

CURRICULUM VITAE
updated November 2021

DAGMAR SCHÄFER

Contact: Boltzmannstraße 22, 14195 Berlin, Germany
+49 30 226 67 151, dschaefer@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Managing Director, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin	07/2019–
Honorary Visiting Professor, Peking University	12/2019
Guest Professor, Tianjin University	2018–2021
Adjunct Professor, Institute of Sinology, Freie Universität Berlin	11/2016–
Guest Professor, School of History and Culture of Science, Shanghai Jiao Tong University	07/2016– 07/2017
Honorary Professor, History of Science and Technology, Technische Universität Berlin	07/2015–
Director, Department III, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin	04/2013–
Head of Department of East Asian Studies, University of Manchester	01/2012– 07/2013
Professor and Chair of Chinese Studies and History of Technology, School for Arts and Languages, University of Manchester	09/2011– 07/2015
Director, Confucius Institute Manchester	08/2011– 07/2013
Director, Independent Research Group “Concepts and Modalities: Practical Knowledge Transmission” (China, 10th–18th century), Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin	05/2006– 08/2011
Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Studies, Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg	04/2005– 08/2005

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND COOPERATIONS

Principal Investigator, British Inter-University Centre for Chinese Studies	2012–2013
Research Director of the Division for Language-Based Area Studies, University of Manchester	2012–08/2013
Principal Investigator in joint research project cooperation between the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG) and the Palace Museum (PM) in Beijing, China	founded in 12/2007; renewed 2011
Supervisor of Partner Group of the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) and the Max Planck Society (MPG) at the Institute of the History of Natural Science (IHNS), Beijing, China	09/2007–08/2012

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editor in Chief, <i>Transfers. Interdisciplinary Journal of Mobility Studies</i>	2018–2019
Guest Editor, <i>Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies</i> , special issue <i>History of Science and Technology across the Silk Roads</i>	2017–
Series Editor (with Benjamin Elman and Kim-Yunk Sik), <i>Science and Religion in East Asia</i>	2015–

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER POSITIONS

Editorial Board, <i>Nuncius</i>	2021–2024
International Advisory Board, <i>Physis. Journal of the Italian Society for the History of Science</i>	2020–
Editorial Board, <i>IJHAC: a Journal of Digital Humanities</i>	2020–
Editorial Board, <i>Journal of Chinese History</i>	2020–
Senior Advisory Board, <i>Journal for East Asian Science, Technology, Medicine (EASTM)</i>	2019–2021
Steering Committee, <i>China Biographical Database (CBDB)</i>	2017–
Editorial Board, <i>Ambix</i>	2017–
Editorial Board, <i>Osiris</i>	2016–2021
Editorial Board, <i>Transversal: International Journal for the Historiography of Science</i>	2016–
International Committee, <i>Artefacts</i>	2014–
Series Editorial Board, <i>Edition Open Access (EOA)</i>	2013–

EDUCATION

Habilitation University of Würzburg, Chinese Studies (<i>opus eximium</i>)	2005
Ph.D. Chinese Studies, Japanese Studies, Political Science Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg (<i>opus eximium</i>)	1996
M.A. Chinese Studies, Japanese Studies, Political Science Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg (<i>summa cum laude</i>)	1993

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize German Research Foundation (DFG)	2020
Member of the School of Historical Studies, Residential Scholarship Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey	01/2019–04/2019
Joseph Levenson Book Prize (pre-1900 category) Association for Asian Studies <i>The Crafting of the 10,000 Things</i>	2013
Pfizer Award, History of Science Society (HSS) Best scholarly work and outstanding book <i>The Crafting of the 10,000 Things</i>	2012
Award for Excellent and Outstanding International Research Ruchti-Stiftung	2006
Scholarship for Outstanding Scholars Bavarian Ministry of Science	2005–2006
Individual Fellowship Max Planck Institute for the History of Science	09/2005–10/2005
HWP Scholarship Bavarian state scholarship for outstanding academics	2003–2004
DFG Grant Dept. of Sinology, University of Würzburg	2001–2004
Academia Sinica, Research Grant P.R. China, Beijing	09/2002–11/2002
DFG Research Grant Taiwan, National Tsing Hua University	03/2002–07/2002
Academia Sinica, Research Grant P.R. China, Beijing	01/2002–02/2002
Post-Doctoral Fellowship University of Würzburg	1998–2001
Award for Excellent Research	1997

