

MATTHEW T. COMBS
Department of History
University of California, Irvine
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Department of History (expected June 2018)

Dissertation: Camphor, a Plastic History: China, Taiwan, and Celluloid,
1868-1937

Advisors: Jeffrey Wasserstrom and Qitao Guo

Fields: Modern East Asia, World

M.A., University of California, Irvine, Department of History, 2013

M.A., San Diego State University, Department of History, 2011

Thesis: Literati in Troubled Times: Responses of Taiwan's Qing-era elite in the face of Japanese Colonialism

National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan. Mandarin Language Study, 2002-2004

B.A., University of California, San Diego, Department of History, 2003

Emphasis: East Asia

Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China. Mandarin Language Study, 2000.

PUBLICATIONS

Esherick, Joseph W. and Matthew T. Combs, eds., *1943: China at the Crossroads*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University East Asia Program, 2015.

Translated as:

- 周錫瑞 (Joseph W. Esherick) and 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), eds., 《1943:中國在十字路口》 Trans. by 陳驍 (Chen Xiao). Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 2017. [Traditional Chinese character version of *1943: China at the Crossroads*]
- 周錫瑞 (Joseph W. Esherick) and 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), eds., 《1943: 中國在十字路口》 Trans. by 陈骁 (Chen Xiao). Beijing: Shehui kexue wenxian chubanshe, 2016. [Mainland China simplified Chinese character version of *1943: China at the Crossroads*]

Combs, Matthew T., "Chongqing 1943: Inflation, Price Control, and State Legitimacy," in Joseph W. Esherick and Matthew T. Combs, eds., *1943: China at the Crossroads*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University East Asia Program, 2015.

Translated as:

- 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), "1943年的重慶：民生、限制物價與政權合法性," in 周錫瑞 (Joseph W. Esherick) and 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), eds., 《1943:中國在十字路口》 Trans. by 陳驍 (Chen Xiao). Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 2017.
- 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), "1943年的重慶：民生、限制物價與政權合法性," in 周錫瑞 (Joseph W. Esherick) and 李皓天 (Matthew T. Combs), eds., 《1943: 中國在十字路口》 Trans. by 陈骁 (Chen Xiao). Beijing: Shehui kexue wenxian chubanshe, 2016.

Combs, Matthew and Jeffrey Wasserstrom, "The Guard's Three Bodies: Linsanity, Celebrity, and National Identity," *The International Journal of Sports History* 30, iss. 11 (2013): 1259-1270.

TEACHING

Instructor, HIST 70A, Modern East Asia, ca. 1800-Present. UCI, Summer 2017

Instructor, HIST 21C, World History, ca. 1850-Present: War and Rights. UCI, Summer 2016

Teaching Assistant, HIST 21A, World History to 1650, UCI, Fall 2013

Teaching Assistant, HIST 21C, World History, ca. 1850-Present, UCI, Spring 2012

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SPEAKER SERIES

SPEAKER SERIES:

Organizer, *Access Asia*, a weekly presentation series at UCI hosted by the *Journal of Asian Studies*.
Jan. 2014-Present

PANELS ORGANIZED:

"Optics: Race, Religion, and Technology in East Asian Photography, 1868-1949," The American Historical Association 132nd Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., Jan. 4-7, 2018.

"Merchants, Agents, Technology, and Force: Empire and Natural Resources in East and Southeast Asia, 1800-1945," AAS-in-Asia 2016, Asia in Motion: Horizons of Hope, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27, 2016

WORKSHOP:

Organizer, Workshop Conference on *China, 1943: A Year of Disappointment*, University of California, Irvine, April 26-27, 2013

PRESENTATIONS:

"Reframing China: Kodak and Popularizing Photography, 1920-1937," The Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington D.C., March 22-25, 2018.

"Reframing China: Kodak and the Growth of Amateur Photography, 1920-1945" The American Historical Association 132nd Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., Jan. 4-7, 2018.

"The Invention of Plastic: British Imperialists, American Businessmen, and Taiwanese Camphor, 1860-1895," The American Historical Association 131st Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, Jan. 5-8, 2017.

"Collision over Camphor: Qing Forestry Regulations and British Mercantile Interests in Taiwan, 1860-1869," AAS-in-Asia 2016, Asia in Motion: Horizons of Hope, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27, 2016

"Confucianism in China, East Asia, and World History," Guest lecture: *World History 21A—the World to 1650*, University of California, Irvine, October 22, 2013.

"Chongqing 1943: Inflation, Price Control, and State Legitimacy," Workshop Conference on *China, 1943: A Year of Disappointment*, University of California, Irvine, April 26-27, 2013.

"In Search of a Home after Japanese Colonization: Literati Leaving and Longing for Taiwan," *106th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association*, Denver, Colorado. August 9, 2013.

"Literati in Crisis: Chiayi Gentry Choices after the Japanese Invasion of Taiwan," *History Graduate Student Association 17th Annual Conference*, University of California, Irvine, May 18, 2013.

MATTHEW T. COMBS

“What Happens in the Classroom: Using modern technology to monitor student learning and engagement.” (co-presented with Carla Sorrels Jones). *2011 National IRACDA Conference*, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. June 19-21, 2011.

“Collaborating for the People: The Lai Brothers and the Japanese Occupation of Chiayi, Taiwan.” *Special joint annual meeting of Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC) & Western Conference of the Association of Asian Studies (WCAAS)*, Pomona College, Claremont, California. June 17-19, 2011.

Other EMPLOYMENT:

Jan. 2014-current: **Book Review Coordinator, Editorial Assistant, and Digital Editor**, *Journal of Asian Studies*

Sept. 2012-Mar. 2013: **Research Assistant** to Prof. J. Wasserstrom, Dept. of History, UC Irvine.

2009-current: **Taiwan Research Site Mentor**, San Diego State University Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training (MHIRT) program.

Feb. 2007- Sept. 2011: **Program Coordinator**, San Diego State University Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training (MHIRT) program.

FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

UC Pacific Rim Research Program Advanced Graduate Mini-grant Fellowship	2014-2015
UCI Humanities Collective research fellowship	
2014	
UCI Center for Asian Studies Summer research fellowship	2014
Regent’s Fellowship, UC Irvine	2011-2012
2010-11 Fu Scholar, Charles Wei-Hsun Fu Foundation (SDSU Scholars Without Borders)	2010
Dorothy and Kenneth Stott Memorial Scholarship (SDSU Dept. of History)	2010
Dorothy and Kenneth Stott Memorial Scholarship (SDSU Dept. of History)	2009
Taiwan Ministry of Education Mandarin Studies Scholarship	2002 –2003
Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America	1998
Valedictorian, Orange Glen High School	1998

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member of American Historical Association	2010-present
Member of Association for Asian Studies	2010-present

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese, *speaking*: fluent, *reading*: high proficiency
Japanese, *speaking*: low proficiency, *reading*: proficient
German, *speaking*: low proficiency, *reading*: proficient