

Michel Chambon

Curriculum Vitae

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ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Research Fellow	from 2021
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore	
Founder and coordinator of ISAC: <i>Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics</i> , www.isac-research.org	
Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology Hanover College	2018 - 2020
Visiting Researcher, Center for the Study of Religion and Society University of Notre Dame	2017

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Anthropology , Boston University, USA	2018
Dissertation: "Materiality and Christianity in Nanping, Making God Present"	
Canonical Licentiate in Theology with honors	2011
Catholic University of Paris, France	
Thesis: "The <i>Chinese Gui (Ghosts) within the Catholic Faith</i> "	
Canonical Baccalauréat in Theology, Catholic University of Paris	2008
Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie in Biological and Biochemical Analysis	2001
University of Auvergne, France	

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fundraising for ISAC & Christian Studies at NUS	2024
Grant from an European Foundation to ISAC	2023
Paris-NUS Research Collaboration	2023
American Academy of Religion Research Grant	2020
Global Religion Research Initiative Dissertation Fellowship, University of Notre Dame	2017
Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship, Boston University	2015
Confucius China Studies Program Research Fellowship	2015
Association for Asian Studies China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant	2014
Dean's Fellowship, Boston University	2012
Ecole Française d'Extrême Orient (E.F.E.O.) Research Grant	2010
Catholic University of Paris Tuition Scholarship	2008

RESEARCH INTERESTS

World Catholicism, Anthropology of Christianity, Chinese Christianities,
Material Anthropology, Chinese Religions, Theology of Religion

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- Chambon, Michel. 2020 *Making Christ Present in China, Actor-Network Theory and the Anthropology of Christianity*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Chambon, Michel. (under contract) *Les chrétiens dans la Chine de Xi Jinping*. Paris : Le Cerf.

Articles:

- Chambon, Michel. (Forthcoming – Nov. 2024). "Dancing before Christ: Protestant Calisthenics and Religious Space in Contemporary China." *Religion and Society*.
- Chambon, Michel (Forthcoming – Nov 2024). "Mary and the Origin of the Self: A new Chinese Religious Movement and Christianity." *Maria: A Journal of Marian Studies* 4 (2).
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "The Missionary and the Pea, An Anthropological Study of the French MEP Economy." *Journal of Global Catholicism* 8 (2): 102-133.
- Chambon, Michel. 2022. "Remaking the Church Catholic in Post-Maoist China: The Outward Movement of Chinese Catholics and Their Collaborations with the Paris Foreign Missions." *Mission Studies* 39: 373-396
- Chambon, Michel. 2022. "Quelle réception catholique des courants évangéliques en Asie ? Regard d'Asie." *Lumen Vitae* 77(4):413-415
- Chambon, Michel. 2022. "How Do Chinese Christians Draw Boundaries among Themselves? Reassessing the Question of Chinese Christianities." *Religions* 13: 258.
- Chambon, Michel. 2019. "Chinese Catholic Nuns and the Organization of Religious Life in Contemporary China" *Religions* 10: 447.
- Chambon, Michel. 2018. "Produire et Consommer le Sang du Christ en Chine Contemporaine" *Études Chinoises* 37 (2): 61-82
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "The Action of Christian Buildings upon their Chinese Environment" *Studies in World Christianity* 23(2): 100-121.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Les Catholiques Alternatifs de Guangzhou : Enjeux Educatifs" *Leuven Chinese Studies* 37: 107-124.
- Chambon, Michel. 2012. "The Chinese Gui 鬼 within the Catholic Faith - A Case Study on the Catholics in Taipei" *New Century Religious Studies* 新世紀宗教研究 11(1): 185-95.

Book chapters:

