

Ziling Wan 萬子菱, PhD Candidate (ABD)

Personal website: www.zilingwan.com || Email: ineswan@arizona.edu

Education

PhD	Department of East Asian Studies, The University of Arizona	2019-present
	Dissertation: “Writing Miracle Tales in Early Modern China: Chan Master Huishan Jiexian’s (1610-1672) Representation of the Supernatural World”	
	Area Specialization: Chinese Buddhism; Digital Humanities; Chan (Zen) Buddhism; Regional Studies	
	Committee: Dr. Jiang Wu (Chair), Dr. Albert Welter, Dr. Dian Li, Dr. Chris Lukinbeal	
MS	Geographic Information Systems Technology, The University of Arizona	2022-present
	Area Specialization: Human Geography; Spatial Analysis; Geospatial Data Visualization	
MA	Department of Buddhist Studies, Fo Guang University	2014-2017
BA	Department of Buddhist Studies, Fo Guang University	2009-2013

Honor and Awards

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- Finalist, “Digital Humanities and Popular Culture” category, 2024 ArcGIS StoryMaps Competition (StoryMap title: [Regional Religious Systems in Hangzhou, China: Illustrating the Confluence of Buddhist Geography and Culture \(618–2022\)](#)) 2025
 - Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai America **Archival Digitization** Grant (Collaborative project: [Digitization of Translation Notes of Rinzai Roku](#)) 2025
 - Khyentse Foundation **PhD** Scholarship 2024-2025
 - [Young Scholar Award](#)/ Scholarship for Doctoral **Dissertation** Research in Chinese Studies 2024
China Times Cultural Foundation
 - Taiwan National Science and Technology Council Taiwanese Overseas **Pioneers Grants** 2024-2025
(declined offer)
 - Khyentse Foundation Buddhist Studies **Doctoral** Fellowship 2024-2025
 - Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation **Dissertation** Fellowships 2024-2025
 - [Lingyin Buddhist Studies Best Paper Award](#) 2022
 - American Association for Chinese Studies Travel Grant 2021
 - University of Arizona Graduate & Professional Student Council Travel Grant 2021
 - Ruxue Buddhist Culture **Master Theses Award** 2017

Academic Work Experience

Associate Editor. *Encyclopedia of Hangzhou Buddhist Culture*. Brill, forthcoming in 2025. **2024-present**

- Recruit and coordinate with the contributors and publisher
- Develop standardized process on the data entries
- Transform historical sources into datasets and ArcGIS maps
- Editing style and convention, bibliography, and content verification

Graduate Assistant Program Coordinator. Center for Buddhist Studies, The University of Arizona **2022-present**

- Projects involved: 1) Online art exhibition: “Celebrating the Legacy of Yinyuan Longqi (Ingen Ryūki) and the Art of Ōbaku” (ingen.arizona.edu); 2) Regional Religious System Map (rrs.arizona.edu); 3) Humanities and Health Wellness
- Managing [website](#), social media ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#)), backstage statistics and marketing platform (Mailchimp)
- Editing newsletters and designing graphics of posters and social media posts
- Holding hybrid events (in-person/Zoom) and setting up equipment

- Data Research Assistant.** Center for Buddhist Studies, The University of Arizona **2019-2023**
- Transformed textual gazetteers into structure datasets for [Storymap of Hangzhou Buddhism](#)—finalist in 2024 ArcGIS StoryMaps Competition
 - Metadata management (html; Excel; Dublin Core); Raw data cleaning, and processing
 - Train and supervise graduates and undergraduates in collection and digitization of Buddhist temple data (couplets, calligraphies, texts) at Kyoto, Japan. Data is published on [Frogbear Database of Religious Sites in East Asia](#) (Summer 2023)
 - Created map visualizations of water god temples, canals and market towns (Eg. [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) and analyzed geospatial data via ArcGIS Pro
 - Managed digital map archives for Regional Religious Systems project (rrs.arizona.edu)
 - Gathered aerial photo for Taiwan and Hangzhou for geospatial data at the WWII archive, Academia Sinica, Taiwan (Summer 2022)
 - Collected archival data of historical rare book, manuscript, inscriptions at Archive of the Library of Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan (Summer 2022)
- Project Coordinator.** Language Education Center, Fo Guang University **2017-2018**
- Research Assistant.** Center for Buddhist Studies, Fo Guang University **2015-2016**