Unterfränkische Gedenkstiftung	
DFG PhD Scholarship	1994–1996
Academic Exchange Scholarship (DAAD)	1990–1991
P.R. China, Zhejiang University	
Dept. of Chinese History and Journalism	
University of Würzburg,	1990
Exchange Scholarship P.R. China,	
Zhejiang University	

PROJECT-BASED RESEARCH GRANTS

Principal Investigator, with Noa Hegesh (MPIWG)	01/2021–12/2022
<i>Transience: Politics and Practices of Time in the Chinese Period of Division (3rd–7th century).</i>	
Funded by the Einstein Center Chronoi, Berlin	
Principal Investigator	2018–12/2022
<i>Translation Terroirs—East Asia between Autochthonous and European Cartographic Languages</i>	
SPP 2130 Übersetzungskulturen der Frühen Neuzeit (1450–1800)/Translation cultures of early modern times (1450–1800)	
Research team of three, funded by the DFG	
Project Director	2018–2019
<i>Chinese Local Gazetteers: Producing Full Texts and Making Them Open-Access</i>	
Cooperative research project of the MPIWG and Harvard-Yenching Library (HYL), funded by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation (CCK) Database Grant	

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Books

- The Crafting of the 10,000 Things: Knowledge and Technology in Seventeenth-Century China.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011. Translated into Chinese as: *Gong kai wan wu: 17 shiji Zhongguo de zhishi yu jishu* 工开万物：17 世纪中国的知识与技术. Nanjing: Jiangsu renmin chubanshe 江苏人民出版社, 2015.
- Weaving an Economic Pattern in Ming Times (1368–1644): The Production of Silk Weaves in the State-Owned Silk Workshops.* Co-authored with Dieter Kuhn. Heidelberg: edition forum, 2002.
- Des Kaisers seidene Kleider: Staatliche Seidenmanufakturen in der Ming-Zeit (1368–1644).* Heidelberg: edition forum, 1998.

Working Group Books, Edited Volumes, and Special Issues

- Ownership of Knowledge: Beyond Intellectual Property.* Co-edited with Annapurna Mamidipudi and Marius Buning. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, forthcoming.
- Thinking in Many Tongues: A Reader on Plurilingualism in Traditional Eurasian Scholarship.* Co-edited with Glenn W. Most and Mårten Söderblom Saarela. Leiden: Brill, forthcoming.
- “Technology Is Global: The Useful & Reliable Knowledge Debate.” Co-edited with Simona Valeriani. Special issue, *Technology and Culture* 62, no. 2 (April 2021).
- Seri-Technics: Historical Silk Technologies.* Co-edited with Giorgio Riello and Luca Molà. Max Planck Research Library for the History and Development of Knowledge Studies 13. Berlin: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, 2020. [Open Access](#)
- The History of Science in a World of Readers.* Co-edited with Angela N. H. Creager. Max Planck Research Library for the History and Development of Knowledge Studies 11. Berlin: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, 2019. [Open Access](#)

- 科学史新论：范式更新与视角转换 (History of Science Reader). Co-edited with Angela N. H. Creager. Translated by Wu Xiujie 吴秀杰. Series: 科学与社会译丛, edited by Liu Dong 刘东, Dagmar Schäfer 薛凤, and Angela N. H. Creager 柯立哲. Hangzhou: Zhejiang University Press, 2019.
- Accounting for Uncertainty: Prediction and Planning in Asian History*. Co-edited with Michael Lackner and Zhao Lu. MPIWG Preprint no. 496. Berlin: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, 2019. [Open Access](#)
- Animals through Chinese History: Earliest Times to 1911*. Co-edited with Roel Sterckx and Martina Siebert. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. [Open Access](#)
- Threads of Global Desire: Silk in the Pre-Modern World*. Co-edited with Giorgio Riello and Luca Molà. Pasold Studies in Textile, Dress and Fashion History 1. Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer, 2018.
- Rice: Global Networks and New Histories*. Co-edited with Francesca Bray, Peter Coclanis, and Edda Fields-Black. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- “Knowledge Spheres: Borderlines and Intersections of Expertise and Knowing in China, Song to Qing.” Co-edited with Sun Xiaochun. Special issue, *EASTM* 38/39 (2013/2014). [Open Access](#)
- “Technik und Globalgeschichte.” Co-edited with Marcus Popplow. Special issue, *TG Technikgeschichte* 80, no. 1 (2013).
- Cultures of Knowledge: Technology in Chinese History*. Leiden: Brill, 2012.

