Paul B. Foster, Ph.D

Associate Professor of Chinese
School of Modern Languages
Georgia Tech

Education

Ph.D.**,** 1996. East Asian Languages and Literatures, Ohio State University, Columbus

M.A., 1989. East Asian Languages and Literatures, Ohio State University, Columbus

B.S., 1982. Mechanical Engineering, *cum laude*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Employment

Spring 2006 – Present. *Associate Professor of Chinese*, School of Modern Languages, Georgia Institute of Technology. Atlanta, GA

Fall 1999 – Spring 2006. *Assistant Professor of Chinese*, School of Modern Languages, Georgia Institute of Technology. Atlanta, GA

Research Interests:

- Chinese Science Fiction
- Jin Yong's Wuxia 武侠 Martial Arts Fiction
- Kungfu Fiction, Film and Popular Culture
- Strategy and the Art of War
- Lu Xun & National Identity
- 20th Century Chinese Intellectual History

Publications

Jin Yong's Martial Arts Fiction and the Kungfu Industrial Complex. Lanham, Md.: Lexington Books, 2023. 256 pp.

"Chinese Sci-fi, Viruses, Politics: Three Dystopian Bodies," May 27, 2021, *China Currents* Vol. 20, No. 21 (Spring 2021).

"Jin Yong and the Kungfu Industrial Complex." *Chinese Literature Today* 今日中国文学. Vol. 8, No. 2. (2019): 68-76.

"Hong Kong Literature: an Overview." Ed. Ming Dong Gu. *Routledge Handbook of Modern Chinese Literature*. Ch. 46. London & NY: Routledge Press, 2019. 656-668.

"Xi Jinping's Soft Power Martial Arts Cultural Trope," June 10, 2016, *China Currents* Vol. 15, No. 2 (Spring 2016).

"The Geopolitics of Kung Fu Film," (Silver City, NM & Washington, DC: *Foreign Policy In Focus*, February 8, 2007). Also highlighted in *Foreign Policy In Focus*, "World Beat" (February 12, 2007), Vol. 2, No. 7.

"The Geopolitics of Kung Fu Film," Reprint in *China Currents* Vol. 6, No. 2 (Spring 2007). Originally published in *Foreign Policy In Focus* (February 8, 2007). Silver City, NM & Washington, DC.

"The Geopolitics of Kung Fu Movies," Reprint of "The Geopolitics of Kung Fu Film," in *Asia Times Online* (February 14, 2007). Originally published in *Foreign Policy In Focus* (February 8, 2007). Silver City, NM & Washington, DC.

Ah Q Archaeology: Lu Xun, Ah Q, Ah Q's Progeny and the National Character Discourse in Twentieth-Century China. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2006. 403 pp.

"Social Drama and Construction of the Ah Q Discourse: An Interdisciplinary Reading Strategy to 'The True Story of Ah Q' and Its Intertextual Derivations." China Information 20.1 (Jan. 2006): 69-102.

"Ah Q Progeny – Post 1949 Creative Intersections with the Ah Q Discourse." Modern Chinese Literature and Culture Vol. 16, No. 2 (Fall 2004): 184-234.

"Ah Q Genealogy: Ah Q, *Miss Ah Q,* National Character and the Construction of the Ah Q Discourse." Asian Studies Review Vol. 28, No. 3 (Sept. 2004): 243-266.

"Jin Yong's Linghu Chong Faces off against Lu Xun's Ah Q: Complements to the Construction of National Character." Twentieth-Century China Vol. 30, No. 1 (Nov. 2004): 82-117.

"A Language and Cultural Practicum Course in Nanjing: Maximizing the Student's Use of Chinese." *Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*. (Fall 2001): 121-128.

"The Ironic Inflation of Chinese National Character: Lu Xun's International Reputation and Romain Rolland's Critique of 'The True Story of Ah Q' and the Nobel Prize." Modern Chinese Literature and Culture, Vol. 13, No. 1 (Spring 2001): 140-168.

Translations

"*Breaking Out of Ghost Pagoda: A Social Tragedy in Three Acts."* By Bai Wei. In *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Drama*. Abridged edition. Ed. Xiaomei Chen. New York: Columbia UP, 2014. 95-156.

