

MARGHERITA ZANASI
Professor
Editor, *Twentieth-Century China*

Department of History
Louisiana State University

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Columbia University, Department of History
M.A., Columbia University, Department of History
Laurea (undergraduate degree), University of Florence, Department of Political Science.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Economic Thought in Modern China: Market and Consumption 1500s to 1937, Cambridge University Press, June 2020 (Annual Book Prize Award, the Southeastern Conference of the Association for Asian Studies)

Saving the Nation: Economic Modernity in Republican China, The University of Chicago Press, 2006.

Life Along the Grand Canal: Trade and Society in Qing and Early-Republican China, 1644-1930s (in preparation)

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

“Linqing: Life Along the Grand Canal 1644-1937” (in preparation)

“*Qinjian jianguo* (勤儉建國): Frugality and Nation Building across 1949” (in preparation)

“Frugality and Luxury: Morality, Market, and Consumption in Late Imperial China,” *Frontiers of History in China*, vol. 10, no. 3 (September 2015), pp. 457-485.

“Frugal Modernity: Livelihood and Consumption in Republican China,” *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 74, No. 2 (May 2015), pp. 391-409.

“Western Utopias, Missionary Economics, and the Chinese Village,” *The Journal of World History*. Vol. 24, no. 2 (April 2013), pp. 359-387.

“Jiejian, xiaofei he xinshenghuo yundong—Jiang Jieshi de shehuijingji sixiang yanjiu (節儉, 消費和新生活運動—蔣介石的社會經濟思想研究 Frugality, Consumption, and The New Life Movement: A Study of Chiang Kai-shek Socioeconomic Thought,” *亞洲研究* (*Asia Research*); Vol. 64 (February 2012), pp. 251-271.

“New Perspectives on Chinese Collaboration,” *Japan Focus: An Asia Pacific Journal* published as part of “Collaboration in War and Memory in East Asia: A Symposium,” July 24, 2008. (URL: <http://apjif.org/-Margherita-Zanasi/2828/article.html>).

“Globalizing *Hanjian*: The Suzhou Trials and the Post-WWII Discourse on Collaboration.” *American Historical Review*. Vol. 113, no. 2 (June 2008) pp. 731-751.

“Exporting Development: The League of Nations and Republican China,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 49, no. 1 (January 2007) pp. 143-169.

- “Fostering the People’s Livelihood: Chinese Political and Economic Thought between Empire and Nation,” *Twentieth Century China*, Vol. 23, no. 1 (November 2004) pp. 6-38.
- “Far from the Treaty Ports: Fang Xianting and Rural Modernity in 1930s China,” *Modern China*, vol. 30, issue 1 (January 2004) pp. 113-146.

Book Chapters:

- “Globalizing Development: A View from Late Imperial China,” in *Perspectives on the History of Global Development*, ed. Corinna R. Unger et al. (De Gruyter, 2022), 15–36, <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110730234-002>.
- “Minguo shiqi de yishi xingtai he falü: xinshenghuo yongdong 民国时期的意识形态和法律；新生活运动 (Ideology and the Law in Nationalist China: The New Life Movement 1934–1937)” In *Minguo shiqi de falu, zhengzhi, shehui* (民国时期的法律，政治，社会 *Law, Politics, and Society in Republican China*). Institute of Modern History, Chinese Academia of Social Sciences, Beijing 2016.
- “Collaboration, Resistance, and Accommodation in Northeast Asia,” in Richard Bosworth and Joe Maiolo eds., *The Cambridge History of the Second World War*, Vol. 2. Cambridge University Press, 2015).
- “Jiesheng, xiaofei, he xinshenghuo: Jiang Jieshi de shenüi jingji sixiang 节省，消费和新生活：蒋介石的社会经济思想 (Frugality, Consumption, and New Life: The Social and Economic Thought of Jiang Jieshi)” in Hongmin Chen. *Zhong waixuezhe lun Jiang Jieshi: Jiang Jieshi yu jindai Zhongguo guji xueshu yantaohui lunwen ji*. Hangzhou Shi : Zhejiang daxue chubanshe, 2013.
- “Cong diquan dao guojia: Sun Zhongshan de Jingji sixiang (从帝权到国家：孙中山的经济思想 From Empire to Nation: Sun Yat-sen’s Economic Thought)” in 日本孙文研究会编. *孙文与南方熊楠: 越境的知的对话 (Sun Zhongshan and Minakata Kumagusu: an intellectual dialogue across-borders)* (财团法人孙中山纪念会 2007) [Cong diquan dao guojia: Sun zhongshan de jingji sixiang,” in Riben sunwen yanjiuhui ed. *Sun Wen yu Nanfang Tainan (Minakata Kumagusu.)* (Caituan faren Sun Zhongshan Jinianhui, 2007)] —Also published in Japanese: “Ōchō kokka kara kindai kokka ni itaru Son Bun no keizai shisō” in *Sun Bun to Minakata Kumagusu: kaigai nite chiin to au* (Kobe: Zaidan Hōjin Son Bun Kinenkan, 2007).
- “Chen Gongbo and the Construction of a Modern Nation in 1930s China,” in Timothy Brook and Andre Schmid eds., *Nation Work: Nationalism in Asia since 1850*, University of Michigan Press, January 2000, pp. 125-157.
- Also published in Chinese: “经济民族主义：30年代国民党国家的经济建设计划” in *民族的构建* (北京:吉林出版集团有限责任公司 2008).

