

## Tim Oakes

### **Department of Geography**

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### **Center for Asian Studies**

University of Colorado Boulder  
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## **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT and APPOINTMENTS**

- Current.** Professor, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder
- Current.** Director, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder (appointed 2012)
- Current.** Affiliate Faculty, Media Studies Department, College of Media, Communication, and Information, University of Colorado Boulder (appointed 2015)
- Current.** Affiliate Faculty, Center of the American West, University of Colorado Boulder (appointed 2019)
- Current.** Research Affiliate, Cornell University Contemporary China Initiative (appointed 2016)
- 2017.** Visiting Professor, Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Hong Kong
- 2010–2014.** Visiting Professor, Cultural Geography Chair Group, Wageningen University, Netherlands
- 2010–2012.** Visiting Professor, Institute of Ethnology and Sociology, Guizhou Minzu University, Guiyang, China
- 2007–2010.** Chair, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2003–2008.** Visiting Professor, Department of Sociology, Guizhou Nationalities Institute, Guiyang, China
- 2003–2004.** Visiting Research Scholar, Institute for International Studies, University of Technology, Sydney
- 2000–2006.** Research Associate, Center for China-US Cooperation, University of Denver Graduate School of International Studies.
- 1996–2004.** Research Fellow, Center for Research on Provincial China, University of New South Wales and University of Technology, Sydney
- 1996.** Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Iowa

## **EDUCATION**

- 1995.** PhD, Geography, University of Washington
- 1991.** MA, Geography, University of Washington
- 1987.** BA, East Asian Studies, Colby College

## **RECENT PUBLICATIONS (past 5 years)**

- Oakes, T.** 2021. Heritage, ritual space, and contested urbanization in Shenzhen. In Wang, S., M. Rowlands, and Y. Zhu (eds.), *Heritage and Religion in East Asia* (London & New York: Routledge), 105-124.
- Oakes, T.** 2020. Leisure as governable space: transcultural leisure and governmentality in contemporary China. In R. Wagner, C. Yeh, E. Menegon, and R. Weller (eds.) *Testing the Margins of Leisure: Case Studies on China, Japan, and Indonesia* (Heidelberg: Heidelberg University Press), 13-41.

- Oakes, T.** 2020. A critical reckoning with the 'Asian Century' in the shadow of the Anthropocene. *Tourism Geographies*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2020.1833973>.
- Oakes, T.** 2020. Infrastructures of permanence and deserted architecture in China. *Roadsides* 4: 68-75. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26034/roadsides-202000409>.
- Oakes, T.** 2020. Not urban yet, no longer rural. In *China Goes Urban: The City to Come*, eds. M. Bonino, F. Carota, F. Governa & S. Pellicchia (Milan: Skira), 198-209.
- Chan, K.W., Gentile, M., Kinossian, N., **Oakes, T.** & Young, C. 2020. "More-than-viral" Eurasian geographies: interconnections, inequalities, geopolitics and the covid-19 pandemic. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*. 61(4-5): 343-361.
- Lin, S., Y. Yang, H. Alff, M. Frost, M. Kaneti, **T. Oakes**, J. Rigg, A. Rippa, J. Wang, & T. Winter. 2020. Review forum reading Tim Winter's *Geocultural Power: China's Quest to Revive the Silk Roads for the Twenty-First Century*. *Political Geography*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2020.102297>.
- Oakes, T.** 2020. Review of *The Sounds of Social Space: Branding, Built Environment, and Lefebvre in Urban China*, by Paul Kendall. *China Perspectives* 3, 66-67.
- Oakes, T.** 2020. Review of *Heritage and Romantic Consumption in China*, by Yujie Zhu. *The China Journal* 83 (January), 195-96.
- Oakes, T.** Review of *The Deer and the Dragon: Southeast Asia and China in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, edited by Donald Emmerson. *China Made Reviews*.  
<https://chinamadeproject.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/chinamade-review.pdf>.
- Rippa, A. and **T. Oakes**. 2020. Second China Made Workshop: China's Domestic Infrastructures. *China Made Brief #4*. <https://chinamadeproject.net/china-made-brief-4/>.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. China's urban ideology: new towns, creation cities, and contested landscapes of memory. *Eurasian Geography and Economics* 60(4): 400-421.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. China Made: infrastructure thinking in a Chinese register. *Made in China* 4(2), 66-71.
- Luo, Y., **T. Oakes** and L. Schein. 2019. Resourcing remoteness and the "post-alteric" imaginary in China. *Social Anthropology* 27(2): 270-285.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. Leisure as governable space: transcultural leisure and governmentality in contemporary China. In R. Wagner, C. Yeh, E. Menegon, and R. Weller (eds.) *Testing the Margins of Leisure: Case Studies on China, Japan, and Indonesia* (Heidelberg: Heidelberg University Press), 13-41.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. Introduction: Making cultural cities in China: governance, state-building, and precarious creativity. *Environment and Planning A: Economy & Space* 51(1): 178-186.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. Happy town: cultural governance and biopolitical urbanism in China. *Environment and Planning A* 51(1): 244-262.
- Oakes, T.** 2019. Review of *The Promise of Infrastructure*, edited by Nikhil Anand, Akhil Gupta, and Hannah Appel. *Technology & Culture* 60, 1112-1114.
- Chan, K.W., M. Gentile, **T. Oakes** & C. Young. 2018. Editorial – theory generation, comparative analysis and bringing the 'Global East' into play. *Eurasian Geography and Economics* 59(1): 1-6.
- Oakes, T.** 2018. Review of *Chinese Heritage in the Making: Experiences, Negotiations and Contestations*, edited by Christina Maags and Marina Svensson. *The China Quarterly* 236, 1234-1236.
- Oakes, T.** 2018. Review of *Rural Origins, City Lives: Class and Place in Contemporary China*, by Roberta Zavoretti. *China Review International* 23(2): 204-207.
- Oakes, T.** 2017. Mediating Asia: information, democracy, and the state in and before the digital age. *International Journal of Communication* 17  
<http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/5152/1974>.
- Oakes, T.** 2017. Catastrophic Asia. *Journal of Asian Studies* 76(2): 401-407.

