



## John Kieschnick

Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professor, by courtesy, of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Religious Studies

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### BIO

Professor Kieschnick specializes in Chinese Buddhism, with particular emphasis on its cultural history. He is the author of the *Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval China and the Impact of Buddhism on Chinese Material Culture*. He is currently working on a book on Buddhist interpretations of the past in China, and a primer for reading Buddhist texts in Chinese.

John is chair of the Department of Religious Studies and director of the Ho Center for Buddhist Studies at Stanford.

Ph.D., Stanford University (1996); B.A., University of California at Berkeley (1986).

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Religious Studies
- Professor (By courtesy), East Asian Languages and Cultures

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford, (2016- present)
- The Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Professor in Buddhist Studies, Stanford, (2012- present)
- Professor, Department of Chinese Culture, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, (2011-2012)
- Reader in Buddhist Studies, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Bristol, (2007-2011)
- Lecturer in Buddhist Studies, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Bristol, (2005-2007)
- Associate Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica, (2005-2005)
- Visiting professor, Religious Studies Department, National Chengchi University, (2005-2005)
- Associate Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica, (2003-2005)
- Program Director, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, (2003-2005)
- Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica, (2002-2003)
- Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for International & Intercultural Studies, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, (2002-2003)
- Associate Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica, (2001-2005)
- Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica, (1996-2001)
- Postdoctoral fellow, Center for Chinese Studies, University of California at Berkeley, (1995-1996)
- Instructor, Department of Asian Languages, Stanford University, (1995-1995)

## **BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Managing Editor, Asia Major (semi-annual sinological journal founded in 1923) (1997 - 2010)
- Member, Editorial board for the Journal of the American Academy of Religion (2005 - 2007)
- Member, Editorial Board for Buddhist Studies Review (2006 - 2011)
- Member, Editorial Board for Asia Major (2010 - present)
- Manuscript Reviewer, University of Hawaii Press (2013 - 2013)
- Referee, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation in Taiwan
- Referee, National Science Council of Taiwan
- Referee, British Academy and the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the United Kingdom
- Referee, Israel Science Foundation
- Referee, Research Council of Canada
- Referee, National Research Council of Hong Kong
- Reviewer, Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies
- Reviewer, Blackwell
- Reviewer, University of Hawaii Press
- Reviewer, Material Religion
- Reviewer, Journal of Chinese Studies
- Reviewer, Journal of the American Academy Religion
- Reviewer, History of Religions
- Reviewer, University of British Columbia Press
- Reviewer, Xin shixue
- Reviewer, University of Columbia Press
- Reviewer, Bulletin of the School of African and Oriental Studies
- Reviewer, Religions of South Asia
- Reviewer, Zhongyang yanjiuyuan Lishi yuyan suo jikan
- Reviewer, Asia Major
- Reviewer, Cambridge University Press
- Reviewer, Hanxue Yanjiu
- Reviewer, Journal of the American Oriental Society
- Reviewer, Journal of Chinese Religions

## **PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS**

- Center for East Asian Studies

## **PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

- Ph.D., Stanford University , Asian Languages (1995)
- M.A., Stanford University , Asian Languages (1988)
- B.A., University of California at Berkeley (1986)

## Teaching

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### COURSES

#### 2025-26

- Chinese Buddhism: RELIGST 242, RELIGST 342 (Win)
- Exploring Chinese Religions: RELIGST 56 (Aut)
- Seminar in Buddhist Historiography: RELIGST 314 (Aut)

#### 2024-25

- Chinese Buddhism: RELIGST 242, RELIGST 342 (Win)
- Chinese Buddhist Texts: RELIGST 247, RELIGST 347 (Win)
- Exploring Chinese Religions: RELIGST 56 (Aut)
- Recent Contributions to Buddhist Studies: RELIGST 354 (Aut)

#### 2023-24

- Exploring Chinese Religions: RELIGST 56 (Aut)
- Recent Contributions to Buddhist Studies: RELIGST 354 (Aut)
- The Religious Life of Things: RELIGST 3 (Win)

#### 2022-23

- Exploring Chinese Religions: RELIGST 56 (Win)
- Humanities Research Intensive: ENGLISH 9R (Spr)
- Religion Around the Globe: RELIGST 1 (Spr)
- Seminar in Buddhist Historiography: RELIGST 314 (Spr)

### STANFORD ADVISEES

#### Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Julia Hirsch, Oriane Lavole, Bingxiao Liu