"*Breaking Out of Ghost Pagoda: A Social Tragedy in Three Acts."* By Bai Wei. In *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Drama*. Ed. Xiaomei Chen. New York: Columbia UP, 2010. 165-226.

"The Bygone Age of Ah Q." By Qian Xingcun. Trs. with Sherry Mou. In *Modern Chinese Literary Thought: Writings on Literature 1893-1945*. Ed. Kirk A. Denton. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1996. 276-88. Trans. of "Siqule de A Q shidai," 1928.

"My Opinions on Creativity." By Lu Yin. Trs. with Sherry Mou. In *Modern Chinese Literary Thought: Writings on Literature 1893-1945*. Ed. Kirk A. Denton. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1996. 235-7. Trans. of "Chuangzaode wo jian," 1921.

Reviews

Review of White, Luke. *Fighting without Fighting: Kung Fu Cinema's Journey to the West*. London, Reaktion Books, 2022. 294 pp. ISBN: 9781789145335. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 83.2 (May 2024): 526-528.

Review of White, Luke. *Legacies of the Drunken Master: Politics of the Body in Hong Kong Kung Fu Comedy Films*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2020. *China Review International* 26.1 & 2 (Spring 2021): 121-128.

Review of John Christopher Hamm. *The Unworthy Scholar from Pingjiang: Republican Era Martial Arts Fiction.* New York, Columbia University Press, 2019. East Asian Publishing and Society, Volume 10 (2020): Issue 2 (Oct 2020). 205-218.

Film Review of *Crazy Rich Asians* [2018]. *China Currents*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (Fall 2018). China Research Center.

Review of Carolyn T. Brown. *Reading Lu Xun through Carl Jung*. Amherst, NY: Cambria Press, 2018. Reviewed by Paul B. Foster. MCLC Resource Center Publication (Copyright July 2018).

Review of Eileen J. Cheng & Kirk A. Denton, eds. *Jottings under Lamplight: Lu Xun.* Cambridge, MA & London, England: Harvard University Press, 2017. *China Review International* 23.2 (Spring 2018): 151—58.

Review of Haiyan Lee, *The Stranger and the Chinese Moral Imagination* by Haiyan Lee. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2014. 362 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8047-8591-4. *Chinese Literature, Essays and Reviews* (CLEAR), vol. 37 (December 2015): 221-224.

Review of Nicholas A. Kaldis, *The Chinese Prose Poem: A Study of Lu Xun's Wild Grass (Yecao)*. Amherst, NY: Cambria Press, 2015. ISBN 978-1-60497-863-6. 367pp. *Frontiers of Literary Studies in China*, Volume 10, Issue 3, 2016.

Review of Petrus Liu, *Stateless Subjects: Chinese Martial Arts Literature and Postcolonial History*. Ithaca: Cornell East Asia Series, 2011. pp. 264. ISBN: 978-1-933947-62-4. MCLC Resource Center Publication (Copyright August 2013).

Review of *Woman from Shanghai: Tales of Survival from a Chinese Labor Camp*, by Yang, Xianhui. New York: Pantheon Books, 2009. pp. 320. ISBN: 978-0-307-37768-5. MCLC Resource Center Publication (Copyright January 2010).

Review of John Christopher Hamm, *Paper Swordsmen: Jin Yong and the Modern Chinese Martial Arts Novel*. University of Hawai'i Press, 2005. 348pp. ISBN 0-8248-2763-5 (cloth). MCLC Resource Center Publication (Copyright January 2006).

Review of Bonnie S. McDougall, *Fictional Authors, Imaginary Audiences: Modern Chinese Literature in the Twentieth Century*. *China Review International* Vol. 10, No. 2 (Fall 2003): 429-434.

Review of Wilt Idema and Lloyd Haft, *A Guide to Chinese Literature*. *Education About Asia*, Vol. 4, No. 1 (Spring 1999): 52.

Review of Yingjin Zhang, *The City in Modern Chinese Literature and Film: Configurations of Space, Time, and Gender*. *China Review International*. (Fall 1997): 588-92.

Presentations

1/23-25/26 **Program Chair and Local Co-Coordinator**. 65th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies 2026 Annual Conference, January 23-25, 2026, at Georgia Tech.