- Oakes, T.** 2017. Review of *Reinventing Chinese Tradition: The Cultural Politics of Late Socialism*, by Ka-ming Wu. *The China Review* 17(2), 206-08.
- Oakes, T.** 2016. Ethnic tourism in China. In Xiaowei Zang (ed.), *Handbook on Minorities in China* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar), 291-315.
- Oakes, T.** 2016. Villagizing the city: turning rural ethnic heritage into urban modernity in southwest China. *International Journal of Heritage Studies* 22(10): 751-765.
- Oakes, T.** 2016 Review of *Changing China's Cities: The Potentials of Field Urbanism*, by Renee Chow. *Pacific Affairs* 89(4), 870-72.
- Wang, J., **T. Oakes**, and Y. Yang (eds.). 2016. *Making Cultural Cities in Asia: Mobility, Assemblage, and the Politics of Aspirational Urbanism* (London & New York: Routledge).
- Oakes, T.** and J. Wang. 2016. Introduction. In J. Wang, T. Oakes, and Y. Yang (eds.), *Making Cultural Cities in Asia: Mobility, Assemblage, and the Politics of Aspirational Urbanism* (London & New York: Routledge), 1-14.

## RECENT RESEARCH & PROGRAM GRANTS and FELLOWSHIPS

### *Research grants*

- 2017.** Henry Luce Foundation Asia Responsive Grant program - \$390,000 (total project budget \$485,273) "China Made: Asian Infrastructures and the China Model of Development" (Center for Asian Studies, Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences – PI Oakes).
- 2016.** University of Colorado Center for Advanced Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences, Faculty Award \$2,500 "Infrastructural urbanism: rethinking the human and material dimensions of China's urbanization."

### *Program grants*

- 2020.** US Department of Education Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Program (UISFL), \$196,918: "Creating a Certificate Program in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies" (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).
- 2020.** Albert Smith Nuclear Age Fund - \$35,000 "A Tale of Two Asias: Living in and Beyond the Nuclear Age" (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).
- 2019.** United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program – FLTA award in Indonesian (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).
- 2017.** University of Colorado, College of Arts & Sciences Fund for Excellence - \$1,000 "Mediating Asia: Information, Democracy and the State in and before the Digital Age" (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).
- 2017.** University of Colorado College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Education Development Program Grant, \$25,000 "Culture and Language Across the Curriculum" (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).
- 2016.** US Department of Education Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Program, \$185,258: "Building a Southeast Asian Track in the Asian Studies BA CU Boulder" (Center for Asian Studies; PI Oakes).
- 2016.** University of Colorado College of Arts and Sciences Arts and Humanities Outreach and Inclusivity Grant, \$1,000: "The China Town Hall" (Center for Asian Studies, PI Oakes).

### *Fellowships and Awards*

- 2017.** University of Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, Visiting Professorship

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS (past 5 years)

### *Invited keynotes*

- 2019, November.** New Zealand Asian Studies Society 23<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Conference. Presented "Infrastructure maniac 基建狂魔: the techno-politics of the 'China Model' of development."

