

## SHELLEN XIAO WU

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Dunford Hall 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Knoxville, TN 37996  
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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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2016 – Present      **University of Tennessee, Knoxville**, *Associate Professor*, History  
2011 – 2016      **UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE**, Knoxville, *Assistant Professor*, History  
2010 – 2011      **BATES COLLEGE**, Lewiston, Maine  
*Visiting Assistant Professor*, History

### EDUCATION

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Sept. 2010      **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**, Princeton, New Jersey  
*Ph.D.*, Department of History  
Dissertation Title: “Underground Empires: German Imperialism and the  
Introduction of Modern Geology in China, 1860-1919.”  
Academic Advisor: Benjamin Elman  
Dissertation Committee: Susan Naquin, Anson Rabinbach &  
Harold James  
Outside Examiner: Fan Fa-ti (SUNY Binghamton)

May 2005      **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**, Princeton, New Jersey  
*M.A.*, Department of History

May 2002      **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
*B.A.*, *magna cum laude*, Program in History and Literature

### FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

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2016 – 2017      **National Humanities Center**, Residential Fellowship, Research Triangle,  
NC

December 2014      **Convocation Award for New Research in the Arts and Humanities,**  
**University of Tennessee**

2013 – 2014      **Henry Luce Foundation/ American Council of Learned Societies**  
**Program in China Studies** postdoctoral fellowship

2013      **ACLS / AMERICAN RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES IN CHINA**, DECLINED.

Summer 2012      **Professional Development Award, University of Tennessee**

2008 – 2009      **HAROLD W. DODDS FELLOWSHIP, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**

2007 – 2008      **FULBRIGHT IIE FELLOWSHIP** for research in China

June 2005      **GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE**, Two-week summer seminar in  
Germany: Introduction to archives and paleography

2003 – 2004      **MELLON FELLOWSHIP** for Graduate Studies

## BOOK PROJECTS

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*Empires of Coal: Fueling China's Entry into the Modern World Order, 1860-1919* (Weatherhead East Asian Institute Publication series, Stanford University Press, April 2015).

“Global Frontiers and the Geopolitical Making of Modern China,” tentative title for new book project.

“Killing Science: War, Empire and Science in the Making of the Modern Chinese State,” tentative title for second new book project.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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“The Search for Coal in the Age of Empires: Ferdinand von Richthofen's Odyssey in China, 1860-1920,” *The American Historical Review*, Vol. 119, No. 2 (April 2014), 339-362.

“Mining the Way to Wealth and Power: The Late Qing Reforms of Mining Law, 1895-1911,” *The International History Review*, Vol. 32, Issue 3 (September 2012), 581-599.

“From Berlin to Chongqing: *Geopolitik* in the Age of Global War,” Joanne Cho and David Crowe ed., *Germany and China: Transnational Encounters since the Eighteenth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014).

Book Review: Tonio Andrade. *The Gunpowder Age. China, Military Innovation and the Rise of the West in World History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016. *The Journal of Military History*. Forthcoming October, 2016.

Book Review: Chad H. Parker. *Making the Desert Modern: Americans, Arabs, and Oil on the Saudi Frontier, 1933-1973*. Amherst & Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2015; Peter A. Shulman. *Coal & Empire: The Birth of Energy Security in Industrial America*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015. *Diplomatic History Review*, (Mar. 2016).

Book Review: Elizabeth Perry. *Anyuan: Mining China's Revolutionary Tradition*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012. *Frontiers of History in China*, Vol. 9, No.1 (Mar.2014), 159-162.

Book Review: Grace Shen. *Unearthing the Nation: Modern Geology and Nationalism in Republican China*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2014. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 48 (Dec., 2014), 38-41.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

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Aug. 2016 Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Historical Society for Twentieth Century China joint conference on Modern China in World Affairs: Interaction and Mutual Influence in Beijing, China, “WWII in Asia and the Fashioning of a

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Chinese Geopolitical View.”

