

David Shuster

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CURRENT POSITION

Tel Aviv University (Tel Aviv, Israel) 2018 – present
The Dean’s Distinction Post-Doctoral Fellowship, The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies

EDUCATION

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA) 2014
Ph.D. in Modern Korean History / Secondary Field in Film and Visual Studies

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA) 2007
A.M. in Regional Studies—East Asia

Moscow State Institute of International Relations (Russia) 2005
B.A. in International Relations and Diplomacy, *summa cum laude*

BOOK PROJECT

FROM KIM IL SUNG TO DONALD TRUMP: THE MAKING OF A POSTMODERN CIRCUS STATE (AUP, 2020)

DISSERTATION TITLE

“A Jester with Chameleon Faces: Laughter and Comedy in North Korea, 1953–1969”

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Carter J. Eckert (Harvard University) – primary advisor
Christina Klein (Boston College)
Eric Rentschler (Harvard University)
Andre Schmid (University of Toronto)
Alexander Zahlten (Harvard University)

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Modern History of East Asia, Intellectual History, Humor Studies, Film and Visual Studies, Diaspora Studies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

❖ *Korean and Japanese History:*

• “North Korean Society and Culture” Summer 2018
Lecturer
Ewha International Co-Ed Summer College, Ewha Womans University (Seoul, South Korea)

• “War and Sex: Koreans in World History” Spring 2017
Lecturer
Dep’t of Asian Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

- “The Two Koreas” (Carter J. Eckert) Spring 2014
Teaching Fellow
 Program in General Education, Harvard College

- “The Two Koreas” (Carter J. Eckert) Spring 2012
Head Teaching Fellow
 Program in General Education, Harvard College

- “Kyoto: The Diplomacy, 1542–1642” (Tomoko Kitagawa) Fall 2011
Head Teaching Fellow
 Dep’t of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

- “Kyoto: The Capital of Medieval Japan” (Tomoko Kitagawa) Fall 2010
Teaching Fellow
 Dep’t of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

- “The Two Koreas” (Carter J. Eckert) Spring 2010
Teaching Fellow
 Core Curriculum, Harvard College

- “Adventures in Early Korean History and Archeology” (Mark Byington) Summer 2009
Teaching Assistant
 Harvard Summer Program at Ewha Womans University (South Korea)

- ❖ **Film Studies:**

- “North Korea through Film” Fall 2015
Lecturer
 Dep’t of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Yale University

- “Cultures of North Korea through Film and Visual Media” Summer 2013
Lecturer
 Korean Studies Summer Program at Sogang University (Seoul, Korea)

- “Anime as Global Popular Culture” (Tomiko Yoda) Spring 2012
Head Teaching Fellow
 Program in General Education, Harvard College

- “Using Film for Social Change” (Joanna Lipper) Fall 2011
Teaching Fellow
 Dep’t of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

- “Cinema Seoul: Documenting Korea through Film” (Y. David Chung & Haden Guest) Summer 2011
Teaching Assistant
 Harvard Summer Program at Ewha Womans University (Seoul, Korea)

- “Sound Cinema” (J.D. Connor) Spring 2009
Teaching Fellow
 Core Curriculum, Harvard College

- ❖ **Interdisciplinary Courses on East Asia:**

- “Korea’s Soft Power” Fall 2016
Lecturer

Dep't of International Relations & Program in Cultural Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

• “Introduction to East Asian Civilizations” (Michael Szonyi) Spring 2013
Teaching Fellow
 Dep't of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

• “Introduction to East Asian Civilizations” (Michael Szonyi) Spring 2011
Teaching Fellow
 Dep't of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

❖ ***Directed Research and Writing:***

• “Introduction to Cultural Studies” Spring 2018
Academic Mentor for an online course
 InGenius Prep (New Haven, CT)

• “Video Gaming: Inside Out” Fall 2017
Academic Mentor for an online course
 InGenius Prep (New Haven, CT)

• “North Korea and the Human Rights Controversy” Summer 2016
Academic Mentor for an online course
 InGenius Prep (New Haven, CT)