Encyclopedia Entries:

- “Republic of China” and “Sanmin zhuyi” in Dillon, Michael. *Encyclopedia of Chinese History*. New York, NY: 2016.

Not Peer-Reviewed publications

- Economic Thought in Modern China: A Conversation with Margherita Zanasi, *Made in China* (June 2024) <https://madeinchinajournal.com/2024/08/18/economic-thought-in-modern-china-a-conversation-with-margherita-zanasi/>
- The Opium Business: A Conversation with Peter Thilly, *Made in China* (November 29, 2022) <https://madeinchinajournal.com/2022/11/29/the-opium-business-a-conversation-with-peter-thilly/>
- Book Reviews:
- Karl Gerth, Unending Capitalism: How Consumerism Negated China's Communist Revolution (Cambridge University Press, May 2020) *The Journal of Asian Studies* (Vo. 80, no 3, August 2021).
- William T. Rowe, *Speaking of Profit: Bao Shichen and Reform in Nineteenth-Century China* (Harvard University Asia Center, 2018), *China Review International*, (vo. 24, n. 3, September 2019).
- Rebecca E. Karl, *The Magic of Concepts: History and the Economic in Twentieth-Century China* (Duke University Press 2017), *American Historical Review*, Vol. 124, n. 2 (February 2019).
- Sheehan, Brett. *Industrial Eden: A Chinese Capitalist Vision* (Harvard University Press 2010). *Frontiers of History in China*, vol. 12 (March 2017), no. 1, pp. 148-150.
- Van de Ven, Hans J. *Breaking with the Past: The Maritime Customs Service and the Global Origins of Modernity in China* (Columbia University Press 2014). *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, vol. 75, no. 2 (2015): 519-524.
- Hill, Emily M. *Smokeless Sugar: The Death of a Provincial Bureaucrat and the Construction of China's National Economy* (UBC Press). *Journal of Asian Studies* vol. 70, no. 3 (August 2011), pp. 810-812.
- Green, Megan. *The Origins of the Developmental State in Taiwan: Science Policy and the Quest for Modernization* (Harvard University Press). *Social History* (2009).
- Shiroyama, Tomoko. *China during the Great Depression: Market, State, and the World Economy, 1929-1937* (Harvard University Press). *American Historical Review*, vol. 114, no. 1, (2009).
- Lin, Xiaoqing Diana. *Peking University; Chinese Scholarship and Intellectuals 1898-1937* (SUNY University Press). *China Review International*, vol. 15, no. 1 (2009).
- Trescott, Paul. *Jingji Xue: The History of the Introduction of Western Economic Ideas into China, 1850-1950* (Chinese University Press). *Business History Review*, vol. 82, no. 4, (2008).
- Thornton, Patricia M. *Disciplining the State: Virtue, Violence, and State-Making in Modern China* (Harvard University Press). *The China Journal*, Issue 60 (July 2008).
- Bian, Morris L. *The Making of the State Enterprise System in Modern China: The Dynamics of Institutional Change* (Harvard University Press). *Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 67, no. 1, (2008).
- Tuttle, Gray. *Tibetan Buddhists in the Making of Modern China* (Columbia University Press). *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, vol. 75, Issue 3 (September 2007).
- Wang Gungwu, *Ideas Won't Keep* (Eastern University Press). *China Review International*, vol. 12, no. 1 (2005).
- Mitter, Rana. *The Manchurian Myth. Nationalism, Resistance, and Collaboration in Modern China* (Oxford University Press). *China Information* vol. 16 (2002).