1/24/25 "Humanism Versus Scientism: The Allegorical Value of Morality vis-à-vis Cosmic Sociology in Liu Cixin's *Three-Body Problem* Trilogy." Session 3, Panel 4: Sci-fi, Media, and Ideology. 64th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, University of Kentucky.

1/27/24 "History, Memory, and Forgetting in Liu Cixin's *Three-Body Problem*." 63rd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Wake Forrest University.

1/21/23 "Chinese Sci-Fi Allegory in *Three Body Problem*: Belief Implanting, Ideology, Posthumanism." Panel 16. 62nd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2023, University of Richmond.

10/8/22 "Three Body Problems: Utopia, Dystopia, and Posthumanism in Liu Cixing's Sci-Fi." Virtual Panel 7.1: Future Asias, Future Ethnographies. Southwest Conference on Asian Studies 51st Annual Meeting. University of Central Arkansas.

1/16/21 "Chinese Sci-Fi, Viruses, Politics: Three Dystopian Bodies." 60th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2021, University of North Carolina. Virtual presentation.

1/18/20 "The 'Complex' of the Kungfu Industry: Jin Yong's Martial Arts Fiction & Derivatives." Panel 3. 59th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2020, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL.

1/18/20 Chair & Discussant. “Literature, Culture, and Intellectual Debate in Early Reform Era China.” Panel 17. 59th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2020, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL.

9/20/18 Invited Keynote Lecture. “Teaching and Learning Foreign Languages (Chinese) Through Songs: Material Development and Pedagogical Applications.” Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Emory College Language Center. Emory University.

4/2/18 Interdisciplinary Panel: “Pop Culture Perspective of Li Xiaoguai’s Political Comics.” IAC/ML Global Media Festival: “Subversive Writing and Political Comics in China.” Georgia Institute of Technology.

1/14/18 “Cultural Capital and Kungfu Cultural Literacy: Star Power through Adaptations of Jin Yong’s Martial Arts Fiction.” 57th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2017, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

5/15/17 Roundtable Presentation. “American and Chinese Cultural Differences in Sports, Kungfu, etc.” Hunan University, Master’s Program in Finance and Economics, Changsha, Hunan.

3/7/17 “The Kungfu Industrial Complex: Jin Yong’s Martial Arts Fiction and Chinese Pop Culture.” ICLAST East Asian Studies Panel – Perspectives on China’s Role. Georgia Tech.

1/14/17 “Psycho-Linguistic Kungfu in Jin Yong’s Martial Arts Fiction and Adaptations.” Panel 14. Popular Culture & Film in Contemporary China. 56th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2016, University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi.

1/16/16 “Star Power in the Kungfu Industrial Complex: Jin Yong’s Martial Arts Fiction, Film & the Construction of Kungfu Cultural Literacy.” Panel 26. Chinese Film and Popular Literature. 55th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, 2016, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

3/28/15 “Jianghu as Individual and Collective Space in Martial Arts Culture.” Panel 189. Public and Private Spaces in Contemporary Chinese Literature. Association for Asian Studies 2015 Annual Conference, Chicago.

5/15/12 Invited Roundtable Presentation. “On the Differences between American and Chinese Culture.” China Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing.

1/17/09 Panel Discussant. Transformations of Gender: Chinese Revolutionary Narratives in a Global Context. Southeast Conference for the Association of Asian Studies. Emory University.

3/02/06 Keynote Presentation. “Kungfu Fiction, Film and Popular Culture.” Year of China Lecture Series, Kennesaw State University.

1/16/05 "Dis-respecting Faces: Multifaceted Metaphorical Violence of Sons against Fathers Described by the Generational Warfare Tactic." Southeast Conference for the Association of Asian Studies. Lexington, Kentucky.

1/18/04 "Ah Q Progeny – Post 1949 Creative Intersections with the Ah Q Discourse." Southeast Conference for the Association of Asian Studies.

1/18/03 **"**Genealogy of the Ah Q Discourse: Lu Xun and National Character in Twentieth Century China**."** Southeast Conference for the Association of Asian Studies.

10/4/02 Panelist, Faculty Exchanges in China. 14th Annual International Conference, Sino-American Education Consortium. Kennesaw State University.

