




Matthew Sommer

Bowman Family Professor and Professor of History and, by courtesy, of East Asian Languages and Cultures

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, (1994-2000)
- Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, (2000-2002)
- Visiting Associate Professor of History, Swarthmore College, (2001-2001)
- Associate Professor, Department of History, Stanford University, (2002- present)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- High Honors, Swarthmore College (1983)
- Honor, Phi Beta Kappa (1983)
- National Resource Fellowship (Japanese), University of Washington (1986)
- Jackson Fellowship, University of Washington (1985-1987)
- National Resource Fellowship (Chinese), UCLA (1990-1991)
- Chancellor's Fellowship, UCLA (1989-1993)
- Research Fellowship for China, Committee for Scholarly Communication with China (1991-1992)
- Laffin Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (1992-1993)
- Writing Fellowship, Center for Chinese Studies, UCLA (1994)
- Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies/Social Science Research Council (1997-1998)
- M.A. (Honorary), School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (2000)
- Yalom and Litt Awards for Faculty Research, Claymann Institute for Gender Research, Stanford University (2006)
- Ellen Andrews Wright Faculty Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center (2006-2007)
- Young Faculty Career Development Award, School of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford University (2007)
- FCC Award for the Most Expletives in One Tuesday Talk, Stanford Humanities Center (2007)
- Gordon and Dailey Pattee Faculty Fellowship, Stanford University (2008)
- Invited Guest Scholar, Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History, University of Wisconsin (June 2009)
- Invited Visiting Scholar, Institute for Population and Development Studies, Xi'an Jiaotong University (July 2010)

- Faculty Fellow, Clayman Institute for Gender Research, Stanford University (2010-2011)
- Faculty Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center (2013-2014)
- Visiting Scholar in Gender and History, University of Connecticut (March 2014)
- Faculty Fellowship, Stanford Center at Peking University (March 2014)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Application Referee, American Philosophical Society
- Application Referee, National Humanities Center
- Application Referee, SSRC International Dissertation Field Research Fellowships
- Application Referee, Stanford Humanities Center
- Application Referee, Freeman-Spogli Institute for International Studies (Stanford)
- Application Referee, Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships
- Chair or member, History Department and Anthropological Sciences Department faculty reappointment committees, Stanford University
- Manuscript Referee, Routledge
- Manuscript Referee, Intersections: Gender, History and Culture in the Asian Context
- Manuscript Referee, Late Imperial China
- Manuscript Referee, Journal of Women's History
- Manuscript Referee, American Historical Review
- Manuscript Referee, Law and History Review
- Manuscript Referee, Cambridge University Press
- Manuscript Referee, Modern China
- Manuscript Referee, Oxford University Press
- Manuscript Referee, East Asian History
- Manuscript Referee, Journal of Asian Studies
- Member, Post-doctoral Selection Committees, Center for East Asian Studies and Center for Korean Studies, Stanford University
- Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Stanford University
- Member, Faculty Appointments Committee, Stanford University
- Member, Policy Committee, History Department, Stanford University
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Drake University
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Dickinson College
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Boston College
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, University of Hawai'i
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Columbia University
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Stanford University
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, UC Santa Cruz
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, UC San Diego
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, University of Utah
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, California State University at Long Beach
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, UCLA
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Northwestern University

- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, University of Pennsylvania
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Harvard University
- Tenure/Promotion Reviewer, Brown University
- Chair, Jun Uchida tenure committee, Stanford University (2012 - 2013)
- Chair, Thomas Mullaney tenure committee, Stanford University (2012 - 2012)
- Editorial Board, *Frontiers of History in China* (2010 - present)
- Chair, China and Inner Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (2010 - 2011)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2010 - 2010)
- Head Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College (2010 - 2010)
- Member, Program Subcommittee (Politics and the State), 2011 Berkshire Conference on the History of Women (2010 - 2010)
- Elected Member, China and Inner Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (2009 - 2012)
- Chair, C-Lib Subcommittee on the Future of Stanford's Libraries (2009 - 2010)
- Member, Oversight Committee, Bing Overseas Studies Program, Stanford University (2009 - 2010)
- Vice-Chair, China and Inner Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (2009 - 2010)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2009 - 2009)
- Director of Honors and Research, History Department, Stanford University (2008 - 2012)
- Elected Member, Senate of the Academic Council, Stanford University (2008 - 2010)
- Member, Steering Committee, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University (2008 - 2009)
- Member, C-Lib Subcommittee on Digital Information Technologies in the Research Library Environment at Stanford University (2008 - 2008)
- Member, Committee on Libraries, Stanford University (2007 - 2010)
- Member, Faculty Research Grants Committee, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2007 - 2007)
- Head Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College (2007 - 2007)
- Chair, Library Committee, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University (2006 - 2006)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2006 - 2006)
- Chair, Modern Chinese History search committee, Stanford University (2005 - 2006)
- Member, Chinese bibliographer search committee, East Asia Library, Stanford University (2005 - 2006)
- Member, Modern Korean History search committee, Stanford University (2005 - 2006)
- Member, Modern Japanese History search committee, Stanford University (2004 - 2005)
- Member, Korean Social Sciences interdepartmental search committee, Stanford University (2004 - 2005)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2004 - 2004)
- Head Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College (2004 - 2004)
- Designated Mentor for Selected Junior Faculty, History Department, Stanford University (2003 - 2006)
- Chair, Modern Chinese History search committee, Stanford University (2003 - 2004)
- Member, Chinese Literature search Committee, Asian Languages Department, Stanford University (2003 - 2004)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (2003 - 2003)
- Member, Judicial Affairs Panel Pool, School of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford University (2002 - 2006)
- Member, Steering Committee, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University (2002 - 2006)
- Editorial Board, *Modern China* (2000 - present)

- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (1996 - 1996)
- Member, Search Committees for International Relations and Asian-American History, History Department, University of Pennsylvania (1995 - 2002)
- Member, Executive Committee, History Department, University of Pennsylvania (1995 - 2002)
- Member, Search Committees for Early Chinese Thought and Chinese Literature, Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Pennsylvania (1995 - 2002)
- Member, Executive Committee, Center for East Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania (1995 - 2002)
- Member, Curriculum Committee, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (1995 - 2002)
- External Honors Examiner in Chinese History, Swarthmore College (1995 - 1995)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles , History (1994)
- M.A., University of Washington , International Studies: China (1987)
- B.A., Swarthmore College , Political Science (1983)

Teaching

COURSES

2023-24

- Chinese Legal History: MLA 379 (Spr)
- Frontier Expansion and Ethnic Statecraft in the Qing Empire: CHINA 393, HISTORY 393 (Win)
- Gender and Sexuality in Chinese History: CHINA 395, FEMGEN 395J, HISTORY 395J (Spr)
- Japan and China in the Early Modern World: OSPKYOTO 25 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: CHINA 183 (Win)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: CHINA 93 (Win)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: FEMGEN 193 (Win)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: FEMGEN 93 (Win)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: HISTORY 193 (Win)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: HISTORY 93 (Win)

2022-23

- Gender and Sexuality in Chinese History: MLA 374 (Spr)
- Introduction to Japan: History, Religion, Culture: OSPGEN 10 (Sum)
- Law and Society in Late Imperial China: CHINA 392B, HISTORY 392B (Win)
- Qing Legal Documents: CHINA 495A (Win)
- Qing Legal Documents: CHINA 495B (Spr)
- Qing Legal Documents: HISTORY 495A (Win)
- Qing Legal Documents: HISTORY 495B (Spr)
- State, Society, and Economy in Qing Dynasty China: CHINA 393A, HISTORY 393A (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: CHINA 183 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: CHINA 383C (Aut)

- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: CHINA 93 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: FEMGEN 193 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: FEMGEN 93 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: HISTORY 193 (Aut)
- The Chinese Empire from the Mongol Invasion to the Boxer Uprising: HISTORY 93 (Aut)

