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Relevant Education:

- University of California, San Diego (UCSD): PhD, Modern Chinese History, Dissertation: "Culturing Revolution: The Local Communists of China's Hainan Island, 1927-1957"
- Columbia University, New York: MA, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Chinese History
- State University of New York (SUNY) Albany, BA, East Asian Studies, Summa Cum Laude
- Beijing Normal University: Chinese language studies certificate

Relevant Publications:

Books, Authored and Edited

- *China Tripping: Encountering the Everyday in the People's Republic*, editor/author with Perry Link, Paul G. Pickowicz ([Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2019](#)).
- *Asian Cultural Traditions, Second Edition*, co-authored with Carolyn Brown Heinz ([Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 2018](#)).
- *China's Lonely Revolution: The Local Communists of Hainan Island, 1926-1956* ([Albany: State University of New York Press, 2017](#)).
- *Pop Culture in Asia and Oceania*, editor/author with Kathleen M. Nadeau ([Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC CLIO, 2016](#)).

Articles, Essays, Book Chapters, and Reviews

- "[Expats Dream About China's City of Sin](#)," *Los Angeles Review of Books* (September 2025).
- "[Respecting the Waters](#)," *Los Angeles Review of Books* (January 13, 2025).
- "Claiming the South China Sea with a New National Mythology: Hainan Island and the South China Sea in China's History and Current Geopolitics" ([Wilson Center Fellowship Essay, Fall 2023](#)).
- "Wilds of Revolution: Anti-Localism and Hainanese Women in the Early People's Republic," with Alexander J. Serrano, in *Revolutionary Transformations: The People's Republic of China in the 1950s*, Anja Blanke, Klaus Mühlhahn, and Julia Strauss, eds. ([Cambridge University Press, 2023](#)).
- "Taming the Southern Frontiers through Song and Dance: Chauvinisms (Han and Male) in *The Red Detachment of Women*," in *Visualising Chinese Borders*, Paul Gladston, Beccy Kennedy, and Ming Turner, eds. ([Palgrave-Macmillan, 2021](#)).

- “Uncertain Days for Scholars as Sino-US Tensions Rise,” [*Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*](#), September 2020.
- “Hainan Island in China’s Popular Imagination” in [*The Asia Dialogue*](#) (University of Nottingham Asia Research Institute), December 2019.
- “Yoga in China,” with Katherine Jakovich, in [*The Asia Dialogue*](#) (University of Nottingham Asia Research Institute), December 2019.
- “Oceania: Women and Violence,” with Katherine Jakovich, in *Women and Violence: Global Lives in Focus* ([Santa Barbara, CA: ABC CLIO, 2020](#))
- “Blockbuster War Commemoration: Feng Xiaogang’s *Assembly* and Steven Spielberg’s *Saving Private Ryan*,” in Charles Hayford, ed., *Film in American-East Asian Relations* (forthcoming, Leiden: Brill).
- “Patriotic Localism: The Historical Context of Hainan and the South China Sea,” in Donovan Chau and Thomas Kane, eds., *China and International Security: History, Strategy, and 21st-Century Policy* ([Praeger, 2014](#)).
- “‘A Dream Deferred’: Obstacles to Legal Reform and Rights Reclamation in Early Republican China” in Sherman Cochran and Paul G. Pickowicz, eds., *China on the Margins* ([Cornell: Cornell University Press, 2010](#)).
- “Contesting Twentieth-Century China: A Simulation,” with Joseph W. Esherick, in *Education About Asia*, [Volume 15, Number 2 \(Fall 2010\)](#).
- Book Review, Odd Arne Westad, *Restless Empire: China and the World Since 1750* (New York: Basic Books, 2012), for *History: Reviews of New Books* (summer 2013).
- Book Review, Han Hing Quang (Stephen Shenfield, tr.), *A Long Road Traveled* (published by Stephen Shenfield, [full text at this link](#)), [*Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia* \(summer-fall 2022\)](#).