

October 2024

## **Tian Xu**

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History Department  
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### ***Education***

- 2021      PhD (defense with distinction), U.S. History  
            The Catholic University of America  
            Dissertation Title: “Navigating Worthiness in America: White Attorneys,  
            Black Civil War Pensioners, and Chinese Immigrants, 1862-1930”  
            Advisors: Timothy J. Meagher, Stephen A. West, Mae M. Ngai (Columbia  
            University)
- 2017      M.A. in U.S. History, The Catholic University of America
- 2014      M.A. in Canadian & US History, Nankai Univ. (Completion of Coursework)
- 2012      B.A. in World History, Nankai University

### ***Professional Experience***

Assistant Professor, History Department, Peking University, 2023 to Present.  
Postdoctoral Fellow, the Baldy Center for Law and Public Policy, SUNY, Buffalo, 2022-23.  
Scholar in Residence, Historic New England, Boston, Massachusetts, 2021-22.  
Consultant and Co-project director, Scholars Advisory Committee, Museum of Chinese in  
America, New York City, 2021-22.

### ***Research Experience***

#### Publications (Peer-reviewed)

Xu, Tian. "Chinese Women and Habeas Corpus Hearings in California, 1857–1882." *The Journal of the Civil War Era* 13, no. 4 (2023): 494-514. (**Winner of *The Journal of the Civil War Era*'s 2024 George and Ann Richards Prize**)

Xu, Tian. “Immigration Attorneys and Chinese Exclusion Law Enforcement: The Case of San Francisco, 1882-1930.” *The Journal of American Ethnic History* 41, no.1 (Fall 2021): 50-76.

#### Conference Presentations

“Translating Grassroots Legal Knowledge between the Cantonese and Anglo-American Pacifics, 1840-1943.” Paper presented at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Meeting, 2023.

“Navigating ‘Worthiness’ in America’s Schools: Class, Chinese Exclusion, and A Forgotten Group of Chinese Students.” Paper presented at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) Annual Meeting, 2021.

“Immigration Attorneys and Chinese Exclusion Law Enforcement: The Case of San Francisco, 1882-1930.” Paper presented at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Meeting, 2021.

“‘Within the Jurisdiction of Our Courts’: Bureaucratic Reforms, Official-turned-attorneys,

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and the Marketplace of Chinese Immigration in the 1920s.” The Association of Asian Americans annual meeting, 2020 (cancelled due to Covid-19).  
“Surveilling Unworthy "Brokers": Federal Agencies, White Lawyers for the Minorities, and the Search for Racial Management, 1862–1924.” The OAH Annual Meeting, 2020 (moved online due to Covid-19).

#### Field Research

“Religion and Governance: The Catholic Church and Community Management in Rural China,” 2010-2011.

#### ***Fellowships and Honors***

Louis Leonard Tucker Alumni Fellowship, the Massachusetts Historical Society, 2023-24 (declined).

Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy at the University at Buffalo, 2022-2023.

Scholar in Residence, Historic New England, 2021-2022.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Humanities Center at Texas Tech University, 2021-22 (declined).

Short-term Research Fellowship, the Huntington Library, 2020-21.

The Arthur J. Quinn Memorial Fellowship, the Bancroft Library at UC, Berkeley, 2019-20.

The Global South Fellowship, the New Orleans Center for the Gulf South, Tulane University, 2019-20.

Dissertation Research Fellowship, the Wilson Library at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2019-20.

Weiner Fellowship/FAU-Huntington Research Fellowship, 2019-20 (Declined due to scheduling conflicts).

Gilder Lehrman Scholarly Fellowship, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2018-19.