• “Senior Tutorial in East Asian Studies” (Alexander Zahlten) 2013–2014
Graduate Student Advisor
 Dep't of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

ANALYTICAL AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Council on East Asian Studies, Yale University New Haven, CT
Film Series Curator Spring 2016

• Programming and curating for “Korea out of Focus: Apocryphal Cinema and the Mainstream” film series at MacMillan Center

Twitch Post LLC New York, NY
Assistant Editor 2014–2015

• Research using electronic databases, content development, copyright clearance, subtitling, proof-reading, postproduction quality control, technical support, collaboration with an international team on a presidential contemporary history museum in Russia

All Ivy Writing Inc. Boston, MA
Writer / Editor 2014–2015

• Professional writing and copy-editing services for academia and industry clients, working within style guidelines and under deadlines

Early Korea Project, Harvard University Cambridge, MA
Translator / Copy Editor 2012–2013

• Translation, editing, copy-editing, and preparation of academic manuscripts for publication

Korean Cinémathèque, Korea Institute and Harvard Film Archive Cambridge, MA
Founder and Program Director 2009–2012

• Curating film series and special film events, writing program notes, facilitating discussions

- Korea Institute, Harvard University
Events Coordinator Cambridge, MA
2009–2013
- Academic and special event planning, publicity and outreach, managing support staff, billing and reimbursements, vendor relations and price negotiation, internal memo and report writing, work with donors, work under deadlines and within set budgets and University protocols
- Independent Media Publishing
Freelance Reporter Moscow, Russia
2003–2005
- Research, interviewing, and reporting for *The Moscow Times*, *Real Estate Quarterly*, *MT Careers*, and *Yoga Journal*
- Open World Program, Library of Congress
Program Facilitator Washington, DC
2003–2005
- Interpretation and travel logistics for program participants from Russia on professional exchange visits to the United States

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Virtuous and Sexy: Gendering National Subjects in 1960s North Korea”
Somerset Palace July 18, 2018
Seoul, South Korea
- Royal Asiatic Society Korea Branch
- “The Good Trickster in *Comrade Kim Goes Flying* (2012)”
Hebrew University May 24, 2018
Jerusalem, Israel
- The 14th Bi-Annual Conference of Asian Studies in Israel (panel organizer)
- “Black Rabbit in Postwar North Korea”
Durham University July 27, 2017
Durham, UK
- Humour, History, Methodology: A Multidisciplinary and Trans-Professional Enquiry (conference)
- “Comic Elements in North Korean Propaganda Posters”
Leiden University June 17, 2017
Leiden, Netherlands
- The DPRK through Its Posters: De-Centering North Korean Studies (international workshop)
- “First under the Dome: North Korean Circus and the Cold War Rivalries”
Hebrew University May 3, 2017
Jerusalem, Israel
- Department of Asian Studies Colloquium
- “Fashioning New Women”
Australian National University March 14–17, 2016
Canberra, Australia
- International Conference on Culture and Everyday Life in North Korea
- “Clowns, Illusionists, and Jugglers: North Korean Circus in Film and Everyday Life”
University of Pennsylvania February 10, 2016
Philadelphia, PA
- James Joo–Jin Kim Program in Korean Studies Colloquium
- “Clowns, Illusionists, and Jugglers: North Korean Circus in Film and Everyday Life”
Yale University December 9, 2015
New Haven, CT
- Council on East Asian Studies Lecture Series
- “North Koreans in the USSR and the Making of the DPRK’s Higher Education”
University of California, Berkeley October 20, 2015
Berkeley, CA
- Center for Korean Studies Colloquium

