

Professor Flemming Christiansen

Institute of Sociology and Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen

Chair Professor in the Social Sciences of East Asia: Political Sociology of China

flemming.christiansen@uni-due.de

Career

University of Duisburg-Essen:

Chair Professor in the Social Sciences of East Asia: Political Sociology of China, 2011–
Director, DFG Graduate Research Training Group 1316 “Risk and East Asia,” 2014 –
Director, Institute of East Asian Studies, 2012–2014

University of Leeds:

Chair Professor in Chinese Studies; Director, National Institute of Chinese Studies; and Deputy
Director, White Rose East Asia Centre, 2006–2011
Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies, 1995–2005

University of Manchester:

Lecturer in Chinese Politics, 1989–1995

University of Leiden:

Research Fellow, Danish Research Council for Development Research, 1986–1989
Research Assistant, Sinological Institute 1985–1986

University of Aarhus:

Academic Fellow, China Information Service, 1981–1984

Education

Doctor in de letteren (PhD) University of Leiden, 1990

MA in Chinese University of Aarhus, 1980

BA in German University of Aarhus, 1975

Visiting and Honorary Appointments

Visiting Professor, White Rose East Asia Centre, University of Leeds (non-residential appoint.), 2012–

Visiting Professor in Chinese Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen, 2009–2010

Lecturer at University of Aarhus, unpaid leave from Leeds, 1999

Visiting Professor at the University of Aalborg, leave from Leeds, 1998

Memberships and Editorships

- Journal of Current Chinese Affairs (Hamburg): Editor 2009–2013; Member of editorial board, 2009– (Peer reviewed journal)
- Graduate School of Contemporary Asian Studies (Turku): Board member 2010–2013
- Economic and Political Studies (Beijing) 2013 - (Peer reviewed journal)
- China Information (Leiden): Member of editorial board 1990– (Peer reviewed journal)
- Journal of Agrarian Change (London): Member of Editorial Board 2009– (Peer reviewed journal)
- Asian Politics and Policy (Washington and Beijing): Member of Editorial Board 2008– (Peer reviewed journal)
- Zhongguo Yanjiu/China Studies (Nanjing): Member of Editorial Board 2007 – (Peer reviewed journal)

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- Chinese Worlds (Routledge, London): Member of Editorial Board 1996– (Book Series)
- European Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development in China: Member of Steering Committee 1989–1996 and 2003–2008 (Research Network).

Member of American Sociological Association, German Sociological Association (DSG), British Association of Chinese Studies, European Association of Chinese Studies, Association for Asian Studies, Development Studies Association. Represented the University of Leeds in EastAsiaNet until July 2011.

Contributions to the Scholarly Community (Selected)

- Initiator and co-ordinator of the World Universities Network Contemporary China Center Video Seminars in Chinese studies 2006–2011, involving scholars in UK, Norway, Germany, USA, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, and China.
- Trainer on the Graduate School of Contemporary Asian Studies in Turku 2009–2012.
- Co-organiser of the RCUK-funded Postgraduate Summerschool in Chinese Studies, University of Nanjing, July 2010.
- Collaborator in EastAsiaNet.eu. Convenor of one workshop and network meeting at Leeds, and initiator of EastAsiaNet's postgraduate research benchmarking criteria.
- Initiator of the China in the World Postgraduate Summer School in Chinese Studies, funded by the European Union's Marie Curie Scheme, 2006-2009. Coordinated the summer schools in Nanjing (2006), Leeds (2007), Bristol (2008) and Oslo (2009). A sequel held at Nanjing University (2010).
- Co-founder in 1989 of European Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development in China. This organisation has convened a dozen times, three times with me as a co-convenor.

Major Research Grants and Awards

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD): Lead applicant for successful application for four stipends for foreign PhD students (two cohorts, 2014–2018/19).

Priority Program for the Enhancement of Regional Studies, 2012: Co-applicant for a successful €4.6 million grant application from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (April 2013–2016), adding 12 PhD stipends (one cohort, 2013-2016) and 6 post-docs to IN-EAST.

German Research Foundation (DFG) : Co-applicant (based in the White Rose East Asia Centre in the UK) for a grant to establish Graduate Research Training Group 1316 "Risk and East Asia," at Duisburg-Essen, involving 15 PhD stipends (three cohorts, 2009-2014) plus post-docs. "Participating scientist" of this programme since 2011. Grant extended in 2013 with 10 stipends (two cohorts, 2014-2018) plus post-doc positions. Director (Sprecher) since April 2014.

Language-Based Area Studies Initiative: Co-applicant on a successful bid to establish the White Rose East Asia Centre in 2006. The £4,200,000 funding was provided by the ESRC, AHRC and Hefce.

Marie Curie Conferences and Training Courses: Funding of up to € 311,000 for a four year period (2006-2009) to convene Postgraduate Research Summer Schools in Chinese Studies (Proposal Number: 029888) at Nanjing, Leeds, Bristol, and Oslo Universities.

K C Wong Fellowship: K C Wong fellowship for a researcher from the Rural Development Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences to stay for four months at the IRCC in 2004.