4/19/02 Invited presentation. "Jin Yong's Linghu Chong Faces off against Lu Xun's Ah Q: Complements to the Construction of National Character in Popular and Elite Literature." Chinese Pop Culture Conference. University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign.

3/28/02 Ivan Allen College Lecture. "Jin Yong's Linghu Chong Faces off against Lu Xun's Ah Q: Complements to the Construction of National Character in Popular and Elite Literature."

1/19/02 "National Character Complements: The Intersection of Lu Xun's National Character Critique and Jin Yong's Epic Martial Arts Fiction." Southeast Conference, Association for Asian Studies, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.

1/19/01 Summer Study in Nanjing, China. Asian Council Meeting, University System of Georgia.

9/21/00 Summer Study in Nanjing, China. UGA Study Abroad Conference. Panel: "System Opportunities (and Challenges) in Africa and Asia."

3/17/00 "An Overview of Modern Chinese Literature." The Asian Studies Curriculum Enhancement Program. University System of Georgia. Georgia College and State University Seminar/Workshop, "Perspectives on East Asia."

2/18/00 "Language and Cultural Practicum Course in the Field—Maximizing Students' Use of the Target Language in Nanjing, China." Georgia Association of International Educators, Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia.

1/17/98 "The Ironic Inflation of Chinese National Character: Lu Xun's International Reputation and Romain Rolland's Critique of 'The True Story of Ah Q.'" Southeast Conference, Association for Asian Studies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

1/19/97 "Ironic Nationalism: Liang Qichao's *New Citizen* Prefigures Lu Xun's Negative Discourse on National Character." Southeast Conference, Association for Asian Studies, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Georgia.

11/2/90 "The Contingencies of Canonization: Value and Valuation in Modern Chinese Literature and Criticism." Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Indiana University, Bloomington.

10/29/89 "'The True Story of Ah Q' as a Social Drama." Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Michigan State University, East Lansing.

Grants

Spring 2016. IAC Small Grant for Research SGR-C. Course Release ($3300) for "Manuscript. The Kungfu Industrial Complex: Jin Yong's Martial Arts Fiction, Film and Chinese Popular Culture."

2012-14 Faculty Associate. Pilot ROTC Flagship Grant. The Institute of International Education, Washington, DC.

2009-12 Co-Principle Investigator (Chinese). Chinese Materials Developer for $450,000 Department of Education International Research and Studies (IRS) Instructional Materials Grant. "Advanced/Intermediate Language and Culture through Song: New Materials for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Russian."

2005-06 Investigator. Department of Education Title VI Grant. Russian and East Asian program development.

Teaching

CHIN 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002, 3003, 3004, 3693, 4021, 4022, 4023, 4032, future 4024, 4813

Online Textbook/Courseware Development for New Courses CHIN 4021, 4022, 4023, 4032, future 4024

[For future Chinese 4025] Online Textbook/Courseware. Paul. B. Foster,《Chinese Sci-Fi 中国科幻小说》. Chinese Materials Workshop, School of Modern Languages, Development Spring - Summer 2020. Taught as CHIN 4813 in Fall 2020.

[For future Chinese 4024] Online Textbook/Courseware. Paul. B. Foster, Lu Xun & Modern Chinese Literature"《鲁迅与中国现代文学》. Chinese Materials Workshop, Developed and taught extensive courseware/online textbook. Taught as CHIN 4813 in Fall 2018.

[For Chinese 4032] Online Textbook/Courseware. Paul. B. Foster, "Kungfu & Wuxia Film"《功夫片与武侠电影》. Chinese Materials Workshop, Developed and taught extensive courseware/online textbook. Spring 2018.

[For CHIN 4023] Online Textbook/Courseware. Paul. B. Foster, 高级汉语:《孙子兵法》与《三十六计》*Gāojí Hànyǔ: Sūnzi bīngfǎ yǔ "sānshíliù jì* [*Advanced Chinese: The Art of War & The Thirty-Six Strategems*], Georgia Tech School of Modern Languages, Summer 2015.