- “Jesters on the Streets: Satire in North Korea”
University of Washington
• Center for Korea Studies Colloquium
February 5, 2015
Seattle, WA
- “From Marilyn Monroe to Kim Jong Il”
Smith College
• East Asian Studies Program Lecture Series
November 6, 2013
Northampton, MA
- “Street Comedy and Everyday Living in the DPRK, 1953–1960”
Association for Asian Studies
• Annual Conference (panel organizer)
March 22, 2013
San Diego, CA
- “The Making of Socialist Cinephilia in North Korea”
Cornell University
• East Asia Program Lecture Series
February 28, 2013
Ithaca, NY
- “Unexpected Encounters: Hollywood and the North Korean Cinema of the 1960s”
American Studies Association
• Annual Conference
November 15, 2012
San Juan, Puerto Rico
- “Disciplining Laughter: The North Korean Theory of the Comic”
University of Michigan
• Permanent Seminar on the Histories of Film Theories
September 28, 2012
Ann Arbor, MI
- “Unexpected Encounters: Hollywood Origins of the New North Korean Cinema”
Society for Cinema and Media Studies
• Annual Conference
March 24, 2012
Boston, MA
- “The Making of North Korea’s Cynics”
Association for Asian Studies
• Annual Conference (panel organizer)
March 18, 2012
Toronto, Canada

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “Virtuous and Sexy: Gendering National Subjects in 1960s North Korea.” (currently under review by *American Historical Review*)
- “North Koreans at the Movies: Cinema of Fits and Starts and the Rise of Chameleon Spectatorship.” (2016). *Journal of Japanese and Korean Cinema* 8 (1): 25–44.
- Review of *The Real North Korea: Life and Politics in the Failed Stalinist Utopia*, by Andrei Lankov. (2016). *The Journal of Asian Studies* 75 (1): 255–257.
- Review of *Split Screen Korea: Shin Sang-ok and Postwar Cinema*, by Steven Chung. (2015). *Journal of Japanese and Korean Cinema* 7 (2): 170–171.
- Review of *North Korea: Beyond Charismatic Politics*, by Heonik Kwon and Byung-Ho Chung. (2014). *Pacific Affairs* 87 (3): 619.

AWARDS

- The Dean’s Distinction Post-Doctoral Fellowship
The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies, Tel Aviv University
Tel Aviv, Israel
2018–2019

Individual Research Grant Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace	Jerusalem, Israel 2018–2019
1 st Pony Chung Fellowship for Young Korean Studies Scholars Hyundai Development Company	Seoul, Korea 2017–2018
Louis Frieberg Postdoctoral Fellowship Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Jerusalem, Israel 2016–2017
Permanent Lecturer in Korean Studies (<i>job offer declined</i>) University of Central Lancashire	Preston, UK Fall 2016
Postdoctoral Fellowship Council on East Asian Studies, Yale University	New Haven, CT 2015–2016
Harvard–Yenching Library Travel Research Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2016
East Asia Library Travel Grant University of Washington	Seattle, WA 2014
Korea Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University	New York, NY 2014–2015
Graduate Student Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2013–2014
Graduate Thesis Grant Academy of Korean Studies	Seoul, South Korea 2012
Graduate Student Fellowship Korea Foundation	Seoul, South Korea 2012–2013
Korea Institute Graduate Conference Travel Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2012–2013
Dep't of East Asian Languages and Civilizations Conference Travel Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2012–2013
Korea Institute Graduate Conference Travel Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2011–2012
Korea Institute Graduate Conference Travel Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2010–2011
Asia Center Graduate Summer Language Grant Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2008
Joseph Fletcher Memorial Prize for Excellence in an A.M. Thesis Harvard University	Cambridge, MA 2006–2007
Fulbright Scholarship Harvard University	Washington, DC 2005–2007
Russian Presidential Scholarship	Moscow, Russia

Moscow State Institute of International Relations

2003–2004

Korea Foundation Language Training Fellowship
Yonsei University

Seoul, South Korea
2002–2003

Korean Language Training Fellowship
Hankook University of Foreign Studies

Seoul, South Korea
Fall 2001

Korean Language Training Fellowship
Kim Il Sung University

Pyongyang, North Korea
Fall 2000

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
- The Association of Korean Studies in Europe (AKSE)
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

LANGUAGES

- English
- Hebrew
- Korean
- Russian

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Carter Eckert

Yoon Se Young Professor of Korean History
Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA
eckert@fas.harvard.edu

Charles Armstrong

Korea Foundation Professor of Korean Studies in the Social Sciences
Department of History
Columbia University
New York, NY
cra10@columbia.edu

Alexander Zahlten

Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations
Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA
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