#### Orals Chair

David Gottlieb

#### Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Marielle Harrison

#### Orals Evaluator

Harry Carter

#### Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Nancy Chu

#### Master's Program Advisor

Seungyoon Bang

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **IN THE FOREST OF THE BLIND: THE EURASIAN JOURNEY OF FAXIAN'S RECORD OF BUDDHIST KINGDOMS** *RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW*  
Kieschnick, J., King, M. W.  
2023; 49 (3): 337-338
- **India, China, and the World: A Connected History (Book Review)** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Kieschnick, J.  
2020; 17 (1): 77–79
- **Review of Graham Lock and Gary S. Linebarger, Chinese Buddhist Texts: An Introductory Reader**  
Kieschnick, J.  
H-Buddhism.  
2018
- **Review of Lothar Ledderose, Buddhist Stone Scriptures in China**  
Kieschnick, J.  
Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies.  
2016 ; Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies (78, no.3): 686–688
- **Review of Jimmy Yu, Sanctity and Self-inflicted Violence in Chinese Religion 1500-1700** *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2013
- **India in the Chinese Imagination**  
Kieschnick, J.  
University of Pennsylvania Press.2013
- **Review of Paul Katz, Divine Justice. Religion and the Development of Chinese Legal Culture** *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2011; 13: 114 - 116
- **Buddhism: Biographies of Eminent Monks** *Oxford History of Historical Writing*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Hardy, G.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press.2011: 535–552
- **Buddhist Monasteries: Classification, Layout and Iconography** *Early Chinese Religion, Part Two*  
Li, Y., Translated by Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lagerwey, J.  
Leiden: Brill.2010: 575–738
- **The Buddhist Pantheon in the Six Dynasties** *Early Chinese Religion, Part Two: The Period of Division (228 - 589 AD)*  
Hou, X., Translated by Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lagerwey, J.  
Leiden: Brill.2010: 1095–1168
- **Reflections on the sinification of Buddhism** *Zhongguo shi xinlun. Zongjiaoshi fence*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lin, F.  
Taipei: Lianjing.2010: 259–274
- **Reinventing the Wheel: Paintings of Rebirth in Medieval Buddhist Temples (Book Review)** *HARVARD JOURNAL OF ASIATIC STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 69 (1): 234-239

- **Reflecting Mirrors. Perspectives on Huayan Buddhism (Book Review)** *ACTA ORIENTALIA*  
Book Review Authored by: Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 62 (1): 119-121
- **Review of T.H Barrett, The Woman Who Discovered Printing** *Journal of Chinese Religions*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 36: 119 - 121
- **How Zen Became Zen. The Dispute over Enlightenment and the formation of Chan Buddhism in Son-Dynasty** *Song-Yuan Studies*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 40: 150 - 154
- **Review of Christine Mollier, Buddhism and Taoism Face to Face. Scripture, Ritual and Iconographic Exchange in Medieval China** *Etudes Chinoises*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 28
- **State and Local Cults in Han Religion** *Early Chinese Religion, Part One: Shang through Han (1250 B. C - 220 A.D.)*  
Bujard, M., Translated by Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lagerwey, J., Kalinowski, M.  
Leiden: Brill.2009: 777–811
- **Buddhist Monasticism** *Early Chinese Religion*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lagerwey, J.  
Leiden: Brill.2009: 545–574
- **Review of Fabio Rambelli, Buddhist Materiality. A Cultural History of Objects in Japanese Buddhism** *History of Religions*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2009; 49 (2): 211 - 214
- **Inventing Hui-Neng, the Sixth Patriarch. Hagiography and Biography in Early Ch'an** *T'oung Pao*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2007; 93: 214 - 217
- **Donors of Longmen** *Buddhist Studies Review*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2007; 24 (2): 247 - 250
- **Zen Classics. Formative Texts in the History of Zen Buddhism** *Budhist Studies Review*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2007; 24 (2): 256 - 257
- **Celibacy in East Asian Buddhism** *Celibacy and Religious Traditions*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Olson, C.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press.2007: 225–240
- **Material Culture** *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Emotion*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Corrigan, J.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press.2007: 223–237
- **Buddhism War, and Nationalism. Chinese Monks in the Struggle against Japanese Aggressions, 1931-1945** *Buddhist Studies Review*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2006; 22 (2): 208 - 210
- **Review of Dorothy Wong, Chinese Steles. Pre-Buddhist and Buddhist Use of a Symbolic form** *Journal of Chinese Religions*  
Kieschnick, J.

