On E-books for Chinese Studies

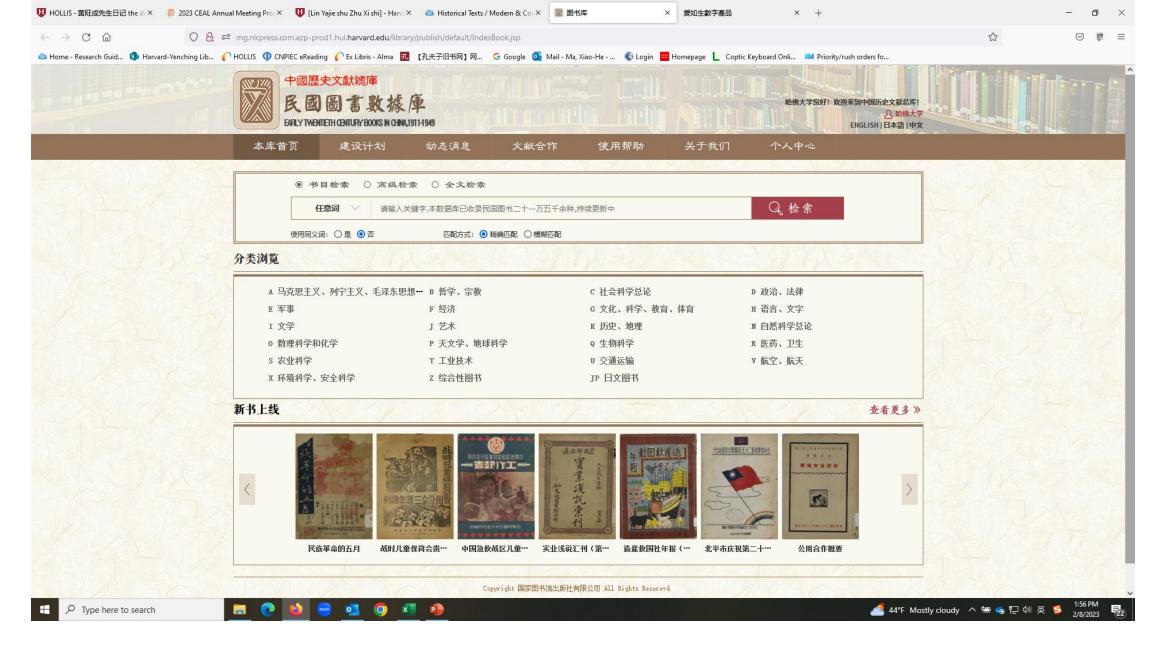
Xiaohe Ma

Librarian for Chinese Collection, Harvard-Yenching Library 2023/3/15

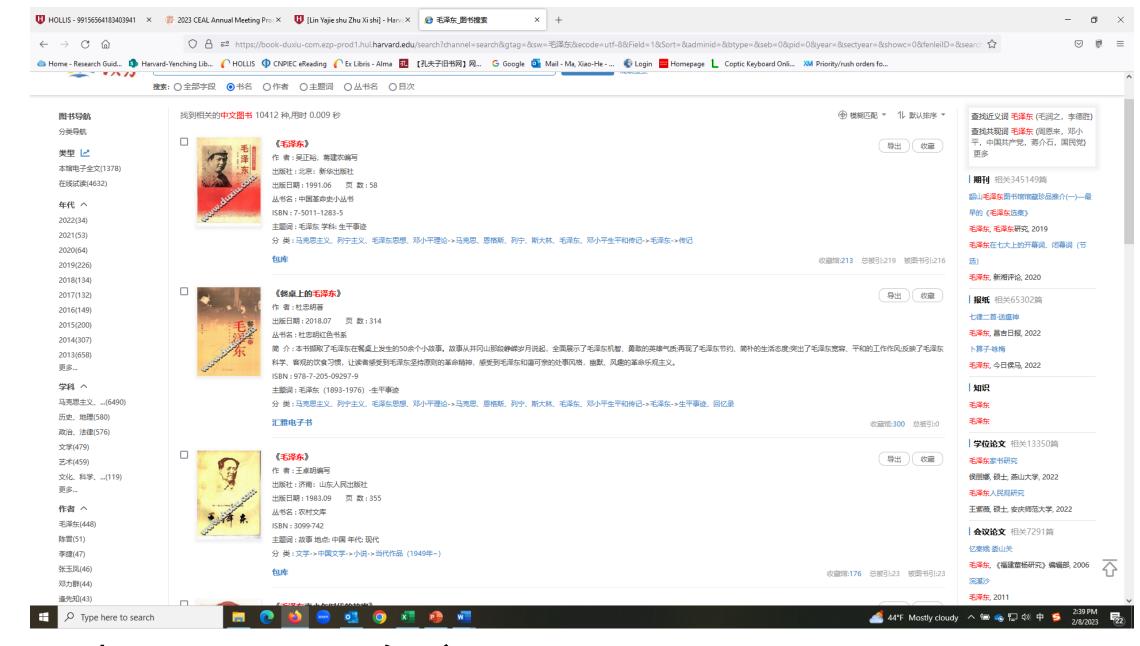
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Early Twentieth Century Books in China, 1911-1949.