- March 2016 Annual Association of Asian Studies Conference, Seattle, WA, Presentation and panel organizer, “Cultivating the Frontiers: Agricultural Knowledge, Modernization, and the State in Western China, 1800-1960.”
- Nov. 2016 History of Science Society Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, “*Dixue* and the Making of Chinese Geology.”
- July 2015 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia, Paris, France, “Translating Empire through Geography.”
- March 2015 Germany in the Pacific Conference, sponsored by the GHI and University of California San Diego, “German Engineers in China, 1860-1900.”
- Nov. 2014 Annual History of Science Conference, Chicago, IL, “Mapping the Geography of Modern China.”
- Aug. 2014 Institute of Modern History / Academia Sinica and Historical Society for Twentieth Century China conference in Taipei, Taiwan, “Resurrecting Empire in Twentieth Century China.”
- Mar. 2014 Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies workshop on Empire and the Social Sciences, “Geography and Empire in the Shaping of Modern China.”
- Jan. 2014 American Historical Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., “Geopolitics and the Resurrection of Empire in Twentieth Century China.”
- Nov. 2013 Invited Lecture at the Center for China Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, “Ferdinand von Richthofen and the Search for Coal in China.”
- Oct. 2013 Invited lecture at the Institute of Natural History, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, “李希荷芬在中国地质学上的贡献.”
- July 2013 International Congress for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Manchester, UK, “Constructing Science and Modern Empires: Geology and Mining Engineers in China, 1880-1920.”
- Mar. 2013 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting in San Diego, “A Confusion of Terms: Spatial Reorganization in a Global Age, 1900-1950.”
- Oct. 25, 2012 Invited lecture to the University of South Carolina Department of History, “Ferdinand von Richthofen and the Search for Coal in Late Qing China.”

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- Oct. 2012 German Studies Association Meeting in Milwaukee, “German Geopolitics and Chinese Geography, 1930-1945.”
- July 2012 Academia Sinica, Institute of Modern History, Taipei (presentation in Chinese), “從天下至地緣國 1900—1949.”
- Mar. 2012 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Toronto, “Geography and the Fate of Chinese Civilization, 1940-1949.”
- Nov. 2011 History of Science Society Annual Meeting in Cleveland, “Ferdinand von Richthofen and the Introduction of Geology in China.”
- Mar. 2011 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Honolulu, “Clausewitz in China, 1911-1949.”
- June 2010 Workshop on New Directions in Republican History at Fudan University, Institute of Advanced Humanistic Studies (presentation in Chinese), “帝国的先锋人员：德国地质，礦务学家来华 1886-1914.”
- Mar. 2010 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, “Expanding Empires and Reclaiming Mines.”
- Nov. 2009 History of Science Society Annual Meeting in Phoenix, “Engineers as Agents of Science and Empire.”
- July 2008 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on History of Science in East Asia at Johns Hopkins University, “Lost in Translation: The Introduction of Western Geology to China, 1860-1900.”

## COURSES TAUGHT

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- Hist 499: Coal, Dams, and the Atom: Powering the Modern World (Senior Research Seminar)
- Hist 390: History of China from 1600 to the Present
- Hist 391: Modern Chinese Intellectual History: In Search of China’s Place in the World
- Hist 373: East Asian Modern: Creating New Identities in the Twentieth Century (Topics Course, Fall 2011)
- Hist 373: The Making of Modern China on Film (Topics Course, Fall 2012)
- Hist 262: World History from 1400: Science and Technology in the Making of the Modern World
- Hist 511: Teaching World History (graduate level)
- Hist 562: Transnational Currents in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Chinese History (graduate level)
- Hist 562: Modern Chinese History—State Formation (graduate level)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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## **SHELLEN WU**

- 2014 – Co-founder of professional networking group for women in Asian Studies:  
holdinguphalfthesky.org
- 2012 – 2014 Treasurer / Secretary for the Historical Society for Twentieth Century China

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- 2015—2016 UTK Faculty Senate and Research Council
- 2015—2016 Graduate Committee, History Department
- 2014—2015 Graduate Committee, History Department
- 2014—2015 Head Advisory Committee, History Department
- 2012 – 2013 Department Head Search Committee, History Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2012 – 2013 Member of Search Committee for Pre-modern Chinese History position, University of Tennessee
- 2012 – 2013 Graduate Committee

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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- Chinese
- Japanese
- Classical Chinese
- Reading knowledge of French
- German
- Beginner's Russian

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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- American Historical Association
- History of Science Society
- Association for Asian Studies
- German Studies Association