

Covell Meyskens (柯尚哲)  
Assistant Professor  
Naval Postgraduate School  
Department of National Security Affairs  
1 University Circle, Monterey, CA  
(305) 608-8291  
[cfmeyske@nps.edu](mailto:cfmeyske@nps.edu)

## **EDUCATION**

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2015	Ph.D. in History University of Chicago
2007	M.A. in History University of Chicago
2004	M.A. in Philosophy University of Paris 8
2002	B.A. in Philosophy University of California, Santa Cruz

## **PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

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2015 – present	Assistant Professor Naval Postgraduate School Department of National Security Affairs
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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Books**

2020	<i>Mao's Third Front: The Militarization in Cold War China</i> . Forthcoming, Cambridge University Press.
In progress	<i>The Three Gorges Dam: Building a Hydraulic Engine for China</i> .

### **Articles**

2019	“Chinese Views of the Nuclear Endgame in North Korea.” <i>Nonproliferation Review</i> Vol. 26, No. 5/6 (2019): 1-19.
2019	“Bringing the Cold War into Teaching on Mao's China.” <i>The PRC History Review</i> Vol. 4, No. 2 (2019): 14-16.
2019	Brian DeMare and Covell Meyskens. “Introduction.” In “Teaching PRC History,” edited by Brian DeMare and Covell Meyskens. Special issue, <i>The PRC History Review</i> Vol. 4, No. 2 (2019): 1-2.
2015	“Third Front Railroads and Industrial Modernity in Late Maoist China.” <i>Twentieth Century China</i> 40 (2015): 238-260.

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- 2005 “Guerre et Race dans le Pacifique: Signes et Pratiques (War and Race in the Pacific: Signs and Practices.” *Drôle d’époque* 16 (2005).
- 2005 “Le monde selon Katrina (The World according to Katrina).” *Drôle d’époque* 17 (2005) : 1-2.
- 2005 “Liquidité, capital, souveraineté (Liquidity, Capital, Sovereignty).” *Lignes* 16 (2005): 60-72.

### **Books Chapters**

- 2019 “Labor.” In *The Afterlives of Chinese Communism*, edited by Christian Sorace and Nicholas Loubere, 103-109. London: Verso, 2019.
- 2018 “Building a Dam for China in the Three Gorges Region, 1919-1971.” In *Water, Technology, and the Nation-State*, edited by Erik Swyngedouw and Filippo Menga, 207-222. London: Routledge, 2018.

### **Review Essays**

- 2018 “Inequality and Social Stratification in Mao’s China.” *Twentieth Century China* 43 (2018): 196-203.
- 2013 “Cong oumei guandian kan sanxian jianshe (Western Perspectives on the Third Front).” In *Zhongguo gongchandang yu sanxian jianshe (The Chinese Communist Party and the Third Front)*, edited by Chen Xi, 569-579. Beijing: Zhonggong dangshi chubanshe, 2013.
- 2014 “Searching for Security: Prospects for Peace in Sino-Foreign Relations.” *Journal of International and Global Studies* 5 (2014): 96-100.

### **Manuscripts Submitted**

- 2020 “Experiencing the Cold War at Shanghai’s Secret Military Industrial Complex.” *Cold War History*.
- 2019 “The Makings of China’s Cold War Motor City.” In *Material Contradictions in Mao’s China*, edited by Jennifer Althenger and Denise Ho. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- 2019 “Rethinking the Political Economy of Development in Mao’s China.” *positions: asia critique*.

### **Interviews**

- 2016 “Where Mao Meets the Mundane,” *The New York Times*, August 17, 2016.

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- 2016 “Everyday Life in Mao’s China,” *Los Angeles Review of Books*, January 17, 2016.
- 2005 “Pourquoi Hiroshima? (Why Hiroshima).” *France Culture*. Interview on French national radio about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 2005.

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

- “Hydraulic Dreams: Sino-American Planning for the Three Gorges Dam in the 1940s.”
- “The Building of the Gezhouba Dam: From Maoist Disaster to Post-Mao Success Story.”
- “Watching China: US Aerial Surveillance during the Cold War.”
- “Artificial Intelligence in China.”

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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- 2018-2019 Naval Postgraduate School  
Teaching Fellows Program
- 2015-2017 Naval Postgraduate School  
Research Initiation Program Fellowship
- 2015 North Carolina State University at Raleigh  
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship in Chinese history (declined)
- 2015 National Chiao Tung University, Institute of Social Research and Cultural Studies  
Postdoctoral Fellowship(declined)
- 2014 Association for Asian Studies  
China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant (declined)
- 2013 University of Chicago  
Chinese Studies Dissertation Fellowship
- 2013 Fulbright-Hays Commission  
Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
- 2013 Renmin University  
Visiting Scholar, School of Marxism Studies

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2012-2013      Academica Sinica  
Visiting Scholar, Institute of Modern History

2011-2012      Institute of International Education  
Fulbright Fellowship, Sichuan University

2008-2010      University of Chicago  
Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship

2007-2008      Republic of China, Ministry of Education  
Chinese Language Scholarship

#### **INVITED TALKS**

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2020      “Hydraulic Dreams: Chinese and American Planning for the Three Gorges Dam, 1919-1949.” Second Workshop on Sino-American Relations at the Grassroots in the 1940s, University of California at Berkeley, September 3-6.

2019      “Hydraulic Dreams: Chinese and American Planning for the Three Gorges Dam, 1919-1949.” Workshop on Sino-American Relations at the Grassroots in the 1940s, Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan, China, July 11-13.

2019      “Everyday Life in a Third Front Steel Town.” Workshop on the Oral History of Cold War Asia, National University of Singapore, June 21-22.

