



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
School of Humanities · The University of Hong Kong

13TH SPRING HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

3-4 MAY 2024

MAKING MODERN IDENTITIES

The conference has been supported by the Postgraduate Students
Conference / Seminar Grants of the Research Grants Council, Hong Kong.

SCHOOL of
HUMANITIES
faculty of arts



Faculty of Arts
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



The 13th Spring History Symposium

Making Modern Identities

Organised by the Department of History

The University of Hong Kong

3–4 May 2024

CPD-2.58, Central Podiums Level, Jockey Club Tower

Centennial Campus

and

Faculty Academic Conference Room, 4.36, 4/F Run Run Shaw

Tower

The 13th Spring History Symposium

Making Modern Identities

Since 2008, the Spring History Symposium, organised by the Department of History at the University of Hong Kong, has provided a venue for postgraduate students and early career scholars from Hong Kong and around the world to share their research and form connections with an international community of historians.

The theme of this year's Symposium is Making Modern Identities. The modern era has given rise to myriad systems for categorising and identifying individuals and groups and has provoked new thinking about the self and the place of the individual in society. Identities can be formulated from within as a process of self-definition by individuals and communities, but they can also be imposed by one group upon another. Just as the philosophies and technologies of the modern era have provided individuals with the means to articulate their own identities in changing ways, they have also increasingly enabled states and institutions to recognize, categorize, and track those individuals. Identities interact in complex ways — overlapping, conflicting, combining and constantly in flux. The 13th Spring History Symposium explores the modern era's many multiple and overlapping formulations of identity.

Day 1: Friday, 3 May		
8:30-9:30	CPD-2.58	Registration and Refreshments
9:30-9:45	CPD-2.58	Opening Remarks
9:45-11:15	CPD-2.58	Session 1: Chinese National Identity
11:15-11:30		Break
11:30-1:00	CPD-2.58	Session 2A: Mobility and Diaspora
	RRST-4.36	Session 2B: Identity, Education, and Pedagogy in Hong Kong
1:00-2:00		Lunch
2:00-3:30	CPD-2.58	Session 3A: Gender
	RRST-4.36	Session 3B: Ethnic, National and Supranational Identities
3:30-3:45		Break
3:45-5:15	CPD-2.58	Keynote: Philippa Levine, Biology and the Categories of Modern Identity Discussant: Elizabeth LaCouture

Day 2: Saturday, 4 May		
8:45-9:45	CPD-2.58	Registration and Refreshments
9:45-11:15	CPD-2.58	Session 4: Marginal Identities
11:15-11:30		Break
11:30-1:00	CPD-2.58	Session 5A: Making Hong Kong Identities
	RRST-4.36	Session 5B: Arts and Culture
1:00-2:00		Lunch
2:00-3:30	CPD-2.58	Session 6: Transculturation and cross-cultural encounters
3:30-3:45	CPD-2.58	Closing Remarks, Oscar Sanchez-Sibony

Keynote:

Biology and the Categories of Modern Identity
Philippa LEVINE
University of Texas at Austin and Queen Mary University of London

Discussant:

Elizabeth LaCOUTURE
University of Hong Kong

Friday 3 May, 3:45-5:15
2.58, Central Podiums Level

As questions of identity become more complex and more fraught in the contemporary arena, it is vital that we work to understand the historical pathways that have shaped ideas and arguments around modern identity. In this talk, I seek to uncover some of the principal factors influencing the course of identity politics over the past century or so. I focus in particular on the ways in which scientific ideas entered political debate.

Philippa Levine is Walter Prescott Webb Chair in History and Ideas Emerita at the University of Texas at Austin (USA) and Global Professorial Fellow at Queen Mary University of London. She has written on the history of feminism, of socially transmissible diseases, prostitution, reproduction and eugenics as well as the British Empire. She is currently completing a book on nakedness.

Dr Elizabeth LaCouture is a historian of gender, intersectionality and everyday life in modern China, Hong Kong, and East Asia and the founding director of the Gender Studies Program at the University of Hong Kong. Her book *Dwelling in the World: Family, House, and Home in Tianjin, China, 1860-1960* offers new perspectives on gender and class, colonialism and empire, visual and material culture. She is currently researching the history of women's magazines in Hong Kong and gender, race, and beauty across the Sinophone.

Day 1

Friday, 3 May 2024

Opening Remarks

9:30-9:45.

2.58, Central Podiums Level

John CARROLL, *University of Hong Kong*

Department of History

Principal Lecturer

Programme Director, MA in Hong Kong History

Session 1: Chinese National Identity

9:45-11:15

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **FANG Yi**, *University of Hong Kong*

CHEN Kai, *University of Oxford*

Greece as Mirror: Reassessing China's Cultural Identity through
Classical Greek Scholarship in the Early 20th Century

CHEUNG Man Sing, *University of Oxford*

State Owned Enterprises and China's Economic Reconstruction,
1945-49

Douglas CHEUNG, *Chinese University of Hong Kong*

"Fighting" for modern identity: Chinese martial arts delegation in
the 1936 Berlin Olympics

Session 2A: Mobility and Diaspora

11:30-1:00

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **Nicole VAUGHAN**, *University of Hong Kong*

Gideon ELAZAR, *Bar Ilan University and Ariel University*

From Zomia to the Israeli periphery: conversion, immigration
and the remaking of identity of the Bene Menashe

Jack Yu LIU, *University of Hong Kong*

From Diasporic Protector to Protected Heritage: The Tin Hau
Temple in Causeway Bay Hong Kong

Ruka Nessa Ruksar HUSSAIN, *University of Oxford*

Glocal identities in postcolonial spaces? A spatialised history of
Bengali settlement in East London, c.1960-2000