- 2019, September.** China Global Summer Seminar: the Politics of Infrastructure, Nottingham University, Ningbo. Presented “Infrastructure maniac 基建狂魔: the techno-politics of the ‘China Model’ of development.”
- 2016, August.** 国际政治地理学前沿论坛 International Forum on Frontiers of Political Geography, Sun Yat Sen University, Guangzhou. Presented “China’s urban frontiers: the city as borderland.”

*Presentations at professional meetings*

- 2019, April.** Annual Meetings of the American Association of Geographers, Washington, DC: “Zone infrastructures: China’s new urban paradigm and export product”
- 2018, November.** Nazerbayev University Forum “China and the World: Engaging with a Reemerging Superpower”, Astana: “China: Urbanization qua development”
- 2016, June.** Conference on Urbanization in China, China Development Institute, Shenzhen: “Ethni-Cities: changing urban ethnic space in China.”
- 2016, March.** Annual Meetings of the Association of Asian Studies, Seattle: “Time machine: producing visitable pasts in rural China.”

*Invited lectures and colloquia*

- 2020, October.** Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Global China Centre Virtual Engagements on Global China Speaker Series, “City in a box? Rethinking the Special Economic Zone as the ‘China model’ of development”
- 2019, November.** University of Colorado Environmental Studies Colloquium, “Infrastructural urbanism and the techno-politics of zone development in China”
- 2019, June.** University College London Department of Geography Seminar Series: “China’s urban ideology”
- 2019, March.** Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen: “China’s urban revolution: the dialectic of the ideological and infrastructure city”
- 2018, September.** Nazarbayev University Center for China Studies: “Zone infrastructures: China’s new urban paradigm and export product.”
- 2018, June.** George Washington University Textile Museum: “Tourism, change and the textile economy among the Miao in Guizhou”
- 2018, May.** Guizhou Minzu University, College of Ethnicity and Cognitive Science: “City of villages: infrastructure and planetary urbanization”
- 2018, March.** Bard College at Simon’s Rock Proseminar in Social Scientific Inquiry: “Ideology vs infrastructure: China’s urban revolution and planetary urbanization”
- 2017, September.** University of Colorado College of Media, Communication and Information Fall Colloquium Series: “Mapping media in China: democracy, state control, and place branding in the digital age”
- 2017, April.** Sun Yat Sen University School of Sociology and Anthropology: “Ethni-cities: urbanization and ethnic space in China”
- 2017, April.** University of Hong Kong Division of Landscape Architecture Research Seminar Series: “From village-in-the-city to villagized city: heritage, demolition, and public space in a Chinese town”
- 2017, April.** Hong Kong Institute of Architectural Conservationists: “Heritage as a technology of government in rural China”
- 2017, March.** University of Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences Spring Lecture Series: “Happy Town: biopolitical urbanism and cultural governance in China”
- 2017, March.** Chinese University of Hong Kong Centre for China Studies Visiting Speaker Series: “Purifying the frontier: tourist projects of bordering in Guizhou”
- 2016, August.** University of Technology Sydney, School of Internatioal Studies Seminar Series: “Ethni-Cities: changing urban ethnic space in China”
- 2016, August.** Australia National University Center of Heritage and Museum Studies Seminar Series: “Villagizing the city: turning rural ethnic heritage into urban modernity in southwest China”

- 2016, August.** Australia National University China Seminar Series: “China’s urban frontiers: the city as borderland”
- 2016, March.** Cornell University Contemporary China Initiative: “The urban ideology in China”

*Invited panels, workshops and symposia*

- 2020, September.** AAS-in-Asia 2020 virtual panel: “Critical Perspectives on Chinese Infrastructures.” Invited discussant
- 2019, December.** Columbia University Center for Science and Society and Weatherhead East Asian Institute Conference on “Rethinking craft in Post-Industrial Society.” Presented “Branded heritage: ICH and craft commerce in Southwest China.”
- 2019, October.** “Empire, Infrastructure, and Labor” panelist for the University of Colorado Center of the American West Symposium on Immigrant Workers, Roads, and Nation Building: Legacies of the Transcontinental Railroad on its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 2019, April.** “Recentering tourism geographies in the ‘Asian Century,’” Annual Meetings of the American Association of Geographers, Washington, DC. Invited panelist.
- 2019, January.** Ludwig Maximilian University Munich Workshop on Mapping Asia: “China Made and the infrastructure turn”
- 2018, January.** The Social Lives of Keywords: Lenses on China, Shatin, Hong Kong: “地方与空间”
- 2018, January.** International Conference on Cultural Heritage and Religion in East Asia, Academia Sinica, Taipei: “Manufacturing heritage in the urban villages of south China”
- 2016, August.** “Heritage and Religion: a Reading Workshop,” Center for China in the World, Australia National University. Invited participant.