Giuliano Bertuccioli and Federico Masini, *Italia e Cina* (Edizioni La Terza). *China Review International*, vol. 6, no. 1 (Spring 1999).

INVITED TALKS (since 2010)

- “Frugality and Nation Building in Twentieth Century China,” Department of History, The University of Mississippi, April 10, 2025.
- “Qinjian jianguo (勤俭建国): Frugality and Nation Building across 1949” Carroll R. Pauley Symposium, *The Legacy of Republican China*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, October 17-
- “Economic Thought in Modern China” New Book presentation. Southeastern Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, University of Louisville | Louisville, Kentucky, January 14 -16, 2022 (virtual participation).
- Invited Speaker for the Roundtable following the 2021 China Town Hall, Committee on United States-China Relations, Tulane University, October 19, 2021 (Virtual event).
- “Pensiero Confuciano e modernità economica nella Cina tardo imperiale,” Università di Firenze, April 30, 2021. (Virtual event)
- “Challenging the Western Origins of Economic Modernity: The View from Late-Imperial China,” Tulane University, April 9, 2021. (Virtual event)
- “Verso una critica delle origini europee della modernità economica: mercato e consumo nel pensiero economico Cinese (c1500 – 1911),” L’Orientale, Università degli Studi di Napoli, March 29, 2021. (Virtual event)
- “Rethinking Economic Modernity: The Debate on Luxury Consumption in Qing China (1644-1911),” Institute for Chinese Studies, Ohio State University, November 16, 2018.
- “Rethinking Economic Modernity: The Debate on Luxury Consumption in Qing China (1644-1911),” European University Institute, Florence (Italy), May 30, 2018.
- “Beyond Modernity: Rethinking Economic Change and Periodization in Modern Chinese History,” Center for the Study of Modern and Contemporary China Study of the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Paris (France), May 31, 2016.
- “Oltre la modernità: La trasformazione economica della Cina dei Qing (1644-1911),” Istituto Orientale, Università degli Studi di Napoli (Italy), May 15, 2016.
- “Guomin chuqi modeng xiaofeizhe de suzao (民國初期摩登消費者的塑造 The Making of the Modern Consumer in Early Republican China),” Urban History Research Group, Modern History Institute, Academia Sinica, June 17, 2015.
- “Frugality and Luxury: Morality, Market, and Consumption in Late Imperial China” Northwestern University, October 24, 2014.
- “Frugal Modernity: Consumption and Livelihood in Modern China,” Columbia University, Modern China Seminar, March 14, 2013.
- “Frugal Modernity: Consumption and Morality in Republican China,” University of Göttingen. June 6, 2011.
- “Constructing *Hanjian*: The Suzhou Trials and the Post-WWII Global Discourse on Collaboration” Invited paper, Southern Methodist University, February 5, 2007.
- “Jiuguo: zai minguo shiqi de jingji jindaixing” (Saving the Nation: Economic Modernity in Republican China,” invited lecture, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan ROC, June 22, 2006.

“Collaborationist nationalism” invited paper, Modern China Seminar, Columbia University, March 13, 2003

CONFERENCE PAPERS (since 2010)

“The 1951 Enhance Production and Practice Thrift Economy Movement (加强增产节约运动),” Biannual Conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China, Lehigh University, September 13-15, 2024,

“Frugality and Nation Building in the early PRC Period,” *Past Futures and Future Pasts: Expanding the Horizons of Twentieth Century Chinese History*, Biannual conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth Century China, Lehigh University, Bethlehem (PA) September 13-15, 2024.

Panel Discussant “The Colonial and Semi-Colonial,” *China and the World Conference*, Vanderbilt University, February 12, 2022.