2005; 33: 223 - 224

- **A History of Buddhist Vegetarianism in China** *Of Tripod and Palate: Food, Politics and Religion in Traditional China*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Sterckx, R.  
New York Palgrave-Macmillan Press.2005: 86–212
- **Relics of the Buddha** *The Historian*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2005; 67 (4): 782 - 783
- **Gaoseng zhuan** *Six Dynasties Handbook*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Dien, A. E.  
2004
- **Biqiuni zhuan** *Six Dynasties Handbook*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Dien, A. E.  
2004
- **Biographies of Eminent Monks** *The Encyclopedia of Buddhism*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Buswell, R. E.  
New York: Macmillan.2004
- **Daoxuan** *The Encyclopedia of Buddhism*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Buswell, R. E.  
New York: Macmillan.2004
- **Monks and monarchs, kinship and kingship. Tanqian in Sui-Buddhism and politics (Book Review)** *BULLETIN OF THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES-UNIVERSITY OF LONDON*  
Book Review Authored by: Kieschnick, J.  
2004; 67: 109-112
- **Xu gaoseng zhuan** *Six Dynasties Handbook*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Dien, A. E.  
2004
- **Lives of Eminent Monks and Nuns** *Buddhist Scriptures*  
Translated by Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Lopez, D. S.  
London: Penguin Books.2004: 285–296
- **Monks** *The Encyclopedia of Buddhism*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Buswell, R. E.  
New York: Macmillan.2004
- **Miracles** *The Encyclopedia of Buddhism*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Buswell, R. E.  
New York: Macmillan.2004
- **Review of Stanley K. Abe, Ordinary Images** *Journal of Chinese Religions*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2003; 31: 185 - 186

- **The Impact of Buddhism on Chinese Material Culture**  
Kieschnick, J.  
Princeton: Princeton University Press.2003
- **Reduce desires, the emptiness of all things, and perfect adornment: attitudes toward the material world in Chinese Buddhism** *Siyuan caifu yu shinu gongyang*  
Kieschnick, J.  
edited by Hu, S.  
Shanghai: Shanghai Shuhua Chubanshe.2003: 35–47
- **Review of Marsha Weidner ed., Cultural Intersections in Later Chinese Buddhism** *Journal of Chinese Religions*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2003; 31: 305 - 308
- **The Role of Buddhism in the History of the Chinese Bridge** *Third International Conference on Sinology, History Section*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2002: 1–25
- **The Role of Buddhism in the History of the Chinese Bridge** *Economic History, Urban Culture and Material Culture*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2002
- **Review of Chun-fang Yu, Kuan-yin. The Chinese Transformation of Avalokitesvara** *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2002; 62 (1): 205 - 210
- **The Bodhidharma anthology: The earliest records of Zen (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY*  
Book Review Authored by: Kieschnick, J.  
2001; 121 (1): 152-153
- **Review of Peter Burke, The Art of Conversation** *Xin shi xue*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2000; 11 (1): 209 - 213
- **The Symbolism of the Monk's Robe in China** *Asia Major*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2000; 12 (1): 9 - 32
- **Blood Writing in Chinese Buddhism** *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2000; 23 (2): 177 - 194
- **Review of Hao Chunwen Tang houqi Songchu Dunhuang sengni de shehui sheghuo** *Journal of the American Oriental Society*  
Kieschnick, J.  
2000; 120 (3): 477 - 478
- **Buddhism and the history of the chair** *BULLETIN OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND PHILOLOGY ACADEMIA SINICA*  
Kieschnick, J.  
1998; 69: 727-763
- **The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals Medieval Chinese Hagiography**  
Kieschnick, J.  
Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.1997
- **Review of Jacques Gemet, Buddhism in Chinese Society** *China Review International*  
Kieschnick, J.  
1996; 3 (2): 418 - 422
- **Review of Kathryn Ann Tsai, Lives of the Nuns: Biographies of Chinese Buddhist Nuns from the Fourth to Sixth Centuries** *China Review International*

Kieschnick, J.  
1994; 1 (2): 273 - 275

● **'ANALECTS' 12.1 AND THE COMMENTARIAL TRADITION** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY*

Kieschnick, J.  
1992; 112 (4): 567-576

● **Analects 12.1 and the Commentarial Tradition** *Journal of the American Oriental Society*

Kieschnick, J.  
1992; 112 (4): 567 - 576