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USING CHINESE EBOOKS FOR REFERENCE AND TEACHING IN ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

QIAN LIU, PH.D.

MARCH 15TH, 2023

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INDISPENSABLE MATERIALS FOR REFERENCE & IN-DEPTH RESEARCH CONSULTATIONS • EXAMPLE I:

"I am finishing a book on Cao Zhi's poetry, and one of the poems I was just working on is 鰕觛篇. In 曹集銓評 one of the lines of this poem is 讎高念皇家. But based on the Song dynasty edition of Cao's works, 趙幼文 says it should be 高念翼皇家...I'm not sure whether there is another Song edition I have not seen that has the

_character 翼."

Acknowledgments

Readers of this volume will be able to tell from the Introduction and notes throughout the book how great a debt I owe to many distinguished scholars past and present. Without them, this work would have been impossible. Here I want to express my gratitude to a number of people who have influenced this project more directly. The book is dedicated to David R. Knechtges, whose kindness and inspirational mentorship changed everything. He is the founder of this repast. Long ago, the late C. H. Wang was one of the first to suggest that I study Cao Zhi. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him as mentor and friend. I have also benefitted from the work and cordiality of Xu Gongchi of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, who was for twenty years the editor of Literary Heritage. Dr. Liu Qian of Arizona State University's Hayden Library aided me on a question involving editions and provided references. Colleagues and students alike can attest to Liu Qian's expertise and generosity. To Paul W. Kroll, editor of this volume, any expression of thanks will be inadequate, so I can only trust that Paul knows how much I appreciate his work. Xiaofei Tian has been extraordinarily kind - and patient - during the time this book was being born. We overlap in various areas, and I have profited a great deal from her research. To the many graduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Arizona State University with whom I have had the pleasure of reading and discussing Jian'an literature over the years, I am incredibly grateful. Finally, to Carolyn Marie Warner for her love and support, my fondest thanks. She proves that social scientists and humanists can communicate.

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• EXAMPLE II:

"I'm working on an article, and that was one of the comments for revision. I'm attaching my most recent draft and copying and pasting the (peer review) comments below...I was wondering if I could ask for your help again with access to *wenshi ziliao* regarding the Jiangxi period (1933-1934), especially children's experiences."

ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR TEACHING

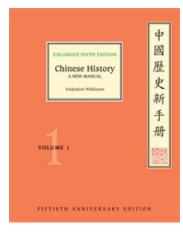
EXAMPLE I:

CHI500: RESEARCH METHODS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

A seminar introducing the intellectual foundations

of Sinology and the practice of research in

Chinese studies.



Chinese History A New Manual, Enlarged Sixth Edition (Fiftieth Anniversary Edition)

By Endymion Wilkinson

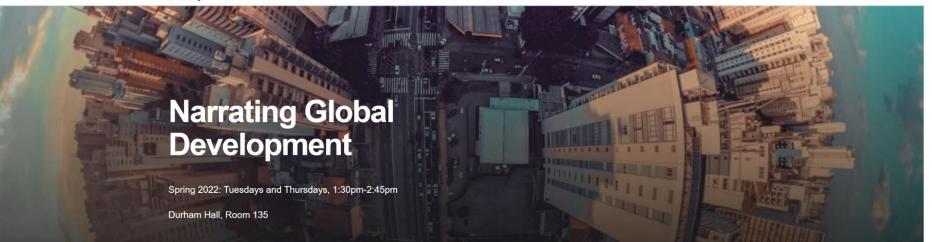


> EXAMPLE II:

ASJ Humanities Lab

Arizona State University About ✓ Lab Courses ✓ Seize the Moment Collaboration ✓ Press/Media ✓ Giving ✓ Events

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How have concepts of global development changed?

How is global development measured and visualized?

How is development work practice?

How is meaning constructed and produced with narratives and discourse?

What is global development?

This Lab investigates the concept and practice of global development as a political, economic, and social practice. Faculty and students will consider the origins of concepts like "developed" or "under-developed," First and Third World, and related global visions and global practices narrated in history, literature, theology, philosophy, film, government policies, and aid discourse. We will take a global prespective to help us explore issues of inequality, marginalization, and access to resources in Arizona, the United States and around the world. We will be driven by two essential questions: How are understandings of global development constructed and how is power derived from these narratives?



뫼힢뎅뎡퀑끹퀑뎡슻퀑빙?

SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

> CONTENT

MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND INTERDISCIPLINARY COVERAGES

HIGHLY-DEMANDED AND FREQUENTLY-REQUESTED BOOKS

RARE EDITIONS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS INFORMATION IS CURRENT AND RESOURCES AR 뫼댕댕댕댕댕댕댕먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹먹

>TECHNICAL ASPECTS USABILITY FEATURES

 MORE SEARCHABLE AND FILTERABLE FOR TEXTS, IMAGES, AND DATA MINING PROJECTS
 KEEP THE INTEGRITY OF THE ORIGINAL WORKS

□ HIGHER RESOLUTION AND ZOOM LEVELS

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> TECHNICAL ASPECTS □ MORE COMPATIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE ■ MORE USER-FRIENDLY FOR DOWNLOADING AND PRINTING □ AVOID UNCLEAR, MISSING, CORRUPTED CHARACTERS AND INCREASE ACCURACY

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□MORE FLEXIBLE PURCHASE PLANS







eBooks for Chinese Studies -Types, Use and Issues

SUSAN XUE (SXUE@BERKELEY.EDU)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

FORUM OF LIBRARIANS AND VENDORS ON E-BOOKS FOR CHINESE STUDIES

BOSTON, MARCH 15, 2023

Chinese eBooks – UC/Berkeley

eBook Database/Platform – Contemporary and Modern

- Chinamaxx Digital Library of e-Books 中文电子书集献
- China Economy, Public Policy, and Security Database 皮书数据库
- Chinese New Local Gazetteers 中国新方志库
- Chinese Literary & Historical Materials 文史资料
- China Statistical Yearbooks Database 中国经济社会发展统计数据库
- Shanghai Library Books of Modern China 中国近代图书库
- CADAL 大学数字图书馆国际合作计划

Chinese eBooks – UC/Berkeley

eBook Database/Platform – Classics

- Chinese Classic Ancient Books 中国基本古籍库
- Chinese Local Gazetteers 中国旧方志库
- Scripta Sinica 漢籍電子文獻資料庫
- Diaolong Full Text Database of Chinese and Japanese Ancient Books 雕龙-中日古籍全文检索数据库
- Zhonghua Ancient Books Database 中華經典古籍庫
- Si ku quan shu 四库全书
- Zhonghua Zai Zao Shan Ben Shu Ju Ku 中華再造善本數據庫
- Complete Classics Collection of Ancient China 古今图书集成
- Encyclopedia of Taiwan and Encyclopedia of Taiwan Continuation 台湾文献丛刊

Chinese eBooks – UC/Berkeley

DDA / Librarian Selections

- Apabi 电子书, joint purchase (2006 present, 15,312 titles purchased)
- Airiti eBooks DDA, joint project 华艺电子书 (2013 present, 1,500 titles purchased)
- CNPIEC eReading eBooks DDA, joint project 中图公司电子书 (2017-2020, 989 titles purchased, agreement to be renewed)

Local Discovery

- Collection level records in library online catalogs for eBook database/platform
- Library A-Z database lists and LibGuides
- Catalog DDA titles and make them available in library online catalogs. As of the end of February:
 - Airiti: 8756 title (9299 vols), including purchased: 1289 titles (1443 vols)
 - Apabi: reference: 1027 vols, yearbook: 286, eBooks, 8730
 - CNPIEC: 5852 titles (5965 vols), including purchased: 784 titles (836 vols)

Advantages of Chinese eBooks

- Full-text or keywords search large collections to support research
- Availability of rare/difficult to locate books
- Convenience and accessibility
- Portability

Considerations for acquiring ebooks

- Fill the gaps in collections (classics, Minguo publications, archival packages)
- Supplement to print collections (新方志, 皮书)
- Collections/eBooks titles that support graduate and up level study/research
- Faculty/students requests
- DDA to supplement librarians' selections

UCB - 2020 Survey of New Students

When you think about Library e-books how important are the following?

	Not that important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Not applicable
Having a robust collection of e-books	51	144	401	569	45
	4%	12 %	34%	49 %	-
Downloading an entire book	28	114	434	593	40
	2%	10 %	37 %	51 %	-
Downloading selected chapters	39	118	439	570	42
	3%	10%	38%	49 %	-
Reading on my phone or tablet	54	134	423	559	39
	5%	12 %	36%	48 %	-
Highlighting and/or annotating text	51	125	396	599	38
	4%	11%	34%	51%	-
Printing	77	134	377	578	38
	7%	12 %	32%	50 %	-

Issues with Chinese eBooks

- Download limits, some copy/paste only, some can only print page by page
- Fewer new publications, eBooks are late than their print counterparts or are not available
- Variety of formats which affect accessibility and discovery (EPUB, PDF, HTML. Apabi CEB, Superstar PDG). Some needs special reader to read and download
- Overlap between databases or platforms, libraries need to deal with duplications from multiple vendors
- Withdrawal of eBooks without notification
- Pricing too high by some vendors
- Metadata are not standardized which affect local cataloging and discovery
 - Suggestion: Content providers need to provide at least KBART (Knowledge Bases and Related Tools) level metadata to knowledge base provider, such as ProQuest, OCLC to enable immediate access and discovery through library catalog

Questions to Consider for the Future

- Shall we continue with acquiring Chinese eBooks? Yes
- Shall we consider e-Preferred practice for Chinese eBooks? No at this point
- DDA or aggregated database? Depending on content and needs
- Communication with content providers about metadata standards? Continued efforts needed
- Balance between print and eBooks? Big question but no clear answer

Thanks!!