“Economic Thought in Modern China, c1500 – 1937” New Book Roundtable, Southeast Conference for Asian Studies, University of Kentucky, January 15, 2022.

“The Global Origins of Development Economics: The View from Late-Imperial” Southeast Conference for Asian Studies, January 17, 2021 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Virtual Conference).

Roundtable participant “New Books in Modern China,” *China’s Engagement with the Modern World*, Historical Society of Twentieth-Century China, August 14-17, 2020 (Virtual Conference).

Panel Discussant for “Without and Within? Alternative Histories of China: Three Approaches” for the conference *China’s Engagement with the Modern World*, Historical Society of Twentieth-Century China, August 14-17, 2020 (Virtual Conference).

“Ideology and the Law in Nationalist China: The Case of the New Life Movement (1934 – 1937),” Southeast Conference for Asian Studies, New College of Florida, January 17-19, 2020.

“Jingji jindaihua de zaisikao: qingdai xiaofeizhibian” *jindai zhongguo de minzhong, mingsheng, mingfeng*, Taiyuan, University, Taiyuan, PRC, July 26, 2019

Panel Discussant for “Locating “Growth” as a Paradigm in Modern East Asia” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Denver, Co, March 23, 2019.

Panel Discussant for “Approaches to Economic Reconstruction in China, 1930s-1950s,” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington DC, March 23, 2018.

“The Reception of Western Liberal Economic Ideas in the Late Qing Period: The Debate on Market and Consumption,” *The Ming and Qing in the 21st Century: New Discoveries, New Perspective, and New Horizons*, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, October 20, 2017.

“Beyond Modernity: Understanding Economic Change in Qing China,” Southeastern Conference for Asian Studies, University of Mississippi, January 13, 2017.

“Market and Consumption in the Late-Qing Debate on the Economy,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Seattle, April 1, 2016.

“Shifting Paradigms: Early Impact of Western Models of Modernity on Chinese Economic Thought,” *International Conference on Ming-Qing Studies*, Academia Sinica, Nangang Taiwan, December 10 – 11, 2015.

- Panel Discussant, *Occupation, Collaboration and Cooperation between China and Japan, 1910-1945*, Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 26-29, 2015.
- “The Debate on Economic Modernity in Early Republican China,” *Beyond Modernity? Understanding Change in Chinese History*, Columbia University, September 20-21, 2014 (conference organizer).
- “Western Standards of Living and Economic Modernity in Late-Qing and Early-Republican China,” World Conference on Sinology 2014, People’s University, Beijing September 5-7, 2014.
- “Between Rhetoric and Pragmatism: Competing Notions of Market and Consumption in Qing China (1644-1911),” *Rethinking the Market in Modern China*. Joint Center for History at Economics at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts on April 3-4, 2014.
- “Frugality and Luxury: Conflicting Notions of Consumption in Qing China (1644 – 1840),” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, March 28, 2014.
- “Legal Modernity: The New Life Movement and Police Regulations” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, January 5, 2014.
- “Collaboration and Resistance in East Asia,” Workshop, Oxford University, January 9, 2013.
- “Ideology and the Law in Nationalist China: The Case of the New Life Movement,” Workshop on Law, Politics, and Society in Republican China: Sino-Western Perspectives in Comparison, Institute of East Asian Studies, Berkeley University, September 20-22, 2012.
- “Frugal Modernity: State, Market, and Consumption from Empire to Nation,” Fourth International Conference on Sinology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, June 29-July 1, 2012.
- “*Minsheng*: Livelihood and Consumption in Postwar China (1945-1949),” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, March 15-18, 2012.
- “Western Economics and Rural Development in Republican China,” World History Association, Beijing, July 7 - 10, 2011.
- “*Minsheng*: Livelihood and Consumption in Postwar China (1945-1949),” Workshop on *Relief and Reconstruction in China, 1937-1949*, Oxford University, June 9 – 11, 2011.
- “Frugality and Nationalism in the New Life Movement,” HSTCC biannual conference “A Century of Change Since the 1911 Revolution: Crises and Responses in 20th Century China,” Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, June 26-27, 2010.
- “Jiejian, xiaofei, he xinshenghuo: Jiang Jieshi de shehuijingji sixiang (节俭, 消费 和 新生活: 蒋介石的社会经济的思想, Frugality, Consumption, and New Life: Jiang Jieshi’s Social and Economic Thought),” *Jiang Jieshi and Modern China*, International Conference, April 9 – 12, 2010, Hangzhou (PRC).
- “Envisioning Modernity: Sun Yat-sen’s Early Economic Thought,” invited paper, International Conference on Sun Yat-sen and Minakata Kumaguso, University of Kobe (Japan) December 6-9, 2006.
- “Economic Nationalism and the Construction of Political Legitimacy in Twentieth-Century China,” Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China Biannual Conference “Chinese Nation, Chinese State,” Singapore, June 26-28, 2006.
- “Sanmin zhuyi:zai ershi shijizhong de lishi huiyi” (The Three People’s Principles: History and Memory in Twentieth-Century China),” *International Conference in Commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Tongmenghui*, Nanjing, PRC, August 20-21, 2005.

