

NAN KATHY LIN

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EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- 2025-present** **Hamilton College**
Department of Religious Studies
Visiting Assistant Professor in Religion and Ecology
- Research interests: East Asian Buddhism, environmentalism, theories and methods in the study of religion, moral philosophy informed by ordinary language philosophy
- 2023-2024** **Oberlin College**
Department of Religion
Visiting Assistant Professor in Religious Ethics and Critical Thought
- Ph.D.** **Georgetown University, 2023**
Department of Theology and Religious Studies
- Dissertation Title: "Religious Change as seen through Buddhist Environmentalism." Advised by Francisca Cho. Committee members: Julia Watts Belser, Charles Jones, Jonathan Tran
- M.T.S.** **Harvard Divinity School, 2017**
Masters in Theological Studies, with emphasis on Buddhist Studies
- M.B.A.** **MIT Sloan School of Management, 2015**
Masters in Business Administration, with emphasis on Sustainability
- A.B.** **Harvard College, 2008**
Concentration in Social Studies, secondary in mathematical sciences
- Undergraduate thesis on Jurgen Habermas' theory of communicative action in relation to migration

PUBLICATIONS

Book Project (In Preparation)

Buddhist Environmentalism and Religious Change, under revision with the AAR Academy Series

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Buddhist Views on Human and Non-Human Animals – with a Few Notes on Ethical Import."
Manuscript under review.

"The Parable of the Gut-shot Deer: A Neo-Confucian and Buddho-Daoist Vision of Ecological Redemption in Ryusuke Hamaguchi's *Evil Does Not Exist*." Manuscript under review.

"H.H. Kung and Multiple Religious Belonging: Christian-Confucian-Buddhist Interfaith Encounters in the Early 20th Century." *Buddhist-Christian Studies* vol. 45 (2025), 241-274.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/bcs.2026.a979838>

"Buddhist Environmentalism as Seen Through Religious Change." In "The Question of Buddhist Environmentalism," special issue, *Religions* vol. 13, no. 12 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13121191>

Invited Publications

"Buddhist Nuns of 4th-6th Century China." *Database of Religious History* (2022). Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia. <https://dx.doi.org/10.14288/1.0423228>

"Thoughts on an Interfaith Gathering: Reflections on the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions." *Buddhist-Christian Studies* vol. 39 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1353/bcs.2019.0028>

Book Reviews

Review of *Jezebel Unhinged: Loosing the Black Female Body in Religion & Culture*, by Tamara Lomax. *Studies in Religion* 48, no. 2 (June 2019): 318-320. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0008429819854911g>

Review of *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Ecology*, ed. John Hart. *Journal of Jewish Ethics* 4, no. 2 (2018): 198-202. <https://doi.org/10.5325/jjewiethi.4.2.0198>

Media and Other

"Hamnet: Portrait of an Artist." *Association for Public Religion and Intellectual Life*. March 2026. <https://www.aprilonline.org/hamnet-portrait-of-an-artist/>

"Star Wars as Buddhist-Christian Synthesis." *The Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies*. October 2023. <https://www.society-buddhist-christian-studies.org/perspectives>

Conversation with Leo Lefebure. "Buddhist-Catholic Dialogue on Climate Change." *Parliament of the World's Religions*. May 2022. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IwRv9_BVxU&t=3s

Irfan, Umair. "We need to talk about the ethics of having children in a warming world." *Vox Media*. March 11, 2019. <https://www.vox.com/2019/3/11/18256166/climate-change-having-kids>.

Oral histories collector, *China's Cultural Revolution in Memories: The CR/10 Project*. The University of Pittsburgh. <https://digital.library.pitt.edu/collection/chinas-cultural-revolution-memories-the-CR10-project>.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Conference Session Organized

Panel Organizer, "The Planetary Environmental Crisis through Buddhist and Christian Eyes: A Conversation." The Parliament of the World's Religions. Toronto, Canada. November 2018.

Presentations

"The Parable of the Gut-shot Deer: A Neo-Confucian and Buddhho-Daoist Vision of Ecological Redemption in Ryusuke Hamaguchi's *Evil Does Not Exist*." International Religion and Film Conference. Boston, MA. May 2025.

"Buddhist Ethics in a More-than-Human World." Department of Religion at Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL. January 2024.

"Buddhist Environmentalism." Department of Religious Studies at Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH. February 2023.

"Buddhist Environmentalism." Department of Theological and Religious Studies at the University of San Diego. San Diego, CA. February 2022.

"Emmanuel Levinas and the Non-Human Other." North American Levinas Society. Des Moines, IA. July 2019.