- Chambon, Michel (forthcoming). "African Flesh and Catholic Evangelisation in China: Investigating the Roles of African Catholics in the Making of Chinese Catholicism", in *Overcoming Xenophobia and Exclusion? African Christianities in Diaspora*, Swart, Ignatius, Henrietta Nyamnjoh & Elina Hankela (eds.), Stellenbosch: African Sun Media/UWC Press.
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Chinese Christians and the Post-Maoist Politics", pp.35-52 in *Christian Minorities and Transforming States, Mapping Varied Christian Experiences and Responses*. D. Singh, Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- Chambon, Michel. 2023. "Chinese Nuns and Their Theology of Ministry" In *Modern Chinese Theologies, Vol. 1: Heritage and Prospect*. C. Starr. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- Chambon, Michel. 2019. "Sciences sociales et christianisme en Chine. Une brève introduction" pp.31-50 in *Trajectoires missionnaires en Asie orientale*, P. Servais and A. Join-Lambert, Collection « Religio ». Louvain-La-Neuve: Presses Universitaires de Louvain.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Are Chinese Christians Pentecostal? A Catholic Reading of Pentecostal Influence on Chinese Christians" pp.181-199 in *Global Chinese Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity*, F. Yang, J. K.C. Tong and A. H. Anderson, eds. Leiden: Brill.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Les Dieux Catholiques à la Rencontre des Fantômes Chinois" pp.113-124 in *Fantômes dans l'Extrême-Orient d'Hier et d'Aujourd'hui*. M. Laureillard and V. Durand-Dastès, eds. Paris: Presses de l'INALCO.
- Chambon, Michel. 2014. "Les Chrétiens Chinois entre Répression et Ouvertures" pp.592-602 in *Le Livre noir de la condition des chrétiens dans le monde*. J-M Di Falco, T. Radcliffe, A. Riccardi (Dir). Paris: XOEditions.
- Chambon, Michel. 2012. "Les Fêtes Chinoises Aujourd'hui" pp.925-950 in *Rites, fêtes et célébrations de l'humanité*. T.-M. Courau and H. De la Hougue (Dir.) Montrouge: Bayard.

Book Reviews:

- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Asian Pacific Catholicism and Globalization: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges" By Jose Casanova and Peter Phan, *Review of Religious Research* 66 (4).
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Christianity and the Chinese in Indonesia" by Chang Yau Hoon, *IJAC* 7 (2): 325-326.
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. Review of "Uneasy Encounters: Christian Churches in Greater China" by Rychetska Magdaléna, *IJAC* 7 (1):141-143.

- Chambon, Michel. 2023. Review of “Missionary Education. Historical Approaches and Global Perspectives” by Christiaens Kim, Idesbald Godeeris, and Pieter Verstraete (Ed.) *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 4 (204):179-180
- Chambon, Michel. 2021. Review of “People, Communities, and the Catholic Church in China” by Chu, Cindy Yik-yi, and Mariani, Paul P. (Ed.) *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 192: 172-175.
- Chambon, Michel. 2020. Review of “China in Life’s Foreground” by Audrey G. Donnithorne. *Missiology: An International Review*. 48(4): 422–426.
- Chambon, Michel. 2020. Review of “Catholic Missionaries in Early Modern Asia Patterns of Localization” by Nadine Amsler et al. (ed.) *EuropeNow*.
- Chambon, Michel. 2019. Review of “Protestantism in Xiamen, Then and Now” by Chris White (ed.). *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 188: 426-42.
- Chambon, Michel. 2018. Review of “Vincent Lebbe et son héritage” by Arnaud Join-Lambert et al. *Revue Histoire Ecclésiastique* (3-4): 353-353.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. Review of “Les Chrétiens de Chine, Affiliations et conversions au XXI^e siècle” by Pierre Vendassi. *Social Sciences and Missions*, 30(1-2): 212-214.

Selected Media Contributions:

- In Sept. 2024, I gave about 40 media interviews regarding the Pope’s visit to Asia Pacific, which included secular media (AFP, CNN, BBC, Le Monde, CNA, Staats Times, etc.) and Catholic media (UCANews, NCR, La Croix, etc.)
- The Diplomat (English):
 - Chambon, Michel “France, the Vatican, and the Pan-Asian Sexual Abuse Scandals of MEP Missionaries”, 21 Feb. 2024.
 - Chambon, Michel “The Vatican’s Diplomacy in Central Asia”, 3 Oct. 2022.
 - Chambon, Michel and Bernardo Brown “Catholicism’s Overlooked Importance in Asia”, 4 Feb. 2022.
- La Civiltà Cattolica (Italian and English):
 - Chambon, Michel and Antonio Spadaro, s.j. “African Influence upon Chinese Catholicism” 2020, 3: 270-280.
 - Chambon, Michel and Antonio Spadaro, s.j. “Urban Catholicism in China” 2019, 3(1): 26-38.
 - Chambon, Michel and Thierry Meynard, s.j. “Aggiornamento of the Chinese Catholic Church” 2018, 3 (18): 93-101.
- National Catholic Reporter (English)
 - Chambon Michel “In Asia, the Virgin Mary Transcends Religious Boundaries” 8 May 2023.
- Eglise d’Asie (French):
 - Chambon, Michel. “Comprendre ce qui se cache derrière le modèle des protestants de Wenzhou” June 16, 2016.
 - Chambon, Michel. “Semaine de prière pour l’unité des chrétiens : quel panorama œcuménique en Chine?” January 12, 2016.
- UCANews/ Lacroix International (English and Chinese)
 - <https://www.ucanews.org/category/author/michel-chambon>

Chambon, Michel. "Holy Week and the worldly path of the Sino-Vatican agreement", Apr. 5, 2024.

