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Urbana IL

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# Haiyi Li

GRADUATE STUDENT IN HISTORY

## Self-Introduction

I am a Fifth -year PhD student in the department of History. I primarily work in gender and legal history of modern China (1911-present).

## Education

2023-2027 **University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign**  
**PhD History**

Advisor: Kai-wing Chow

2021-2023 **University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign**  
**PhD East Asian Languages and Cultures**

2017-2021 **Centre College**  
**BA History and Philosophy**

Graduated Cum Laude

## Honors and awards

2024,2025 **List of Teachers rated as excellent by their students**  
Department of History. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, IL

2019,2020,2021 **The Dean's List**  
Academic honor awarded to students who have attained a 3.600 grade point average or higher in the terms.

2020 **Special Project Award of the Kentucky Historical Society**

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With Dr. Jonathon Earle, awarded for original research, podcast and social media production on the murder of William Goebel, the only successful gubernatorial assassination in American history.

2021

**Harold Gale, Jr. Memorial Prize**

Prize awarded to a senior of high moral character who has done outstanding work in philosophy courses.

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**Research experience**

2021-2023

**University of Illinois, Champaign, IL**

Advisor: Kai-wing Chow

- Gender and Sexuality (with Professor Tamara Chaplin)
- Law and Society (With Professor Dana Rabin)

2017-2021

**Centre College, Danville, KY**

Advisor: John Harney

- Early modern Chinese history (1910-1982)
- Nation and nationalism

**Teaching experience**

2024-2025

**Teaching assistant**

Department of History. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

- Leading discussion for EALC 120: East Asian Languages and Cultures

2023

**University of Illinois, Champaign, IL**

**Instructor** Department of Linguistics

- Taught courses for the Korean Summer Workshop

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2019, 2020

**Si Tan Fu International School, Shen Yang, China  
Instructor**

- Teaching self-designed course *Creating the Orient* and *Constructing the Chinese Nation* for high school graduates. Syllabus could be found here: <https://haiyiliblog.wordpress.com/about/>

**Fellowship and  
Grants**

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2025	<b>Chinese History Fellowship</b> Department of History. University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
2025	<b>Chester G. Starr Dissertation Research Travel Award</b> Department of History. University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
2025	<b>Conference Travel Grant</b> Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies. University of Illinois.
2024	<b>Pre-dissertation Travel Grant</b> Department of History. University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
2024	<b>Research Travel Grant</b> East Asia Library. Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
2023	<b>Conference Travel Grant</b> Department of History. University of Illinois
2023	<b>Global Intersections Grant</b> Center for Global Studies. University of Illinois
2023	<b>Conference Travel Grant</b>  Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies. University of Illinois.
2023	<b>Research Travel Grant</b>  East Asia Library. Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
2022	<b>Conference Travel Award</b>

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Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.

2021, 2022, 2023 **Illinois Distinguished Fellowship**

Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.

2021 **Harold Gale, Jr. Memorial Prize**

Board of Trustees. Centre College, Danville, KY.

2017-2021 **Colonel Scholarship**

Board of Trustees, Centre College, KY.

**Presentations and invited lectures**

2025 **Paper Presentation**  
 "An Alternative History of Gender in Modern China." The Sixth Biennial Conference of the International Society for Chinese Law and History, Peking University, Beijing, China.

2025 **Paper Presentation**  
 "Queering Chinese History." The Second Graduate Symposium on Asian Studies at Urbana Champaign

2024 **Paper Presentation**  
 "Gender, State, and Power: A Study of Widows in Eighteenth-Century Rural China." Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington.

2023 **Paper Presentation**  
 "Strategizing gender in everyday lives: widowhood, family, and law in Qing dynasty China." Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Champaign, Illinois.

2022 **Paper Presentation**  
 "Rethinking civil justice in late imperial China: Qing magistrates in the age of litigation mastery." Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Lawrence, Kansas.

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2022 **Co-Organizer**  
 “New Cultural History and the Study of Commercial Publishing in Late Imperial China” (online)

**Professional affiliations**

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2023-Present **International Society for Chinese Law and History**

2023-Present **Association of Asian Studies**

2022-Present **Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theories. University of Illinois.**

**Professional service**

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2025 **Conference President and Organizer**  
 The second Graduate Symposium on Asian Studies at Urbana Champaign  
<https://asiastudiesgroup.web.illinois.edu/conferences-and-workshops-main-page/upcoming-2025-information-history-workshop/>

2025 **Moderator**  
 23rd Women's and Gender History Symposium, Champaign, IL  
<https://wghistory.web.illinois.edu/2025-program/>

2024 **Moderator**  
 22nd Women's and Gender History Symposium, Champaign, IL  
<https://wghistory.web.illinois.edu/2024-program/>

2024 **Conference President and Organizer**  
 The First Graduate Symposium on Asian Studies at Urbana Champaign  
<https://asiastudiesgroup.web.illinois.edu/conferences-and-workshops-main-page/2024-first-graduate-symposium/program/>

2023 **Chair and Commentator**  
 Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Champaign, Illinois.

2022 **Chair and Commentator**  
 Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Lawrence, Kansas.

2022 **President and Founder**  
 Asian Studies Group, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL

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**Languages**

Chinese	Native Fluency
Japanese	Basic Reading and Speaking

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**References**

Kai-wing Chow	Professor. Department of History. University of Illinois Kchow1@illinois.edu
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