Articles and Chapters in Books

- “Technology Is Global: The Useful & Reliable Knowledge Debate,” co-authored with Simona Valeriani. In “Technology is Global: The Useful & Reliable Knowledge Debate,” edited by Dagmar Schäfer and Simona Valeriani. Special issue, *Technology and Culture* 62, no. 2 (2021): 327–47.
- “Useful Work: State Demands and Craftsmen’s Social Mobility in Fifteenth-Century China.” In “Technology Is Global: The Useful & Reliable Knowledge Debate,” edited by Dagmar Schäfer and Simona Valeriani. Special issue, *Technology and Culture* 62, no. 2 (2021): 373–400.
- “What Is Local Knowledge? Digital Humanities and Yuan Dynasty Disasters in Imperial China’s Local Gazetteers,” co-authored with Shih-Pei Chen and Qun Che. *Journal of Chinese History* 中國歷史學刊 4, no. 2 (2020): 391–429. [Open Access](#)
- “Visualizations of the Heavens before 1700 as a Concern of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology,” co-authored with Sonja Brentjes. *NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik und Medizin* (July 2020). [Open Access](#)
- “Deep Time History: The Lure of the Black Box.” In *Boxes: A Field Guide*, edited by Susanne Bauer, Martina Schlünder, and Maria Rentetzi, 307–26. Manchester: Mattering Press, 2020. [Open Access](#)
- “Things (Wu) and Their Transformations (Zaowu) in the Late Ming Dynasty: Song Yingxing’s and Huang Cheng’s Approaches to Mobilizing Craft Knowledge.” In *Entangled Itineraries: Materials, Practices, and Knowledges across Eurasia*, edited by Pamela H. Smith, 63–78. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019.
- “Introduction,” co-authored with Florence Hsia. *Technology and Culture* 60, no. 2 (2019): 554–61.
- “History of Science, Technology, and Medicine: A Second Look at Joseph Needham,” co-authored with Florence Hsia. *Isis* 110, no. 1 (2019): 94–99. [Open Access](#)
- “Introduction: Knowing Animals in China’s History,” co-authored with Martina Siebert and Roel Sterckx. In *Animals through Chinese History: Earliest Times to 1911*, edited by Dagmar Schäfer, Martina Siebert, and Roel Sterckx, 1–19. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. [Open Access](#)
- “Great Plans: Song Dynasty (960–1279) Institutions for Human and Veterinary Healthcare,” co-authored with Han Yi. In *Animals through Chinese History: Earliest Times to 1911*, edited by Dagmar Schäfer, Martina Siebert, and Roel Sterckx, 160–80. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. [Open Access](#)

