Biography

Shirley Chan is Associate Professor in Languages and Cultures where she teaches and researches in Chinese Studies. She has broad research interests in Chinese culture, Chinese philosophy, history and textual studies. She is interested in the relationship between human nature and societal issues and how human beings shape the world we inhabit. Utilizing the ancient texts and past human experience to reveal relevant insights into the complex modern world, Shirley’s research is currently focusing on language and philosophy of crisis in ancient China.

Shirley believes a deep understanding of Chinese culture and history in a global context is crucial not only from an academic point of view but also for building ethical, just, and inclusive communities.

Dr. Chan has served as President of the Chinese Studies Association of Australia (CSAA) and was an executive committee member of the Oriental Society of Australia for many years. In addition, she served on the editorial board of several journals. Shirley spoke on Chinese culture and history in programs produced by the BBC (Genius of the Ancient World: Confucius, with British historian Bettany Hughes), ABC, SBS, and international online teaching platforms such as MOOC and Coursera. She delivered invited lectures and seminars to museums, art exhibitions, cultural centres, city councils, research centres, and various overseas and local institutions. She is a member of the MQ University Research Centre for Cultural Heritage and Environment.

Dr. Chan is available to supervise HDR and research projects.

Qualifications

PhD, Sinology, Confucianism and Chinese Philosophy, Chinese Intellectual History, Chinese Studies, Early Confucianism and the Confucian Analects, University of Sydney  
Award Date: 18 Dec 2001

Master of International Studies, Department of Government and Public Administration, University of Sydney

BA (Asian Studies), Chinese Studies, Social Anthropology, Japanese Studies, University of Sydney

Research output

Humour as rhetorical discourse in ancient Chinese philosophy: the works of Mencius  

Texts, historicity and metaphor in early China: reading "Tang Residee Near the Mound of Tang" (Tang Chuyu Tangqiu 湯處於湯丘) in the Tsinghua Collection of the Warring States (475–221 BCE) Bamboo Manuscripts  

From nothing to something: Reading the Shanghai Museum's Hengxian (Constancy, at the Outset)  

Preface  
Reading through recovered ancient Chinese manuscripts

A British legacy or modern university crisis? Chinese studies in Australian universities

Dao companion to the excavated Guodian bamboo manuscripts

Daoist nature or Confucian nurture: moral development in the Yucong 語叢 (Thicket of Sayings)

Introduction: the excavated Guodian 郭店 bamboo manuscripts

Xing 性 and Qing 情: human nature and moral cultivation in the Guodian text Xing zi ming chu 性自命出 (Nature Derives from Endowment)

Shenti yu zhiguo: 身體與治國: Shidu Qinghuajian “Taizai Chimen” Jianlun ji 試讀清華簡《湯在啻門》兼論「疾」

從天道到人道: 中國出土竹書的視野

Eastern Zhou (770-256 BC)

Zhongyong

Zhou Gong (?-1032 BC?)

Zhou Li

如琢如磨: 《論語》中的人性與道德修養
From cosmology to humanity: a perspective from the recovered bamboo manuscripts in China

論《恆先》篇“恆”的概念與政治思想

Shendu and qingdu: Reading the recovered bamboo and silk manuscripts

Lin Yutang: reinterpreting the ancients for moderns

Oneness: reading the "All things are flowing in form (Fan Wu Liu Xing) 凡物流形" (with a translation)

Philosophy on bamboo: text and the production of meaning in early China

Ruzhuo rumo: Lunyu zhong de renxing yu daode xiuyang

Willow catkins: Festschrift for Dr Lily Xiao Hong Lee on the occasion of her 75th birthday

天、人、性: 讀郭店楚簡與上博竹簡

Introduction: Discovering and rediscovering the Four Books

Zhong (sic) and Ideal Rulership in the Baoxun (sic) (Instructions for Preservation) Text of the Tsinghua Collection of Bamboo Slip Manuscripts

Cosmology, society, and humanity: Tian in the Guodian texts (part II)

Equilibrium in classical Confucian "Economy"

Polishing the jade: 'Xing' (human nature) and moral cultivation in the Analects

Cosmology, society, and humanity: Tian in the Guodian texts (part I)
Rethinking early Chinese thought

Guodian chu zhushu Laozi jiaozhu (Annotated commentaries of the Laozi from the Guodian Chu Bamboo Slips)

Identifying daoist humour: Reading the Liezi

A Reassessment of Early Confucianism in Light of Newly Excavated Manuscripts

Exegesis of the Baoxun Text in the bamboo slip manuscripts acquired by Tsinghua University

Guodian Chujian de tian ren guan xi ji 'Ming' de han yi

Human nature and moral cultivation in the Guodian (Chinese source) text of the Xing Zi Ming Chu (Chinese source)
(Nature Derives from Mandate)

The ruler/ruled relationship in the Ziyi (Black Robe) contained in the newly excavated guodian chu slip-texts

Guodian chu jian zhong "Ziyi" de zheng zhi si wei - yu Rujia Lunyu he Mengzi de bi jiao

The Confucian Shi, official service, and the Confucian Analects

Bai Shuxiang

Bai Yushuang

Ding Guoxian

Fan Ruijuan
Gong Li
4 p.

Gu Yuezhen
3 p.

Hongxian Nu
2 p.

Liu Xiaojing
3 p.

Ruan Lingyu
3 p.

Teng Li-chun
2 p.

The Fundamental system of thought in the Confucian Analects

Xia Juhua
1 p.

Xu Yulan
3 p.

Yan Fengying
2 p.

Yan Huizhu
2 p.

Yuan Xuefen
3 p.

Zhang Quan
2 p.

Zhao Yanxia
2 p.
Zhou Shun
2 p.

Zhu Lin
3 p.

Awards

Projects

**Ancient Cultures Research Centre (MQACRC)**
1/01/09 → …

**MQRC: Centre for Ancient Cultural Heritage and Environment (CACHE) - MQRC 2019**
1/01/19 → 31/12/22

**China Knowledge: Intellectual history of China studies/Sinology in Asia, Australia and New Zealand**
Chan, S., Keating, P. & Shih, C.
1/08/17 → 1/08/20

**Early Chinese Thought in the Newly Discovered Ancient Bamboo Manuscripts**
Chan, S.
1/07/10 → 30/06/12

**Nature and Virtue: Chinese Cosmology in the Newly Recovered Ancient Bamboo Slip Manuscripts**
Chan, S.
12/07/15 → 11/01/16

**The Warring States (475-221 BC) Bamboo Manuscripts and Early Chinese Thought**
Chan, S.
1/01/12 → 30/06/12

**Translation and interpretation of the confucian texts in the excavated 4th century BCE Guodian chu bamboo slip from China**
Chan, S.
1/07/09 → 30/07/11