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ESRC Research Grant: European Chinese, Chinese Europeans: Strategies and Identities (L324253003), Oct. 1995 – Sept. 1996, £101,000. With Professor Gregor Benton.

European Commission DGIX: Sustainable Development in Ecologically Sensitive Areas in China (EV5V-CT92-0154), 1993–1995, ecu 186,000 (£120,000). With Claude Aubert, INRA, Paris.

DANIDA PhD scholarship: A 3–year scholarship with full academic salary and ample allowance for all Research-related costs from the Research Council for Development Research of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to study at Leiden University, 1986–89 (appr. DKK900,000).

Supervision of Research Students

- Duisburg-Essen: PhDs (1 awarded; 2 submitted; 6 current)
- Renmin Univ. of China, Beijing (CSC PhDs, 1 awarded)
- Leeds: PhDs (16 awarded)
- Zhejiang Univ., Hangzhou (CSC PhDs, 2 awarded)
- Manchester: PhDs (1 awarded)
- Edge Hill College: PhD (1 awarded)

External PhD Examining

University of Canterbury, New Zealand (2010); Nottingham (2008); Nottingham (2006); Manchester (2006); Manchester (2004); Edinburgh (2002); SOAS (2001); SOAS (2000).

Organisation of Conferences (Selected)

- September Seminar of the Graduiertenkolleg Risk and East Asia, Beijing, September 14–18, 2015
- September Seminar of the Graduiertenkolleg Risk and East Asia, Beijing, September 3–8, 2012
- Symposium Risk and East Asia, 20–22 November 2009, Berlin
- ECARDC Conference, 3–5 April 2009, Leeds
- EastAsiaNet.eu Workshop Leeds 30–31 May 2008.
- International Symposium on Livelihoods, Mobility and Development: The Chinese Experiences, Leeds, 30 Nov.–1 Dec. 2007
- International Conference on Chinese Society and China Studies, Nanjing, May 2007
- Multiple and Diasporic Identities: National and Ethnic Belongings in East Asia and Europe, Aalborg, 2000
- International conference on China's Internal and International Migration, Oxford, 1996 ECARDC Conference, Manchester, 1995.
- Workshop on Sustainable Development in China, Brussels, 1995
- ECARDC Conference, Sandbjerg, Denmark, November 1989

Conference Presentations (selected)

- "Innovation, Emergence, Implementation: Making Sense of the 'New-style Urbanization Plan' " Second Annual Meeting of the ICCS, August 6–7, 2015, Oxford
- "Precarity and Innovation the Hard Way: Social Outcomes of Chinese Reform" Cologne

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- “The Scope of Vision: Which Social Ideals Does China Pursue? Fifth International Conference on Chinese Society and China Studies, Freiburg, August, 9-10, 2014
- “China's Development Planning and International Climate Change Cooperation: Diplomacy or Beyond?” European Association for Chinese Studies, Coimbra, July 25-26, 2014
- “China and the CPC's Image in Europe.” Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen, June 12th, 2014.
- “Precarity and Innovation the Hard Way: Social Outcomes of Chinese Reform,” Cologne, April 2014.
- “Urban China: Emerging Orders. Analytical Approaches to China's Urbanization” Future cities and space reconfiguration in East Asia: Practices and Representations, Risk and Opportunities, Lyon, October 17-19, 2013
- “Social Challenges of Urbanization in China 1978–2014” International Consortium for China Studies (ICCS), Peking University, Beijing, April, 20–21, 2014
- “How to Research (Virtual) Groups,” Lecture, Henan Science and Technology University, Luoyang, September 17, 2012.
- “Europe's Chinese Precariat?” The Chinese Renaissance in Europe. British Academy, London March 8–9, 2012.
- “China: Social Inequality as a Development Driver?” Inaugural Lecture, University of Duisburg-Essen, June 6, 2012
- “The 1911 Revolution and the Issue of ‘Second Modernity’: Implications for Globalization Theory 100 Years on,” Reform and Revolution: In commemoration of the Xinhai Revolution and 100 years of state building, University of Vienna, Austria, January 8–13, 2012
- “The Anatomy of Change: Chinese Reforms,” 5th IFCCS: Contending Models for China's Future Development Society Building and Governance, August 8th–9th, 2012, Beijing.
- “The Concept of Democratic Legitimacy in Global Governance from an East Asian Perspective,” Workshop: Global Governance Revisited: Normative and Cultural Claims and Problems of Legitimacy in International Negotiation Arenas. Käte Hamburger Kolleg, University of Duisburg-Essen, 6 December 2011.
- “Packaging Policies of the New Growth Model,” AAS/ICAS Conference, Honolulu, 31 March – 3 April 2011.
- “Drivers of China's Rural Reform since the 1970s,” King's College, London, 3 March 2011.
- “Unsettled Chinese: Difference and Identity on the Rural–Urban–Foreign Continuum,” Asian Diversity in a Global Context (Asian Dynamics Initiative Annual Conference), University of Copenhagen, 11–13 November 2010.
- Lecture Series, School of East Asian Studies, University of Turku, 8–10 October 2010: “Civil Society in China: A Critical Examination of Civil Society Approaches to China”; “Protest, Opposition, and Dissent in China: Historical Narratives of Major Protest Movements in the P.R. China—Social Dynamics and the Evolution of Political Institutions”; “Discourses and counter-Discourses at Work in Chinese Politics: State Power and how it Engenders and Cultivates its Opposition —Critical Discourse Analysis Approaches to the Political ‘Other’.”
- “Urbanisation and Urbanisation Processes in China.” International Summer School on China Studies. Nanjing University, 10-20 September 2010.
- “Conditions for China's New Social Policy: Exploring Systemic Reach.” 6th International Symposium and Lectures on Social Policy. 2010: Social Policy Innovation in the Era of Social Transformation, Hangzhou, 27-30 August 2010.
- “Ethnographic methods and Interviewing Techniques.” International Summer School on Religious Pluralization and Migration, University of Bochum, 26-30 July 2010.
- “China 2020: From Xiaokang to Shengtai Wenming: A System Approach to Chinese Politics” Conference China 2020, University of Alberta, Edmonton, 7-10 July 2010.
- “East and West: Reflections on Multiculture and Global Civilisation,” Conference on Management Theory and Practice Based on Eastern and Western Cultures, Center for the Study of East–West Culture and Management, College of Humanities, Zhejiang University, 18–20 June 2010.
- “Is China a responsible stakeholder?” 7th meeting of the Informal European Parliament Dialogue on China, European Parliament, Brussels, 13 April 2010.
- “Migration Policy in Europe and the Rise of Informality and Ethnic Labour Markets: Observations from the field.” Conference on Networked Regionalism versus Institutional Regionalism—Managing Complexities in Regional Cooperation and Global Governance, Singapore, 6–8 December 2009.
- “The Dilemma of Food Security in China.” Symposium Risk and East Asia, Berlin, 20–22 November 2009.
- “Explaining Chinese politics in the 1970s: Do we need a new sociology of political practice?” Workshop: Crisis