“From Empire to Nation: Images of Political Legitimacy in Twentieth-Century China” paper to be presented at the 2005 AAS Annual Meeting, March 31 – April 3 2005, Chicago. Panel organizer.

“The Three People’s Principles: Memory, Politics, and Legitimacy in Republican China (1924-1945)” paper to be presented at the 19th annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Seattle, January 6 –9, 2004.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

ATLAS, Louisiana Board of Regents (September 2008-May 2009)

CIEE Fulbright (May - August 2008).

Institute of Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies, Princeton, Member (September 2007 - April 2008).

LSU Summer Research Program (July 2007).

Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei (ROC) (May 15 – August 15, 2004).

Summer Research Assignment Grant, University of Texas at Austin (Summer 1999).

An Wang Postdoctoral Fellowship, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, (1996-97).

V.K. Wellington Koo Fellowship (1994-1995 and 1993-1994).

Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei (R.O.C.) (1993).

Pacific Cultural Foundation, Taipei (R.O.C.) (1992-1993).

The China Times Cultural Foundation (1992).

HONORS AND AWARDS

Annual Book Prize Award, the Southeastern Conference of the Association for Asian Studies for the book *Economic Thought in Modern China: Market and Consumption, C.1500-1937* (Cambridge University Press, 2020).

Undergraduate Teaching Award, Tiger Athletic Foundation, 2012 and 2016.

Designated as “LSU Rainmaker” (University’s recognition for academic achievements) for the academic year 2007-2008.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Editorial Board Member, *Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China* (May 2024 to present)

Editor, *Twentieth-Century China* (May 2019 to May 2024)

Board Member, *Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China* (May 2019 to May 2024)

Associate Editor, *Twentieth-Century China* (June 2018 – May 2019)

Editorial Board Member for *Cinaforum* (2016 to 2018)

Book Review Editor, *Twentieth-Century China* (November 2010 to August 2013).

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

Professor, Modern Chinese History, Department of History, Louisiana State University. August 2020 to present

Associate Professor, Modern Chinese History, Department of History, Louisiana State University, August 2006 to present.

Assistant Professor, Modern Chinese History, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin, September 1998 May 2006.

Visiting Lecturer, Chinese History, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin (Academic Year 1997-1998).

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Sciences, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY (Spring and Fall 1996).

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Marymount Manhattan College in New York, Department of History (Spring 1994).

Courses Offered

Undergraduate: *China to 1600; China from 1600; Contemporary China; History of Capitalism; History of Globalization; East Asian Civilization since 1800; The Chinese Cultural Revolution in History and Memory; Gender and Sexuality in East Asia; Protest and Rebellion in Contemporary China.*

Graduate: *History of Capitalism; Modernity, Nation, and Identity; Memory and History; Gender and Sexuality in China; Globalization; History of Capitalism since 1500.*

SELECTED UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

Coordinator, World History Graduate Minor (2013 to August 2018)

Director of Asian Studies (2010 to 2020 curriculum and program development; assessment and evaluation; and student mentoring).

Member of the Executive Committee, International Studies (2008 to August 2018).

Director of Chinese Commerce and Commerce (2014 to 2016).

LANGUAGES

English; Chinese; Japanese (reading); French; Italian (native).