- “Unpacking the Chinese Library.” In *Bibliotechnica: Humanist Practice in Digital Times*, edited by John Tresch, 117–43. Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus, 2018. [Open Access](#)
- “Kranzberg’s Fifth Law.” *Technology’s Stories* 6, no. 4 (2018). doi: 10.15763/jou.ts.2018.12.20.02. [Open Access.](#)
- “Drunken Talk: Political Discourse and Alcohol Consumption During the Northern Song Dynasty (960–1127 CE).” In *Reading the Signs: Philology, History, Prognostication; Festschrift for Michael Lackner*, edited by Iwo Amelung and Joachim Kurtz, 303–16. Acta Historica Leopoldina 69. München: Iudicum, 2018.
- “10000 Dinge – Modelle und Technologie im China der Ming (1369–1645)- und Qing (1645–1912)-Periode.” In *Wissensaustausch und Modernisierungsprozesse zwischen Europa, Japan und China*, edited by Cord Eberspracher, Alfons Labisch, and Xuetao Li, 113–26. Halle: Leopoldina, 2018.
- “Translation History, Knowledge and Nation Building in China.” In *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Culture*, edited by Sue-Ann Harding and Ovidi Carbonell Cortés, 134–53. London: Routledge, 2018.
- “The Historical Roots of Modern Bridges: China’s Engineers as Global Actors.” In *Technology and Globalisation: Networks of Experts in World History*, edited by Lino Camprubi and David Pretel, 27–39. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- “Introduction: Silk in the Pre-Modern World,” co-authored with Giorgio Riello and Luca Molà. In *Threads of Global Desire: Silk in the Pre-Modern World*, edited by Giorgio Riello and Luca Molà, 1–18. Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer, 2018.
- “Power and Silk: The Central State and Localities in State-owned Manufacture During the Ming Reign (1368–1644).” In *Threads of Global Desire*, edited by Giorgio Riello and Luca Molà, 21–48. Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer, 2018.
- “China und Japan.” In *Handbuch Wissenschaftsgeschichte*, edited by Marianne Sommer, Staffan Müller-Wille, and Carsten Reinhardt, 166–77. Stuttgart: Metzler, 2017.
- “Interpreting the Collection and Display of Contemporary Science in Chinese Museums as a Reflection of Science in Society,” co-authored with Jia-Ou Song. In *Challenging Collections: Approaches to the Heritage of recent Science and Technology*, edited by Alison Boyle and Johannes-Geert Hagmann, 88–102. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, 2017.
- “Thinking in Many Tongues: Language(s) & Late Imperial China’s Science.” *Isis* 108, no. 3 (2017): 621–28. [Open Access](#)
- “Science in the Medieval East.” In *Oxford Illustrated History of Science*, edited by Iwan Rhys Morus, 108–42. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- “Knowledge by Design: Architecture and Jade Models During the Qianlong 乾隆 Reign (1735–1796).” In *The Structures of Practical Knowledge*, edited by Matteo Valleriani, 271–86. Cham: Springer, 2017. [Open Access](#)
- “Compiling a Database on Historical China from Local Records: the Local Gazetteers Project at MPIWG,” co-authored with S.-P. Chen, Z. Hong, M. Siebert, and J. Urzúa. In *Digital Humanities 2016: Conference Abstracts* (held in Krakow July 11–16, 2016), edited by Maciej Eder and Jan Rybicki, 453–55. Krakow: Jagiellonian University and Pedagogical University, 2016.
- “Books for Sustenance and Life: Bibliophile Practices and Skills in the Late Ming and Qi Chenghan’s Library Dansheng Tang,” co-authored with Cathleen Paethe. In *Transforming Book Culture in China, 1600–2016*, edited by Daria Berg and Giorgia Strafella, 19–47. Kodex: Jahrbuch Der Internationalen Buchwissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft 6. Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz, 2016.
- “Techniques et territoires en Asie orientale,” co-authored with Aleksandra Kobiljski. In *Histoire des techniques: mondes, sociétés, cultures (XVI^e–XVIII^e siècle)*, edited by Guillaume Carnino, Liliane Hilaire-Perez, and Aleksandra Kobiljski, translated by Cécile Dutheil de La Rochère, 23–52. Paris: PUF (Nouvelle clio), 2016.
- “Culture et technique,” co-authored with Marie Thébaud-Sorger. In *Histoire des techniques: mondes, sociétés, cultures (XVI^e–XVIII^e siècle)*, edited by Guillaume Carnino, Liliane Hilaire-Perez, and Aleksandra Kobiljski, 369–95. Paris: PUF (Nouvelle clio), 2016.
- “Technology and Innovation within Expanding Webs of Exchange,” co-authored with Marcus Popplow. In *Expanding Webs of Exchange and Conflict 500CE–1500CE*, vol. 5 of *The*