Publications

- Jiang Wu, Jeffrey Liu, **Ziling Wan** (associate editor), and Albert Welter, ed. *Encyclopedia of Hangzhou Buddhist Culture*. Brill, forthcoming in 2026.
- Wan, Ziling** and Jeffrey Liu trans. *Mindfulness for Self-Healing: Breaking Away from the Mental Approach of Chinese and Western Medical Practitioners*. Original in Chinese. Hsu, Ruiyun, Xian'an Cheng. Taipei: Tianxia wenhua, 2020. Translating.
- Wan, Ziling** and Jeffrey Liu trans. *Reversing Chronic Illness: The Latest Mindfulness Medicine of the 21st Century*. Original in Chinese. Hsu, Ruiyun, Xian'an Cheng. Taipei: Tianxia wenhua, 2023. Translating.
- Liu, Jeffrey and **Wan, Ziling**. “The Making of a Sacred Landscape: Visualizing Hangzhou Buddhist Culture via Geoparsing a Local Gazetteer the *Xianchun Lin'an zhi* 咸淳臨安志.” In George Hong ed., *Digital and Spatial Studies of Religions*, 2023, pp. 75–92.
- Ziling Wan** edited and trans. “An interview with American art historian Dr. Patricia Graham 美國藝術史家派翠西亞·格拉罕博士座談錄.” *Journal of Studies on Fujianese Entrepreneurs Culture Supplement 閩商文化研究, Special Issue: Huangbo (Obaku) Studies 黃檗學特刊* (2023): 145–153.
- Liu, Jeffrey and **Ziling Wan**. “The Making of a Sacred Landscape: Visualizing Hangzhou Buddhist Culture via Geoparsing a Local Gazetteer the *Xianchun Lin'an zhi* 咸淳臨安志.” *Religions* 13. 8 (2022): 711. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13080711>.
- Miao Guang ed., **Ziling Wan** (one of volunteer editors). *The Glossary of Humanistic Buddhism* 中英人間佛教詞彙選, Taiwan: Fo Guang Shan Institute of Humanistic Buddhism, 2019.
- Charles Jones 周文廣. **Ziling Wan**, Xiumei Zeng trans. “Taixu yu renjianjingtū zuixin zhi pingshu 太虛與人間淨土最新研究之評述.” *Humanistic Buddhism: Journal, Arts, and Culture* 人間佛教學報·藝文 20 (2019): 18–27. Kaohsiung: Fo Guang Shan Institute of Humanistic Buddhism.
- Ziling Wan**. “A Study of the Recorded Sayings of Chan Masters Nanquan, Zihu and Changsha.” MA Thesis. Fo Guang University, 2017.
- Ziling Wan**. “A Dialogue Between Buddhism and Science: The Influences upon Buddhist Dissemination.” BA Thesis. Fo Guang University, 2014.

Teaching Experience

Department of East Asian Studies/Department of Religious Studies	2019-2021
- East Asia and Global Capitalism (EAS 444/544)	
- The World of Buddhism (EAS 160)	
- Gods, Goddesses, and Demons: Divinity in South Asia (RELI 160)	
- Yoga (RELI 367)	
- Religion and Film (RELI 227)	
- Religion in American Experience (RELI 220)	
- Zen/Chan Buddhism (RELI/EAS 222)	
Department of Buddhist Studies, Fo Guang University	2015-2016
- History of Chinese Buddhism	
- Capstone Project	
Center for Humanistic Buddhism, Nanjing University	2014
- The Second Workshop on Chinese Buddhism for Junior Researchers	

Conference Presentations

Roundtable on Hangzhou Buddhist Culture and the Encyclopedia Project. “A Buddhist Heaven on Earth: Hangzhou Buddhism and Its Historical Significance” International Symposium, Tucson, The University of Arizona.	April 24-25, 2026
“The Making of a Sacred Landscape: Visualizing Hangzhou Buddhist Culture via Geoparsing a Local Gazetteer the Xianchun Lin’an zhi 咸淳臨安志.” 64th Annual Conference of the American Association for Chinese Studies (AACS), Denver.	Oct. 7-9, 2023
“The Making of a Sacred Landscape: Visualizing Hangzhou Buddhist Culture via Geoparsing a Local Gazetteer the Xianchun Lin’an zhi 咸淳臨安志.” Pacific Neighborhood Consortium (PNC) Annual Conference, The University of Arizona.	Sep. 16-18, 2022
“Mapping Spatial Pattern of Water God Cults and Market Towns in a Locality: A Case Study of the Qing Dynasty Hangzhou Region.” (See poster) Pacific Neighborhood Consortium (PNC) Annual Conference, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.	Sep. 27-29, 2021

Invited Talk

“Mapping the Past and Present: A Digital Humanities Tutorial Using ArcGIS Pro.” University of Arizona, Department of East Asian Studies.	Nov. 2024
“Pursuing a PhD in Buddhist Studies in the U.S.: A Young Scholar’s Journey.” Fo Guang University, Department of Buddhist Studies, Taiwan.	June 2024
“Geo-visualization, Geo-Parsing, and Index Measurement in the Study of Regional Religious Systems.” Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI) Workshop.	Sep. 2022

Volunteer Experience

Volunteer. Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary, Tucson, AZ	
- event promotion and assistance, cleansing cat living place	2024
Volunteered Translator and Editor. Center for International Affairs, Fo Guang Shan Institute of Humanistic Buddhism, Taiwan	Aug. - Sep. 2018
- translated English academic articles into Chinese	
- volunteer editor. Miao Guang (ed.) 2019, <i>The Glossary of Humanistic Buddhism</i> 中英人間佛教詞彙選, Taiwan: Fo Guang Shan Institute of Humanistic Buddhism, https://foguangepedia.org/the-glossary-of-humanistic-buddhism/ .	
Volunteered Proofreader. Sutra Editing Center, Fo Guang Shan, Taiwan	July 2017
- proofread Chinese academic articles & original scriptures from CBETA	
International summer volunteer, Hangzhou, China	July-Aug. 2012
- transported goods to remote temples in mountain	
International summer volunteer, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	July-Aug. 2011

- accompanied the elders in local nursing homes
- assisted the charity events in several branch temples of Fo Guang Shan

Language: Chinese: Native || English: Proficient || Japanese: Academic reading

Computer Skill:

Digital Tools & Software: Python, Mailchimp, iMovie, Adobe Acrobat, Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Word, Power Point, Excel, Outlook, OneNote, Google sheet, Google Doc, Google Form

GIS Platforms: ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, QGIS, ESRI StoryMap, Tableau, Google My Map