[For CHIN 4022] Online Textbook/Courseware (Hard Copy Textbook Manuscript)**.** *Jin Yong's Martial Arts Fiction: A Textbook for Advanced Chinese Language and Pop Culture Study* 《金庸武侠小说：高级汉语与流行文化》

[For CHIN 4021] Online Textbook/Courseware. Paul. B. Foster, 《高级汉语、流行音乐与文化》 *Gāojí Hànyǔ, liúxíng yīnyuè yǔ wénhuà* [Advanced Chinese, Popular Music and Culture], Interface: Szu-Chia Lu, Georgia Tech School of Modern Languages, 2013. Developed with Critical Languages Song Project Grant. Fall 2013.

Service

Study Abroad/LBAT:

China LBAT, Shanghai 2020. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2019. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2017. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2015. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2013. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2012. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2010. Coordinator Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2008. Co-Director
China LBAT, Shanghai 2007. Developer; Co-Director
University System of Georgia Summer Study in China, Yangzhou 2002. Developer; Co-Director
University System of Georgia Summer Study in China, Nanjing 2001. Co-Director
University System of Georgia Summer Study in China, Nanjing 2000. Co-Director
University System of Georgia Summer Study in China, Nanjing 1999. Developer; Director

Faculty Advisor to Student Groups:

- GT Chinese Student Association, 2003 – 2026
- GT Hong Kong Student Association, 2006 – Present
- GT Unicycling Club, 2014 – 2021, 2023 – 2025
- GT Dragonflyers Club, Fall 2023 – present
- GT Tzu Ching Club, 2020 – 2025
- GT Capoeira Cordao de Ouro Club
- GT China Care Club

Academic Advising

Fall 2023 –2025	**Chinese Program Director.** School of Modern Languages
2016-17	**Chinese Advisor.** School of Modern Languages.
2014-15	**Chinese Advisor.** School of Modern Languages.
2011-12	**Chinese Advisor.** With Dr. Xiaoliang Li. School of Modern Languages.
2010-11	**Chinese Advisor.** School of Modern Languages.
2008-09	**Chinese Advisor.** School of Modern Languages.
2001-04	**Chinese Advisor.** School of Modern Languages.

Committees

Fall 20-Spr 21	Chair, Modern Languages Korean Assistant Professor Search Committee
Fall 2019	Modern Languages Chinese GLACT Post-Doc Search Committee
Spring 2019	Substitute Member, School of Modern Languages RP & T Committee
Fall 17-Spr 18	Chair, Modern Languages Korean Lecturer Search Committee
Fall 15-Spr 18	GT Faculty Executive Board. IAC Representative
Fall 15-Spr 18	GT Academic Integrity Committee, Faculty Executive Board Liaison
Spring 2015	GT Awareness of Implicit Bias Faculty Advisory Committee
Fall 12-Spr 15	GT Faculty Senate Modern Languages Representative
Fall 12-Spr 14	IAC Ad Hoc Committee on School Handbooks
Spring 2013	Modern Languages Course Release Policy Development Committee
Fall 08-Spr 15	Georgia Tech Student Honor Committee
2007-08	Co-Chair. Chinese Search Committee
Spring 2006	French Search Committee
2005-06	Chair. Chinese LBAT Development Committee
2005-06	Chair. Chinese Major Development Committee
Spring 2005	Chinese Search Committee.
Spring 2003	Permit and Overload Committee.
2001-02	School of Modern Languages Executive Advisory Committee
Fall 2001	Spanish Search Committee.

Honors and Awards

2003/04	**Nominated**, School of Modern Languages, 2004 CETL/BP Amoco Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
2002/03	**Recipient,** IAC E. Roe Stamps Excellence in Teaching Award for Junior Faculty.
2001/02	**Nominated,** School of Modern Languages for IAC Roe Stamps Excellence in Teaching Award for Junior Faculty.

Professional Associations

Spring 2026 – Present	**Editor in Chief,** *China Currents*. Publication of the China Research Center.
Spring 2026 – Present	**Board Member.** The China Research Center. Concurrent with position of Editor, *China Currents*.
Fall 2008 – Spring 2022	*Member of the Advisory Board* **–** GCLE: Georgia Chinese Language Educators **佐治**亚洲中文教师协会, a working group of Chinese teachers and administrators from Georgia schools (K-16) that teach Chinese, or are considering implementing a program. Formally established non-profit, Fall 2008.
Fall 2007-Present	*Associate* – China Research Center **中国**经济政治研究中心, an alliance of

local scholars which provides cultural, economic, political and business research and information in Georgia and the Southeast.