2021-22

- Chinese Legal History: CHINA 292B, HISTORY 292B (Spr)
- Chinese Women's History: CHINA 295J, FEMGEN 295J, HISTORY 295J (Win)
- Gender and Sexuality in Chinese History: CHINA 395, FEMGEN 395J, HISTORY 395J (Win)
- Introduction to Japan: History, Religion, Culture: OSPGEN 10 (Sum)
- Law and Society in Late Imperial China: CHINA 392B, HISTORY 392B (Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Steve Andrews

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Zoe Gioja, Narusa Yamato

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Luther Cenci, Preetam Prakash

Orals Evaluator

Zoe Gioja, Narusa Yamato

Doctoral Dissertation Co-Advisor (AC)

Sina Salessi, Amanda Zhang

Doctoral (Program)

Luther Cenci, Kelly Fu, Preetam Prakash, Hong Song

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Circulating the Code: Print Media and Legal Knowledge in Qing China (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2021; 80 (1): 185–87
- **Legal Understandings of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Late Imperial China** *CAMBRIDGE WORLD HISTORY OF VIOLENCE, VOL III: 1500-1800 CE*
Sommer, M. H., Antony, R., Carroll, S., Pennock, C. D.
2020: 219-235
- **Back from the Dead: Wrongful Convictions and Criminal Justice in China (Book Review)** *HARVARD JOURNAL OF ASIATIC STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2018; 78 (1): 221–24
- **Forgery and Impersonation in Imperial China: Popular Deceptions and the High Qing State (Book Review)** *LAW AND HISTORY REVIEW*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2017; 35 (2): 547–49
- **What Does It Mean to Be a Man in China?** *CROSS-CURRENTS-EAST ASIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE REVIEW*
Sommer, M. H.

2015: 190–99

- **Regulating Prostitution in China: Gender and Local Statebuilding, 1900-1937 (Book Review)** *AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2015; 120 (2): 596–97
- **Abortion in Late Imperial China: Routine Birth Control or Crisis Intervention?** *RESEARCH FROM ARCHIVAL CASE RECORDS: LAW, SOCIETY, AND CULTURE IN CHINA*
Sommer, M. H., Huang, P. C., Bernhardt, K.
2014; 1: 119–89
- **The Gendered Body in the Qing Courtroom** *JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF SEXUALITY*
Sommer, M. H.
2013; 22 (2): 281–311
- **The Field of Qing Legal History** *A Scholarly Review of Chinese Studies in North America*
Sommer, M.
edited by Zhang, H.
Association for Asian Studies.2013: 113–132
- **Obsession: Male Same-Sex Relations in China, 1900-1950 (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2012; 71 (1): 212–13
- **Scandal in the Garden: The Story of the Stone as a 'Licentious Novel'** *Approaches to Teaching The Story of the Stone (Dream of the Red Chamber)*
Sommer, M.
edited by Schonebaum, A., Lu, T.
Modern Language Association of America.2012: 186–207
- **SELLING WOMEN Prostitution, Markets, and the Household in Early Modern Japan FOREWORD** *SELLING WOMEN: PROSTITUTION, MARKETS, AND THE HOUSEHOLD IN EARLY MODERN JAPAN*
Sommer, M. H., Stanley, A.
2012; 21: XI–+
- **Obsession: Male Same-Sex Relations in China, 1900-1950 (Review)** *Journal of Asian Studies*
Sommer, M.
2012; 71 (1): 212–213
- **Foreword** *Selling Women: Prostitution, Markets, and the Household in Early Modern Japan*
Sommer, M.
edited by Stanley, A.
University of California Press.2012: xi–xvi
- **Abortion in Late Imperial China: Routine Birth Control or Crisis Intervention?** *Rural China: An International Journal of History and Social Science*
Sommer, M., Translated by Zhang, Y.
2011; 9: 1–52
- **ABORTION IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA: ROUTINE BIRTH CONTROL OR CRISIS INTERVENTION?** *LATE IMPERIAL CHINA*
Sommer, M. H.
2010; 31 (2): 97–165
- **The Field of Qing Legal History in North America** *Chinese Studies in North America: Research, Teaching, and Resources*
Sommer, M., Translated by Xue, Z.
edited by Zhang, H.
Zhonghua Shuju.2010: 244–266
- **Death by a Thousand Cuts (Book Review)** *SOCIAL HISTORY*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2010; 35 (2): 204–6