Chambon Michel. "Beijing, Holy See test Sino-Vatican deal" November 28, 2022.

Chambon, Michel. "The Holy See, China and the Question of Sovereignty" February 22, 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology at Hanover College 2018-2020
Teaching: ANTH 162 *World Cultures and Societies*; ANTH 260 *War and Asian Societies*; ANTH 325 *Methods in Anthropology*; ANTH 334 *International Development*; ANTH 461 *Senior Seminar – Anthropology of Christianity as a World Religion*
- Three-day training for the scholastics of the Jesuit China Province: "Chinese Christianities and Social Sciences", Fujen University, Taipei Feb. 2018
- Teaching Fellow at Boston University 2013-2017
Taught five semesters (including 2 semesters as a head-TF) under 3 different faculty members AN 101 *Introduction to Anthropology*
- Teacher at St Joseph Anglo-Chinese High School, Hong Kong 2005-2006
Taught (in Cantonese) an introductory class on European and French Cultures.
- Religious teacher in various settings (Sunday School, Young Adult programs, Wedding preparation)

ACADEMIC EVENTS

Conferences & Workshops Organized:

2024, Dec. 12-15: *The Pan Asian Heritage of St Francis-Xavier, co-organized with Xavier's College, Goa – India.*

2024, Aug. 29-30: *The Vatican and Interreligious Diplomacy in Asia, co-organized with RSIS Singapore.*

2024, Feb. 29 -March 1: *Gender and Emotion in Asia-Pacific Catholicisms, co-organized with Linda Zampol D'Ortia, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, online.*

2023, Aug. 31-31: *Asian Catholic Materialities, Asia Research Institute, Singapore.*

2023, Aug. 17&-18 & 22-23: *Global China in a Religious World, co-organized with Prof. David Palmer, Hong Kong University and Asia Research Institute, Hong Kong.*

2023, May 10-12: *More Universal than Catholicism? Mary Among Asian Religions, co-organized with the Center for Marian Studies, St Mary's University, Twickenham, online.*

2022, Feb. 10-11: *Catholicism, Family and Asian Societies, Asia Research Institute, online.*

Papers presented:

2024, August 1: Paper "Catholicism and Interreligious realities in Southeast China", USCCA Conference, Chicago (USA).

2024, July 8-11: Paper "The materialization of Catholicism within the Taiwanese domestic sphere" AAS-in-Asia, Yogyakarta (Indonesia)

- 2024, June 26-29: Paper *“Renaitre en Asie Chrétienne”* at the workshop ‘Le Sens Des Mots’, Paris (France)
- 2024, March 1: Paper *“Zen’s Anger: Geopolitical use of a Cardinal Emotion”* in *“Gender and Emotion in Asia-Pacific Catholicism,”* ISAC.
- 2023, June 24-27: Paper *“Displaying Mary in Singapore and Negotiating Catholic Unity and Diversity”*, AAS-in-Asia, Daegu (South Korea)
- 2023, May 10-12: Paper *“Mary and the Origin of the Self Singapore”* at the workshop *“More Universal than Catholicism? Mary Among Asian Religions,”* ISAC.
- 2022, November 19-23: Paper *“Local autonomy and global sovereignty: the political entanglements of Chinese Catholics”*, American Academy of Religion, Denver.
- 2022, November 8-11 : Paper *“Local autonomy and global sovereignty: the political entanglements of Chinese Catholics”*, American Anthropological Association, Seattle.
- 2022, March 25-26: Paper *“Les Catholicismes en Asie : mythes socio-historiques et enjeux théologiques”* at the workshop *“La sinisation du catholicisme après Vincent Lebbe : continuités, ruptures et défis”* Fujen University, Taipei
- 2022, March 24-27: Rountable organizer *“Studying Asian Catholics”* at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Hawaiï
- 2021, Nov. 17-21: Paper *“The Trans-local Economy of the Société des Missions Etrangères de Paris”* (and panel organizer) at the American Anthropological Association 2021 Annual Meeting, Baltimore
- 2021, Nov. 20-23: Paper *“Catholic News Agencies Focusing on Asia”* (and panel organizer) at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, San Antonio
- 2021, Nov. 15-16: Paper *“Discussing Lived Catholicism in China, An Urgent Need for the World Church”* at the Lived Catholicism conference, Durham University
- 2021, Sept. 22: Paper *“The MEP in Thailand: current presence and significance”*, at the Jacques de Morgan Research Seminar Series – Translocal Mobilities: the French Asian Connection, National University of Malaysia
- 2021, March 3-5: Paper *“Catholic News Agencies and 21st Century Asia”*, at the worshop *Transnational Religious Networks: Alternative Articulations and Methodologies*, Asia Research Institute, Nationale University of Singapore
- 2021, Jan.25-26: Paper *“Chinese Protestant Calisthenics and Women Producing Religious Space”*, at the worshop *Urban Religion, Gender and the Body*, Asia Research Institute, Nationale University of Singapore
- 2020, Nov.29-Dec. 10: Paper *“Spring Couplets & the Materialization of Chinese Christianity”*, at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, online
- 2020, Jun. 1-3: Paper *“Chinese Catholic Nuns and Their Theology of Ministry”*, at the Yale Divinity School Conference on Chinese Theology, New Haven
- 2018, Nov. 17-20: Paper *“Chinese Christians in Nanping City: Five Denominations, One Ecumenism”*, at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Denver