- Cambridge World History*, edited by B. Kedar and M. Wiesner-Hanks, 309–38. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- “Patterns of Design in Qing-China and Britain During the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.” In *Goods from the East, 1600–1800: Trading Eurasia*, edited by Maxine Berg, 107–18. Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.
- “Knowledge Spheres: Borderlines and Intersections of Expertise and Knowing in China, Song to Qing,” co-authored with Xiaochun Sun. *EASTM* 38 (2013): 9–16.
- “Media and Migration: Qing Imperial Approaches to Technological Knowledge Circulation.” In *Space and Location in the Circulation of Knowledge (1400–1800). Korea and Beyond*, edited by Marion Eggert, Felix Siegmund, and Dennis Würthner, 87–118. Frankfurt a. M.: Peter Lang, 2014.
- “Peripheral Matters: Selvage/Chef-de-piece Inscriptions on Chinese Silk Textiles.” *UC Davis Law Review* 47, no. 2 (2013): 705–33.
- “Einleitung. Globalisierung, Kulturvergleich und Transnationaler Techniktransfer als Herausforderung für die Technikgeschichte,” co-authored with Marcus Popplow. *Technikgeschichte* 80, no. 1 (2013): 3–12.
- “Formen und Funktionen von Verschriftlichung im klassischen China: Objekte und funktionale Inschriften während der Ming Dynastie (1368–1645).” In *Natur – Religion – Medien: Transformationen frühneuzeitlichen Wissens*, edited by Thorsten Burkard, Markus Hundt, Steffen Martus, and Steffen Ohlendorf, 355–70. Berlin: Akademie-Verlag, 2013.
- “Technology and Innovation in Global History and in the History of the Global.” In *Writing the History of the Global: Challenges for the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Maxine Berg, 147–64. British Academy of Science, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- “Objekt-Kultur und Kulturobjekt: Inschriften als Quelle für die Untersuchung globaler und lokaler Strukturen im Waren- und Wissensmanagement während der späten Ming-Zeit (16./17. Jahrhundert).” In *Spuren der Avantgarde: Theatrum Oeconomicum*, edited by H. Schramm, J. Lazardzig, and V. Tkaczyk, 45–75. Berlin and New York: Walter de Gruyter, 2013.
- “Silken Strands: Making Technology Work in China.” In *Cultures of Knowledge: Technology in Chinese History*, edited by Dagmar Schäfer, 45–73. Leiden: Brill, 2012.
- “Inscribing the Artifact and Inspiring Trust: The Changing Role of Markings in the Ming Era.” *East Asian Science, Technology and Society: An International Journal* 5, no. 2 (2011): 239–65.
- “Technologie und Innovation im vormodernen China: Ein historischer Überblick.” *Ferrum* 82, no. 1 (2010): 15–24.
- “Staunen und Forschen in wunderlichen Welten.” In *Wunderforschung: Ein Experiment von Kindern, Wissenschaftlern und Künstlern*, edited by Katja Bödeker and Carmen Hammer, 118–21. Berlin: Nicolai-Verlag, 2010.
- “Ganying – Resonance in Seventeenth-Century China: The Examples of Wang Fuzhi (1609–1696) and Song Yingxing (1589–ca. 1666).” In *Variantology 3: On Deep Time Relations of Arts, Sciences and Technologies in China and Elsewhere*, edited by Siegfried Zielinski and Eckhard Fürlus, 225–54. Köln: König, 2008.
- “Matteo Ricci, der gelehrte Missionar.” *Spektrum der Wissenschaft* 14, no. 9 (September 2006): 88–97.
- “Der Außenstehende: Song Yingxing (1587–1666?).” In *Kritik im alten und modernen China*, edited by Heiner Roetz, 165–78. Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz, 2006.
- “The Congruence of Knowledge and Action: The Tiangong kaiwu and Its Author Song Yingxing.” In *Chinese Handicraft Regulations of the Qing Dynasty: Theory and Application*, edited by Christine Moll-Murata, Song Jianze, and Hans Ulrich Vogel, 35–60. München: Iudicum, 2005.
- “Song Yingxing (1587–1666?): A Technical Author?” *Tsing-hua ta-hsüeh lun-wen fa-piao* 4 (2002): 1–31.
- “Die Legitimation der Beamten in der Song-Dynastie.” In *Beamtentum und Wirtschaftspolitik in der Song-Dynastie*, edited by Dieter Kuhn, 78–172. Heidelberg: Edition Forum, 1995.

Book Reviews

China’s Transition to Modernity: The New Classical Vision of Dai Zhen, by Minghui Hu. *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 78, no. 1 (June 2018): 224–30.

- Looking at it from Asia: The Processes that Shaped the Sources of History of Science*, by Florence Bretelle-Establet (ed.). *EASTM* 35 (2012): 178–84.
- Science between Europe and Asia: Historical Studies on the Transmission, Adoption and Adaptation of Knowledge*, by Feza Günergün and Dhruv Raina (eds.). *ISIS* 103, no. 3 (2012): 624–25.
- Science and Civilisation in China*, vol. 7: *The Social Background, Part 2, General Conclusions and Reflections*, by Joseph Needham, edited by Kenneth Girdwood Robinson. *EASTM* 33 (2011): 121–27.
- “Historical Perspectives on Chinese Metallurgy,” review of *Science and Civilisation in China*, vol. 5: *Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Part 11, Ferrous Metallurgy*, by Joseph Needham, edited by Donald B. Wagner. *Metascience* 19, no. 3 (November 2010): 479–82.
- On Their Own Terms: Science in China, 1550–1900*, by Benjamin A. Elman. *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 67, no. 2 (2007): 468–75.
- Erschließung der himmlischen Schätze* [Tiangong Kaiwu / The Exploitation of the Works of Nature], by Song Yingxing (1587–1666), translated from Classical Chinese by Konrad Herrmann. *Hefte für Ostasiatische Literatur* 38 (2005): 125–27.