Session 2B: Identity, Education, and Pedagogy in Hong Kong

11:30-1:00

4.36, Run Run Shaw Tower

Chair: **CHEUNG Man Sing**, *University of Oxford*

Dr. Michael B. C. RIVERA, *University of Hong Kong*

Identities, race/ism and cultural heritage: the archaeological sciences and biological anthropology in Hong Kong

Vahith NAKKA and Loretta KIM, *University of Hong Kong*

From Expatriate Education to International Education: The English Schools Foundation, Multiculturalism, and Changing Historical Identities of Hong Kong, 1967–Present

WANG Yun, *University of Hong Kong*

New Courses in a Colonial Institution: Chinese History Curriculum at the University of Hong Kong, 1927-36

Session 3A: Gender

2:00-3:30

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **Jing PENG**, *University of Hong Kong*

WANG Han, *University of Macau*

Chanting in the Storm: Chinese Female Buddhist Education and Macau Women's Buddhist Academy, 1923–1949

FENG Yanling (Sharon), *University of Hong Kong*

Prostitution and Female Entrepreneurship from A Transnational Perspective (1850s to 1930s)

GAO Zhiyue Luna, *Hong Kong Baptist University*

The Sudden Exposure of Spring Light: Voyeurism in boudoir-themed paintings from Late Qing to Republican and its Reconstruction of Modern Femininity

Session 3B: Ethnic, National and Supranational Identities

2:00-3:30

4.36, Run Run Shaw Tower

Chair: **Dr. Michael B. C. RIVERA**, *University of Hong Kong*

Dr. Theara THUN, *University of Hong Kong*

Ethnocentrism of Victimhood: Tracing the Discourses of Khmer

Ethnicity in Precolonial and Colonial Cambodia

Pavel KREJČÍ, *University of Hong Kong*

Nationalism with a Human Face: Constructing the Czech

National Identity in the Nineteenth Century

Keynote: Biology and the Categories of Modern Identity

3:45-5:15

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Philippa LEVINE, *University of Texas at Austin and Queen Mary University of London*

Discussant: **Elizabeth LaCOUTURE**, *University of Hong Kong*

Day 2

Saturday, 4 May 2024

Session 4: Marginal Identities

9:45-11:15

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **LIN Tingcong (Jack)**, *University of Hong Kong*

LOONG Dien Min, *University of Cambridge*

Singapore's 'Lord Long Yangs': Transnational Transfigurations
of Chinese Erotic Allusions in British Malaya, 1920-1941

Angus CRAWFORD, *University of Warwick and Lord Leycester Hospital*

Thomas Cartwright, gender, and the Lord Leycester Hospital in
Tudor Warwick

Nicole VAUGHAN, *University of Hong Kong*

Loafers, European Destitutes, and the Nuisance of White
Vagrancy in Nineteenth-Century Hong Kong

Session 5A: Making Hong Kong Identities

11:30-1:00

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **Jodie CHENG**, *University of Hong Kong*

YAN Fangming Eva, *University of Hong Kong*

The Formation of Collective Identity and Revolutionary
Mobilization among Hong Kong Labor Community in 1967
Riots

LI Zixuan, *Chinese University of Hong Kong*

From "Protecting the Country 護國" to "Protecting the People
佑民": The Inheritance of Guandi Tradition in Sheung Wan Man
Mo Temple

CHENG Ho Lik Ron, *University of Hong Kong*

Beyond Otherness: The Brief History of Naturalized Players in
Hong Kong Football

Session 5B: Arts and Culture

11:30-1:00

4.36, Run Run Shaw Tower

Chair: **GAO Zhiyue**, *Hong Kong Baptist University*

Jing PENG, *University of Hong Kong*

The Melodrama of Transnational Affinity, 1958-1972

WANG Shu 王澐, *Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Modernity, National Identity, and Personal Identity: The First Generation of Chinese Architects

Freda HUI Hin-lam, *University of Hong Kong*

The Emergence of Hong Kong Identity: Viewing Local History through Rethinking the Artistic Landscape in the 1960s-1980s

Session 6: Transculturation and cross-cultural encounters

2:00-3:30

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Chair: **Pavel KREJČÍ**, *University of Hong Kong*

Hao CHEN, *University of Virginia*

Internationalist Nationalism: Making a “Third Korea” in the Borderland between China and North Korea, 1945-1952

FANG Yi, *University of Hong Kong*

Commemoration, Relationship and Identity: A Comparative Study of the Jubilee Ceremony of the Opening of Shanghai and Hong Kong

LIN Tingcong (Jack), *University of Hong Kong*

An arhat Marco Polo: Distance as a discursive strategy and transcultural (re)productions of a (hi)story in between

Closing Remarks

3:30-3:45

2.58, Central Podiums Level

Oscar SANCHEZ-SIBONY, *University of Hong Kong*

Department of History

Department Chair

Undergraduate Coordinator

Postgraduate Coordinator

Acknowledgements

Organising Committee

Nicole VAUGHAN

FANG Yi

Pavel KREJČÍ

Logistical Support

Harry YEUNG

Panel Chairs

CHEUNG Man Sing

Jing PENG

Dr. Michael B. C. RIVERA

LIN Tingcong

Jodie CHENG

GAO Zhiyue

Nicole VAUGHAN

FANG Yi

Pavel KREJČÍ

Funding

Support for the Symposium has been generously provided by:

The Research Grants Council, Hong Kong

The Faculty of Arts, HKU

The School of Humanities, HKU

The Department of History, HKU



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
School of Humanities · The University of Hong Kong

shs.history.hku.hk

hkuhistorysymposium@gmail.com