- 2018, Nov. 8-10: Paper “L'Esprit du Christ dans la société chinoise contemporaine: les formes du pentecôtisme en Chine post-maoïste”, at the XL Convegno di Studi Religiosi, Villa Cagnola Gazzada, Italy
- 2018, July 3-5: Paper “The Chinese Christmas War, Louis Dumont and the Remaking of Chinese Religiosity”, at the East Asian Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference, Singapore
- 2018, June 15-16: Paper “Producing and Consuming The Blood of Christ in Contemporary China”, at French Association for Chinese Studies Workshop, Paris
- 2018, March 22-25: Paper “A Protestant Thanksgiving in China” at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference, Washington D.C.
- 2017, Sept 2: Paper “État de la Recherche sur le Christianisme Contemporain en Chine” at Les missions d'Asie Orientale : nouvelles orientations de recherche, Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve
- 2017, May 5-6: Paper “The Action of Christian Churches within Chine Environment Today” at Converting Spaces, Redirecting Missions Through Global Encounters, University of California Santa Barbara
- 2017, Jan.28-29: Panel organizer of “Facing Aging in Contemporary China”, and paper “Chinese Protestantism and Elderly People: Opening Nursing Homes to Become a Chinese Religion” at the New England Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston
- 2016, Nov. 18-21: Paper “Chinese Christians Negotiating Religious Value of Space in China Today” at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego
- 2016, Jun. 20-21 : Paper “Les catholiques 'alternatifs' de Canton : quels enjeux éducatifs pour quelle formation humaine ?” at the Verbiest Forum, Leuven
- 2014, July 2-4: Paper “Recent evolutions of Chinese Christian churches: The emergence of a distinct Chinese Protestantism” at the New European Research on Contemporary China Conference, Beijing
- 2013, Oct. 30-31: Paper “Is Chinese Protestantism Pentecostal? Some issues of Healing among Chinese Christians” at the Global ReOrient: Chinese Pentecostal/Charismatic Movements in the Global East, Purdue University.
- 2013, Oct. 25-26: Paper “The Labeling of Chinese Christianity: How do we Know?” at Ways of Knowing Graduate Conference on Religion, Harvard Divinity School
- 2013, Feb. 21-23 : Paper “Les Dieux Chrétiens à la Rencontre des Fantômes Chinois” at the conference « Aesthetics of Phantasmagoria » INALCO Institut d'Asie Orientale

INVITED TALKS

- 2024, Sept. 28: Two Lectures “Crossways of Catholic Art” at Temenggong Artists-in-Residence, Singapore.
- 2024, Jan. 24: Panel Discussion “Christian Studies in Asia: Taiwan, China, Timor. Theoretical & Methodological Issues” at the CEFC, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.

