24 Co-investigator, member of Fieldwork, Database and Central Steering Committees (2016-19); principal liaison for data collection

2019– UBC Interdisciplinary Histories Cluster member

2019 UBC Scholarly Publication Fund Steering Committee

2018–19 Centre for Chinese Research, Management Committee and China& Series Convener

2018–19 Sinitic Poetry Search Committee, Asian Studies, UBC

2018 Arts Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award Committee, UBC

2018 Persian APWR Search Committee, Asian Studies, UBC

2016–18 Asian Library Advisory Committee, UBC

2017 Media Studies Research Chair Search Committee, UBC

2016-17 Asian Studies Headship Search Committee, UBC

2016-17 Religious Studies Major Advisory Committee, UBC

2015-19 Department of Asian Studies TA Committee, UBC

2014–2015 Department of Asian Studies Curriculum Committee, UBC

2013–2014, 2015-19 Department of Asian Studies Graduate Committee, UBC

2014–2016 UBC/SFU Digital Consortium (formerly UBC Digital Salon), Co-founder and Steering Committee Member

2014 Lecture organizer, Wat Memorial Lecture

2014–2019 Coordinator, Ming and More Document-Reading Group, UBC

2015 Faculty consultant, UBC Library CLIR Project

2014–2016 Asian Studies Departmental Library Liaison, PARC Project, UBC

2013–14 Associate Graduate Advisor, Asian Studies, UBC

2015–19 Graduate Advisor/Associate Graduate Advisor, Asian Studies, UBC

2011–12 Cornell Library Humanities Research Collections Committee

2011–12 Cornell East Asian Literature Graduate Field, Program Assessment Committee

2008–12 Co-organizer, Cornell Classical Chinese Colloquium (monthly reading group)

2011 Fellowship Committee, Cornell East Asia Program

2008–09 M.A. admission reader, Field of Asian Studies, Cornell

2008–09 Steering Committee Member, 2009 NY Conference on Asian Studies

2008–09 Editorial Board Member, Cornell East Asia Series

2007–08 Fulbright/IIE Selection Committee, East Asia, Einaudi Center, Cornell

2006–07 Cornell College of Arts and Sciences, Undergraduate Admissions Reader

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Supplementary Information

Professional Affiliations	Society for Ming Studies, Board Member 2002–04, 2006–09; Webmaster, 2010–; President, 2014–16 James P. Geiss and Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation, Board Member, 2022– Association for Asian Studies
Languages	Modern Standard Chinese, Classical/Literary Chinese, Japanese, French; knowledge of German