- **Death by a Thousand Cuts (Review)** *Social History*
Sommer, M.
2010; 35 (2): 204-206
- **Sex Work: Polyandry as a Survival Strategy in the Qing Dynasty** *Research from Archival Case Records: Law, Society and Culture in China, Past and Present*
Sommer, M.
edited by Huang, P. C., You, C.
Fali Chubanshe.2009: 111-139
- **The Adjudication of Wife-Selling in Qing County Courts: 272 Cases from Ba, Nanbu, and Baodi Counties** *Power and Culture in Ming-Qing Law*
Sommer, M., Translated by Lin, W.
edited by Qiu, P., Chen, X.
Lianjing Chuban Gongsi.2009: 345-396
- **Public Passions: The Trial of Shi Jianqiao and the Rise of Popular Sympathy in Republican China (Review)** *Law and History Review*
Sommer, M.
2008; 26 (3): 741-743
- **Was China part of a global eighteenth-century homosexuality?** *HISTORICAL REFLECTIONS-REFLEXIONS HISTORIQUES*
Sommer, M. H.
2007; 33 (1): 117-133
- **The Construction of Gender in Qing Dynasty Law** *The Comparative Legal History of Gender*
Sommer, M., Translated by Karasawa, Y.
edited by Mitsunari, M.
Osaka University Press.2006: 272-301
- **Qing county archives in Sichuan: An update from the field** *LATE IMPERIAL CHINA*
Karasawa, Y., Reed, B. W., Sommer, M. H.
2005; 26 (2): 114-128
- **Homoerotic sensibilities in late imperial China. (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2005; 64 (4): 1017-1019
- **Sex Work: Polyandry as a Survival Strategy in the Qing Dynasty** *New Social History*
Sommer, M., Translated by Li, X.
2005; 2: 236-262
- **Making Sex Work: Polyandry as a Survival Strategy in Qing Dynasty China** *Gender in Motion: Divisions of Labor and Cultural Change in Late Imperial and Modern China*
Sommer, M.
edited by Goodman, B., Larson, W.
Rowman and Littlefield.2005: 29-54
- **Dangerous Males, Vulnerable Males, and Polluted Males: The Regulation of Masculinity in Qing Dynasty Law** *Chinese Femininities/Chinese Masculinities: A Reader*
Sommer, M.
edited by Brownell, S., Wasserstrom, J.
University of California Press.2002: 67-88
- **A flourishing yin: Gender in China's medical history, 960-1665 (Book Review)** *HARVARD JOURNAL OF ASIATIC STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2001; 61 (1): 273-279
- **Social power and legal culture: Litigation masters in late imperial China. (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Sommer, M. H.
2000; 59 (1): 158-159

- **The penetrated male in late imperial China - Judicial constructions and social stigma** *1993 Conference on Code and Practice in Qing and Republican China*
Sommer, M. H.
SAGE PUBLICATIONS INC.1997: 140–80
- **Prostitution in Late Imperial Chinese Law: The Eighteenth-Century Shift Away from Status Performance** *China — Society and Culture*
Sommer, M., Translated by Terada, H.
1997; 12 (June): 294-328
- **The uses of chastity: Sex, law, and the property of widows in Qing China** *LATE IMPERIAL CHINA*
Sommer, M. H.
1996; 17 (2): 77-130
- **Legislation Related to the Civil Economy in the Qing Dynasty** *Civil Law in Qing and Republican China*
Jing, J., Translated by Sommer, M.
edited by Bernhardt, K., Huang, P.
Stanford University Press.1994: 42–84