- 2023, Sept. 29: Talk: “Responding to Pew Research Center’s New Report on Religion in South and Southeast Asia” at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- 2022, March 6 : Talk “Chinese Catholic Nuns and their Theology of Ministry” at the ISHWRA Seminar, Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University.
- 2021, March 26: Talk “Etudier les Chrétiens en Chine Méthodologies et Enjeux”, IFRAE-INALCO.
- 2021, March 3rd: Talk “Studying Chinese Christian Networks and Questioning Approaches to Religion”, Sussex Asia Centre Seminars, University of Sussex
- 2021, Feb. 23th: Talk “Researching Christianity in Contemporary China”, Pr. Wu keeping Class, Duke-Kunshan University, Suzhou
- 2019, April 8th: Talk “The Bloody Business of Christian Conversion In China: Materiality and Religious Change”, Center on Religion and Chinese Society, Purdue University
- 2018, April 26th: Roundtable “The Church and China in the Age of Francis: A Panel Discussion” organized by the Liu Institute, University of Notre Dame
- 2018, April 24th: Talk “The Chinese Rites Controversy, 1635-1746”, at Calvin College
- 2018, Feb. 12th: Presentation of research at the CEFC seminar, Academia Sinica, “Chinese Protestants and their 10,000 objects: Reconsidering the Study of Protestantism in Contemporary China”, Taipei
- 2017, June 1st : Talk “Les Protestants dans le Christianisme Chinois Aujourd’hui” at Centre Sèvres – Institut Ricci, Paris
- 2017, May 15th: Presentation of research at the seminar “Histoire du taoïsme et des religions chinoises” Vincent Goossaert, EPHE, Paris

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023-20--: Ongoing research on “The Materialization of Chinese Catholicism within the Domestic Sphere”
- 2021-20--: Institution building, academic outreach, and scientific leadership of ISAC (Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics - www.isac-research.org)
- 2018-20--: Ongoing research on “Spring Couplets and the Domestic Materialization of Chinese Christianity”
- 2017-20--: Ongoing research on “The Expansion of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta across the Asia-Pacific Region”
- 2014-2018: Research and Interviews of Chinese Catholic nuns living in China, Europe and the USA
- 2015-2016: 14-month-ethnographic fieldwork among Christian Churches in Nanping City and in Guangzhou, China
- 2010-2012: Contribution to a research project led by Vincent Goossaert and Fang Ling (CNRS): “The religious life of the Chinese diaspora in France”
- 2009-2011: 16 months of language study and ethnographic research in Taiwan
- 2001: 4-month internship at Environment Canada in Montreal, Canada

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024-: Editorial Board Member, *International Journal Asian Christianity*, Brill.
- 2023-: Editorial Board Member, Book Series: *Contemporary Asian Catholics*, University of Pittsburgh Press.
- 2023-: Reviewer for *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.
- 2022-: Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Global Catholicism*.
- 2021-: Reviewer for *Review of Religion and Chinese Societies*, and *Religions*.
- 2020-: Reviewer for *American Anthropologist*, and *Brill*.
- 2019-: Reviewer for *Journal of Contemporary China*, and *American Ethnologist*.

ECCLESIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2016: Doctoral research within a mainline Protestant Church in Nanping City, China, with observations of interactions and relationships with four additional local Churches
- 2001-2008: Seminarian for the Catholic archdiocese of Clermont, France
- 2003-2006: full-time Pastoral worker, diocese of Hong Kong
- Various ecumenical experience:
- 2013: 2-week-visit to the Greek Orthodox Church in Turkey
 - 2012: 2 months of observation within a Taiwanese Pentecostal Church
 - 2011: 2-week-visits to Presbyterian Churches in South Korea and to the Romanian Orthodox Church
 - 2010: 4 months of immersion within the Taiwanese Presbyterian Church
 - 2008: 2-week visit to Melkite and Maronite Churches in Lebanon
 - 2007: 1 month of immersion within an Anglican parish, Church of England, UK
- Visits to non-European Catholic Communities: Armenia, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Morocco, Philippines, South Korea, Thailand, USA, Vietnam

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- 2008-2012: Trainer on cultural encounter and diversity, and orientation adviser for the French association Délégation Catholique pour la Coopération (DCC), a humanitarian agency of the French Bishops Conference promoting development and international volunteering. website: www.ladcc.org
- 1998-2008: Animator and/or project organizer of activities with mentally disabled people in various settings

LINGUISTIC SKILLS

French (mother tongue); English (advanced capacity in speaking, reading and writing);
Mandarin (advanced capacity in speaking and reading); Cantonese (proficiency in speaking);
Italian (competent)

INTERESTS

Gardening; drawing

MISCELLANEOUS

Received Ministries of Lector and Acolyte, May 2008, Paris

Personal blog: <https://michelchambon.blogspot.com/>