

Kevin Buckelew

Department of Religious Studies
Northwestern University
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Topics: Chinese Buddhism, with a focus on Chan (Zen) Buddhism, apocryphal scriptures, and the relationship between Buddhism and Daoism

Themes: gender; embodiment; authority; agency and responsibility; metaphor and figurative language

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Northwestern University, Department of Religious Studies

2019– Assistant Professor

2018–19 Weinberg College Fellow

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Ph.D., 2018; M.Phil., 2014; M.A., 2011

Advisors: Chün-fang Yü, Bernard Faure, Zhaohua Yang

Columbia University, Department of Religion

M.A., 2009

Sarah Lawrence College

B.A. in the Liberal Arts, 2007

NON-DEGREE EDUCATION & TRAINING

Summer Language Intensives

- 2011 Princeton in Ishikawa, Kanazawa, Japan
- 2010 International Chinese Language Program (ICLP), Taipei, Taiwan
- 2008 Columbia in Beijing, China

Academic Workshops

- 2017 “Space and Cyberspace” GIS Mapping Workshop, Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, Taiwan. Led by Professor Marcus Bingenheimer. June 5–16
- 2014 NEH Seminar on Daoism, University of Colorado, Boulder. Led by Professors Terry Kleeman, Stephen Bokenkamp, and Chang Chao-jan. July 14–August 1

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

- 2016–17 Academia Sinica, Institute of History and Philology, Taiwan
- 2015–16 Kyoto University, Institute for Research in the Humanities, Japan
- 2012 Renmin University, Institute for the Study of Buddhism and Religious Theory, China

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2018–19 College Fellowship, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University
- 2016–17 Fulbright U.S. Student Program (IIE) Fellowship, Taiwan
- 2016–17 Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined)
- 2017 Matching Travel Award, Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures
- 2017 Student Travel Grant, Columbia University Graduate Student Advisory Council
- 2015–16 Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) Dissertation Research Fellowship, Japan
- 2011 Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2011 Departmental Prize Fellowship, Columbia University Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures
- 2011 Departmental Honors for M.A. Thesis, Columbia University Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures
- 2010 Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, Taiwan Ministry of Education

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Discerning Chinese Buddhas: Authority, Masculinity, and Freedom in Chan Buddhism. Monograph in progress.

Buddhist Masculinities. Co-edited volume with Megan Bryson. New York: Columbia University Press, 2023.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

“Transcendents in Translation: Buddhist Affordances for Imagining *Xian* 仙 in China.” *Journal of Chinese Religions*, forthcoming.

“Possessing Enlightenment: Sorcery, Selfhood, and Tragic Responsibility in a Chinese Buddhist Apocryphon.” *Numen* 70, no. 4 (2023): 337–368.

“Ritual Authority and the Problem of Likeness in Chan Buddhism.” *History of Religions* 62, no. 1 (2022): 1–48.

“Becoming Chinese Buddhas: Claims to Authority and the Making of Chan Buddhist Identity.” *T'oung Pao* 105, no. 3–4 (2019): 357–400.

“Pregnant Metaphor: Embryology, Embodiment, and the Ends of Figurative Imagery in Chinese Buddhism.” *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 78, no. 2 (2018): 371–411.

Peer-reviewed Book Chapters

“How Chan Masters Became ‘Great Men’: Masculinity in Chinese Chan Buddhism.” In *Buddhist Masculinities*, edited by Megan Bryson and Kevin Buckelew (New York: Columbia University Press, 2023), 51–77.

Book Reviews

Review of *Chan Before Chan: Meditation, Repentance, and Visionary Experience in Chinese Buddhism*, by Eric M. Greene. *History of Religions* 61, no. 4 (2022): 423–25.

Review of *The Records of Mazu and the Making of Classical Chan Literature*, by Mario Poceski. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (February 2019).

Review of *Daoism in Japan*, ed. Jeffrey L. Richey. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 79, no. 1 (February 2016): 225–27.