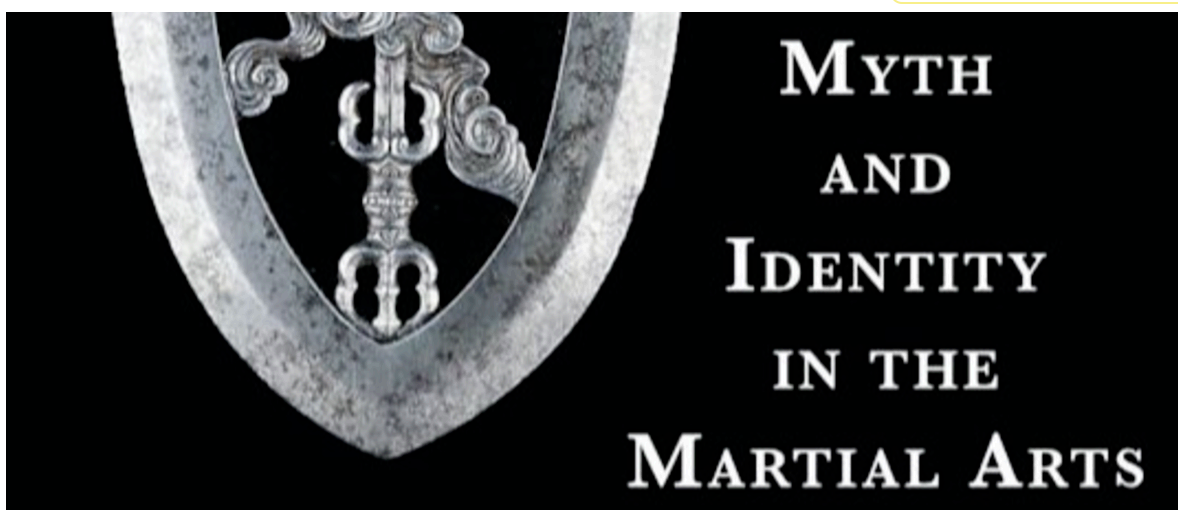




# USC Dornsife

## *East Asian Studies Center*

October 20, 2025



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### EASC Guest Speaker Series

#### Martial Arts as a Key to Understanding Our Contemporary World

**Monday, November 10 | 5:30PM-7:00PM | Zoom | [RSVP](#)**

Prof. **Jessica Zu** invites the wider community to a talk with Prof. **Alexus McLeod** (Indiana University). Prof. McLeod focuses on one key myth discussed in his book *Myth and Identity in the Martial Arts*—the idea of martial arts as combat in contemporary myths surrounding MMA, particularly in the United States. He argues that much of our contemporary culture is based on identity formation that arises from martial arts myth, which grounds the idea of the consummate male associated with the image of transgressive violence. He traces the history of this myth from late 19th century Chinese and Japanese conceptions to the beginnings to the origins of MMA as sports entertainment, and considers the implications of these often harmful myths on contemporary ways of thinking.

#### EASC Guest Speaker Series

#### New Perspectives on Early Modern Chinese Drama

**Monday, November 17 | 2:00PM-3:20PM | DML 240 | [RSVP](#)**

Prof. **Mengxiao Wang** invites the wider community to a talk with Prof. **Yinghui Wu** (UCLA) on her forthcoming book, *Playing with Plays: Drama and Early Modern Chinese Media Ecologies*. Yinghui Wu's new book takes us beyond the page-stage dichotomy in drama studies to explore a wide range of cultural experimentation that it collectively terms "playing with plays:" the theatricality embedded in commentary, the poetic and visual imagination arising from drama

illustrations, the interactions between reading and singing arias, the imbrication of reading plays and practicing religion, and the ludic act of writing playful essays on drama. In this talk, she will offer a new model for thinking about drama history through a critical reflection on medium/media as historically specific and broader than modern mass media technology.



This event is co-sponsored by the USC **East Asian Library**.

## Event Reminders



### Fall 2025 EASC Undergrad Connect

**Fri, Oct 24 | 2:00PM - 3:30PM | CAS 100**

Come meet other East Asian Area Studies students & Global East Asia alumni and learn about EASC's academic programs and opportunities while enjoying some light food and drinks.

*Please note that this event is open to USC undergraduates only.*

RSVP



### The Next Wave of Chinese Science Fiction: Toward a Neo-Baroque Literary Universe

**Thurs, Nov 6 | 2:00PM - 3:30PM | THH 309K**

**Brian Bernards** and **Sunyoung Park** invite Prof. **Mingwei Song** to give a lecture on "She-SF," a new generation of Chinese writers, mostly women, who have developed their distinct literary voices amid the collapse of the new liberal world order. This talk will be moderated by PhD candidate, **Seoyeon Lee**.

RSVP

## Updated Deadline!

### Global East Asia Maymester 2026

**NEW Deadline: Monday, November 10**

You can still apply for the **Global East Asia 2026** Maymester! Global East Asia (EASC 360) is a four-week USC Maymester Study Abroad Program, with one week in LA and three in Tokyo, Japan. This intensive program is a research course for USC undergraduate students made possible by **EASC** and **USC Dornsife**, with additional



support from the [Bruce & Francis Kaji Family Fund](#) and the [Wu & Ponrartana Fund](#). Students from all majors, schools and language backgrounds are encouraged to apply for our Global East Asia Tokyo program!

**Please see here to start your application & view the updated cost sheet ►**

***Accepted students will have the opportunity to apply for supplemental funding to cover program costs!***

Please contact [easc@usc.edu](mailto:easc@usc.edu) for more details!

## Opportunities



### Call for Papers: 2026 Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference

**Deadline: November 7, 11:59PM (ET)**

The [Harvard East Asia Society](#) (HEAS) invites graduate students to submit proposals for its 2026 conference, themed “Delineations.” This year’s theme asks scholars to explore how boundaries—conceptual, spatial, historical, or temporal—shape our understanding of East Asia and its global connections. How do we draw the line, and what do those lines reveal or obscure?

The 2026 conference will take place in person at Harvard University on February 13–14, 2026. Applicants must be enrolled in a graduate program, and papers should relate to East Asia. Notifications will be sent in mid-December, and final papers are due mid-January 2026. *Please note that travel funding is not available.*

**Learn more here ►**

## Events Around USC & LA

*Blue Dragon, White Tiger: Recovering Vietnamese Diasporic Literature and Reclaiming History*

Tues, Oct 21 | 7:00PM | Visions and Voices | [RSVP](#)

*Poetry Class with Oh Eun*

Wed, Oct 22 | 11:00AM-1:00PM | Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles | [RSVP](#)

*Blue Dragon, White Tiger: Co-Writing Workshop*

Wed, Oct 22 | 2:00PM | Visions and Voice | [RSVP](#)

*Y. T. Hwang Family Foundation Series on Ethics & Common Values: Misook Doolittle with Ambassador Kathleen Stephens*

Wed, Oct 22 | 3:00PM | The Korea Society | [RSVP](#)

### Transformation and Continuity of Confucianism

Thurs, Oct 23 | 11:00AM-12:15PM | UCLA Center for Chinese Studies

### Chinese Program Event: Dumpling Making

Thurs, Oct 23 | 4:00PM-6:00PM | U.S.-China Institute | [RSVP](#)

### Yokai Architecture

Fri, Oct 24 | 7:00PM-8:30PM | The Japan Foundation | [RSVP](#)

### USC Graduate Conference in Korean Studies

Fri, Oct 24 - Sat, Oct 25 | 9:30AM-5:00PM | Korean Studies Institute



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## USC Dornsife

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