*Panels or symposia organized*

- 2020, February.** Center for Asian Studies Teach-In on the COVID-19 Crisis. Organizer and moderator.
- 2019, April.** Critically engaging the ‘China Model’ of development: infrastructures, BRI, and technopolitics, Annual Meetings of the American Association of Geographers, Washington, DC. Co-organizer and chair.
- 2019, March.** Center for Asian Studies Roundtable on Xinjiang: Perspectives from the Field on China’s Mass Incarceration of Turkic Muslims.” Co-organizer.
- 2016, March.** Transcultural Asia. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Center for Asian Studies Symposium, University of Colorado, Boulder. Organized and moderated the symposium.

**RECENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

*Courses recently taught*

- Advanced Introduction to Human Geography (GEOG 2092)  
 Geography of China (GEOG 3822)  
 Seminar in Cultural Geography (GEOG 6742)

*Students currently advised*

PhD: Xiaoling Chen, Bangxing Liang, David Bachrach

*Students advised to completion in past 5 years*

- PhD: Ian Rowen (“The geopolitics of tourism: mobility, territory, and protest in Taiwan and China,” 2016); current position – post-doctoral fellow, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
- Amelia Schubert (“Impacts of female out-migration on ethnic Korean communities in China,” 2016); current position – independent scholar
- Yang Yang (“‘Seeking knowledge even unto China’ via alternative routes: grassroots Muslim connections, the New Silk Road, and the Hui in Xi’an, China,” 2019)
- MA: Gretchen Lang (2016)
- Undergraduate Honors: Hannah Becker-Uncapher (2015), Charles Soleberg (2016), Makinna Miller (2021), Morgan Roach (2021)

## **RECENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### *Service to the Profession*

Advisory Board, Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences  
ACLS Program in China Studies, Selection Committee  
Advisory Council, University of Colorado Denver Institute for International Business Center  
for International Business Education Research (CIBER)  
Associate Editor, *Eurasian Geography and Economics*

### *Departmental service*

**2020.** Post-Tenure Evaluation Committee, Emily Yeh  
**2020.** Chair, Primary Unit Evaluation Committee, Yaffa Truelove Reappointment  
**2019-20.** Diversity Committee  
**2019-20.** Primary Unit Evaluation Committee, Jennifer Fluri Promotion  
**2019.** Human Geography Instructor Search Committee  
**2019.** Post-Tenure Evaluation Committee, Jennifer Fluri  
**2018.** Chair, Primary Unit Evaluation Committee, Mike Dwyer reappointment  
**2016.** Geography-CAS Instructor in SE Asian Studies Search Committee  
**2016-17.** Geography-IAFS Joint Human Geography Search Committee  
**2016-17.** Chair, Primary Unit Evaluation Committee, Najeeb Jan Promotion & Tenure  
**2015-16.** Chair, Primary Unit Evaluation Committee, Joe Bryan Promotion & Tenure  
**2014-18.** Chair, Newsletter Committee

### *University service*

**2012-2021.** Faculty Director, Center for Asian Studies  
**2019-20.** International Affairs Program, internal program evaluator (ARPAC process)  
**2017-18.** Search Committee, Baker Residential Academic Program Director  
**2016.** ALC Korean Studies Professorship search committee

### *Recent Outreach and Consulting Activities*

“China City Dreams 2020: Urbanization, Demolition, and the Chaos of Reality,” online course taught for TEA-NCTA. Spring 2020.  
“China City Dreams: Urbanization, Demolition, and the Chaos of Reality,” online course taught for TEA-NCTA. Fall 2019.  
“Ambiguous territoriality: China, its neighbors, and the South China Sea,” prepared and presented for the TEA-NCTA Summer Institute: Uneasy Neighbors: Legacies and Challenges in 21st-Century East Asia, 10 July, 2018, Boulder CO  
“China’s urban revolution,” prepared and presented for the TEA-NCTA Summer Institute: Critical Issues in Contemporary China, 13 July, 2017, Boulder CO  
“China and climate change: challenges, accountability, and governance,” prepared and presented for the TEA-NCTA Summer Institute: Critical Issues in Contemporary China, 13 July, 2017, Boulder CO  
“China and climate change: challenges, accountability, and governance,” prepared and presented for the National Consortium for Teaching Asia Class Apps project, 20 December, 2016.  
“Made in China,” prepared and presented for Boulder High School AP Environmental Studies, 2 December, 2016, Boulder, CO.