Other Invitations

"Buddhist Environmentalism through Philosophy of Language." *Buddhist Studies Footnotes*. Podcast with Frances Garrett. April 2024.

"The Trail-blazing Buddhist Nuns of Early China." Guest speaker, Zen Mountain Monastery. Mt. Tremper, NY. May 2022.

Participant in "Wittgenstein's *Tractatus* with Cora Diamond, James Conant, and Martin Gustafsson." Austrian Ludwig Wittgenstein Society Summer School. Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria. August 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Hamilton College, Department of Religious Studies

Instructor of Record, "Religion and Ecology" – Spring 2027 (forthcoming)
Instructor of Record, "Buddhist Environmentalism" – Spring 2026
Instructor of Record, "Religion, Ideology, and the Climate Crisis" – Spring 2026
Instructor of Record, "Animals and Religion" – Fall 2025
Instructor of Record, "Biographies of the Holy" – Fall 2025 and Spring 2026

Oberlin College, Department of Religion

Instructor of Record, "Buddhist Environmentalism" – Spring 2024
Instructor of Record, "Religion and the Philosophy of Language" – Spring 2024
Instructor of Record, "Comparative Religious Ethics: Biographies of the Holy" – Spring 2024
Instructor of Record, "Animals and Religion" – Fall 2023
Instructor of Record, "Family and Gender in East Asia" – Fall 2023

Georgetown University, Department of Theology and Religious Studies

Instructor of Record, "Introduction to Buddhism" – Spring 2023
Teaching Assistant, "Religion and Disability Studies" (Julia Watts Belser) – Spring 2021
Teaching Assistant, "Judaism and Gender" (Julia Watts Belser) – Fall 2020
Guest Lecturer, "Introduction to Buddhism" and "Religion and Disability Studies"

George Washington University, Department of Religion

Instructor of Record, "Buddhism" – Fall 2022

MIT Sloan School of Management

Teaching Assistant, "Sustainability Lab" (John Sterman) – Spring 2015
Teaching Assistant, "Organizational Processes" (Evan Apfelbaum) – Fall 2014

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

2026	Hamilton College Dean of Faculty Works-in-Progress Program Award (shared)
2024	Finalist for Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Center for Place, Culture and Politics at the City University of New York
2023	Finalist for Andrew J. Mellon Modeling Interdisciplinary Inquiry Postdoctoral Fellowship at Washington University of St. Louis
2018	Academy of Korean Studies Fellowship, Jangseogak Summer Hanmun Workshop (Training Course for Classical Chinese in Seoul, South Korea)
2017-2023	Georgetown Graduate Scholarship for Doctoral Study (full tuition and stipend)
2015-2017	Harvard Divinity School Scholarships (full tuition and stipend for M.T.S)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2019-2020	Speaker series coordinator, Georgetown Buddhist and Silk Road Studies Initiative https://blogs.commonsgorgetown.edu/bsrsi/
2019-2020	Women's Initiative, Georgetown Department of Theology and Religious Studies

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese (heritage/native spoken, reading, writing)
Classical Chinese (intermediate reading)
French (intermediate reading)
Pali (beginner reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion
American Philosophical Association
Association for Asian Studies

PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Environmental Defense Fund

Research Associate (Summer 2014), Boston

- Conducted community-based research with fishing communities in New England

Stanbic IBTC Investment Bank

Associate in Financial Advisory (2011-2013), Lagos, Nigeria

- Select transactions include the sale of GZ Industries Limited (GZI), West Africa's first aluminum can manufacturer, to Standard Chartered Private Equity

UBS Investment Bank

Analyst in Investment Banking, Mergers and Acquisitions (2009-2011), New York City

- Responsibilities included financial modeling, valuation, and due diligence
- Select transactions include the \$1.365 billion sale of Bresnan Communications to Cablevision; the \$605 million negotiated sale of Infrastrux, an electric and gas services provider, to Willbros Group; and Accuray Incorporated's \$277 million acquisition of TomoTherapy, a radiation therapy med-tech provider

Technoserve

Volunteer Consultant (2008-2009), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

- Supported the building of a Tanzanian entrepreneurial pipeline

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

1. Francisca Cho
Georgetown University
3700 O St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20057
chof@georgetown.edu

2. Julia Watts Belser
Georgetown University
3700 O St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20057
jwb84@georgetown.edu

3. Jonathan Tran
Duke University
407 Chapel Dr., Durham, NC 27708
jtran@div.duke.edu

4. Joyce Babyak (teaching)
Oberlin College
173 W Lorain St, Oberlin, OH 44074
joyce.babyak@oberlin.edu