2019      “The Materiality of China’s Second Auto Works.” Workshop on Material Culture in Mao’s China, King’s College, London, May 17-18.

2018      “How to Make a Maoist City: The Case of Panzhihua.” Workshop on Material Culture in Mao’s China, Yale University, September 7-9.

2018      “Maoist Man and its Discontents: The Case of the Third Front.” Workshop on How Maoism was Made, British Academy, November 29.

2017      “Mao's Garrison State: Security and Development in Cold War China.” Capitalism and its Alternatives Lecture Series, University of California at San Diego, International Institute, San Diego, CA, November 20.

2017      “The Coming of the Third Front.” University of Chicago’s East Asia Transregional Histories workshop, Chicago, March 30.

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- 2016 “Securing Maoist China: The Cold War, Late Development, and the Third Front.” Workshop on Governmentality in Mao’s China at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, September 17.
- 2016 “China’s Cold War and the Third Front.” University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California, April 20.
- 2016 “The Cold War and Late Maoism’s War Machine.” University of Mississippi conference on Cold War Developmentalism in Global Perspective, Oxford, Mississippi, March 3-5.
- 2007 “Against Racism?: The Oriental Ambiguities of Office of War Information Lessons in Japanese-American Relations.” Nagoya American Studies Summer Seminar, Nagoya, Japan, July.
- 2005 “Ghosts in the Tides: From the Yellow Peril to Nagasaki.” National Chiao Tung University’s workshop on Polemos/Stasis, Yilan, Taiwan, June 24-27.

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

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### **Organized panels**

- 2020 Covell Meyskens and Katrin Heilmann. “Experiences of War in Modern China: From World War II to the Present Day.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, March 21. (Convened digitally due to COVID-19)
- 2018 Brian Lander and Covell Meyskens. “Living with the Yangzi: Technology, State Power, and Environmental Change in the Lowlands of Central China.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington D.C., March 23.
- 2017 Covell Meyskens and Nancy Reynolds. “Hydropower, Nationalism, and Foreign Expertise in Africa and Asia.” Annual meeting of the American Society of Environmental History, Chicago, Illinois, March 30.
- 2017 “The Cold War and East Asian Developmental States.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, Canada, March 17.
- 2015 Covell Meyskens and Limin Teh. “Industrial Citizenship in Maoist China.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, Illinois, March 29.
- 2014 “Building the State West: Sovereignty, Development, and Integration in Twentieth Century China.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 29.

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**Papers Presented**

- 2020 “The Building of the Gezhouba Dam: From Maoist Disaster to Post-Mao Success Story.” Annual Meeting of the International Committee on History and Technology, Eindhoven, the Netherlands, July 13-18.
- 2020 “Experiencing the Cold War at Shanghai’s Secret Military Industrial Complex.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, March 19-22. (Convened digitally due to COVID-19)
- 2020 “Defending Shanghai from Afar: Anhui’s Small Third Front.” Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, March 19-22.
- 2019 “The Makings of China’s Cold War Motor City.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Denver, March 21-24.
- 2018 “Building a Dam for China in the Three Gorges Region.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington DC, March 22-25.
- 2017 “Mao's Developmental Garrison State.” American Historical Association Pacific Branch, California State University, Northridge, August 4.
- 2017 “Building a Hydraulic Engine: Late Development, Water Nationalism, and China’s Gezhouba Dam.” Annual meeting of the American Society of Environmental History, Chicago, March 30.
- 2017 “The Cold War and Maoist China’s Developmental Garrison State.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, Canada, March 17.
- 2015 “The Cold War and Late Maoism’s Industrial Geography of Fear.” University of Chicago East Asia Transregional Histories Workshop, Chicago, June 5.
- 2015 “Living in Mao’s Town: Everyday Life and Hardship in Panzhihua, 1964-1980.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, March 29.
- 2014 “Guerilla Urbanism: Panzhihua and the Alternate Socialist Form of Late Maoist Urbanity.” University of Chicago East Asia Transregional Histories Workshop, Chicago, May 18.

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- 2014 “Technology and National Security in East Asia’s Long Twentieth Century.” University of Chicago roundtable on Christopher Bayly’s Twentieth Century World History, April 21.
- 2014 “Third Front Railroads and State-Building in Western China.” Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 29.
- 2013 “Lines of the State: Third Front Railroads and the Production of Industrial Sovereignty in Western China.” Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, PRC History Workshop, Taipei, Taiwan, October 1.
- 2013 “The Dialectic of Amity and Enmity.” University of Chicago conference on “Rethinking Amity” in honor of Michael Geyer, April 20.
- 2011 “Revolution as Experience: Norms and Memories.” Sichuan University conference on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1911 Revolution, Chengdu, China, September 25.
- 2006 “Ghosts in the Tides: From the Yellow Peril to Nagasaki.” Annual meeting of the Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association, Atlanta, April.

### **Public Talks**

- 2019 “The Rise of China in Historical Perspective.” World Affairs Council, Monterey, November 19.
- 2017-2019 “The Rise of China.” Triannual lectures given at the NAVAIR Leadership Development Program, Naval War College, Newport.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **MA Courses Taught**

- 2015-2020 Politics in China  
History of Modern East Asia  
Nationalism and Revolution  
Science and Technology in China (In preparation)

### **M.A. Advising**

- 2020 Theses in progress (11)
- 2015-2020 Completed theses (13)

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## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

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### **Website curator**

*Everyday Life in Maoist China*

<https://everydaylifeinmaoistchina.org/>

### **Book Reviewer**

*Twentieth Century China*

*Journal of Asian Studies*

*positions: asia critique*

*PRC History Review*

## **LANGUAGES**

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English (Native)

Mandarin (Fluent)

French (Excellent)

Spanish (Basic)