Zhang Gaoheng - curriculum vitae

Ph.D., New York University

B.A., Beijing Foreign Studies University

Gaoheng Zhang is Assistant Professor of Italian Studies at the University of British Columbia. He is a humanities scholar of migration, mobilities, multiculturalism, media, rhetoric, ethics, masculinity, and meaning-making. His most recent research seeks to provide a road map for analyzing how movements and communications created networks with enough cultural resources to frame non-fiction and fiction narratives about entrepreneurship, politics, and gender. His case studies pertain to Italy's global networks, which are created through migration, colonialism, and business and leisure travel during the 19th 21th centuries.

Zhang is a leading cultural critic of Chinese migration to Italy, which has generated considerable debate in the Italian, Chinese migrant, and international media because of migrants' economic clout. This is the subject of his forthcoming book from University of Toronto Press in 2019, titled Migration and the Media: Debating Chinese Migration to Italy, 1992-2012, which is the first detailed media and cultural study of the Chinese migration from both Italian and Chinese migrant perspectives, as well as one of the few booklength analyses of migration and culture. Previously he has published several key articles on gender and ethics in cinematic and literary depictions of migrants, and of men, in Italy.

His new book project, tentatively titled "Mobilities and Cultures: Italy, China, North America" will offer an innovative critical framework to address Italian-Chinese relationships, —the longest-standing European-Chinese exchanges in written record—, by analyzing the mobile and discursive methods and effects of exiles, colonizers, (political) pilgrims, tourists, and migrants in cultural production. He has received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for this project.

Gaoheng Zhang spearheaded and co-organized two conferences focused on Italy, China, and East Asia: "Italy and China: Centuries of Dialogue" (University of Toronto, April 2016) and "Italy and East Asia: Exchanges and Parallels" (Stony Brook University, October 2018). He serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies (2014-Present) and on the Publications Committee of the Awards to Scholarly Publications Program for Canada's Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (2017-20).

Before joining UBC, Gaoheng Zhang held positions as Assistant Professor of Italian Cinema at the University of Toronto and as a Provost's Postdoctoral Scholar in the Humanities (now the USC Society of Fellows) at the University of Southern California. He was educated at Beijing Foreign Studies University (B.A.) and at New York University (M.A., Ph.D.).

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

SSHRC Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Government of Canada, 2018-2020.

Visiting Professor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Intercultural Studies, University of Florence, May 2018 and May 2019.

Awards to Scholarly Publications Program, Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, 2018.

The Arts Undergraduate Research Award (AURA), University of British Columbia, 2017.

The International Work Learn Award, University of British Columbia, 2017.

UBC Hampton Fund Research Grant – New Faculty Award, 2016-18.

The Schoff Publication Fund Award, The University Seminars, Columbia University, 2016.

The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation Grant, 2016.

Provost's Postdoctoral Scholarship in the Humanities (now The USC Society of Fellows), University of Southern California, 2012-14.

Full scholarship from the Refresher Program for Teachers of Italian Abroad, University for Foreigners in Perugia, 2008.