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of Socialist Modernity: China, the Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia in the 1970s, Freiburg Institute of Advanced Studies, Freiburg i. Br., 19–21 March 2009.

- “Food Security and Risk: Balancing Agricultural Policy and Urbanisation Processes in China 1970-2009,” Ninth European Conference on Agricultural and Rural Development in China, Leeds, 3-5 April 2009.
- “Multiculture and Global Civilisation.” EU–CHINA Workshop on Social Sciences and Humanities, Beijing, 11–13 January 2009.
- “Cultural and Ethnic Symbolism in Urban Space: To New Chinese Cities via Chinatown.” Urban Administration or Governance? A China-Europe Dialogue, Renmin University, Beijing, 4-5 December 2008.
- “Chinatown as Symbol and Reality.” International Workshop on Cityscapes of Diaspora: Chinatowns and Beyond, Middlesex University, London, 15 Nov. 2008.
- “From Coolies to the Rush to the Bottom: Continuities of Chinese Labour in the Colonial and Post-Colonial World Orders,” Institute of Colonial and Postcolonial Studies Research Salon, Leeds University, 7 November 2008.
- “Passing Boundaries: Identity and Class among the Global Chinese.” International Conference on Chinese Society and China Studies, Nanjing, 24-26 October 2008.
- “Social Class in China and the Emergence of Civil Society,” Worldwide Universities Network Contemporary China Center virtual seminar, Leeds University, 9 October 2008.
- “Chinatown in Transition: Between Ethnic Enclave and Global Emblem,” International Conference on Chinatowns. Myths and Realities of an Urban Phenomenon in the United States and Europe, Leibniz University Hannover, 18-20 September 2008.
- “Why is Class an Important Issue in the Analysis of Chinese Society Today?” Seminar at Zhou Enlai School of Management, Nankai University, Tianjin 9 September 2008.
- Panel discussion at CO-REACH Social Science Conference, Beijing, 15-17 May 2008.
- “China’s Food Security, Urbanisation, and Social Stability in China,” Conference on Agrarian Questions: Lineages and Prospects. School of Oriental and African Studies, London, 01-03. May 2008.
- “Why Is Class an Important Issue in the Analysis of Chinese Society Today?” China Seminar, Nottingham University, 26 February 2008.
- “Why Is Class an Important Issue in the Analysis of Chinese Society Today?” Leeds Development Studies Seminar Series, University of Leeds, 6 February 2008.
- “Survival of the Misfits: Livelihoods and Community in China,” International Symposium on Livelihoods, Mobility and Development: The Chinese Experiences, Leeds University, 30 November-1 December 2007
- “The Rural-Urban Boundary in China,” Worldwide Universities Network Contemporary China Center virtual seminar, University of Leeds, 11 October 2007
- “Politics,” Research Strategies for Understanding China in the 21st Century: The disciplinary perspectives, British Academy, London, 2 October 2007
- “Building Livelihoods: How Chinese Peasants Deal with State Regulation of Opportunity and Risk,” International Conference on Policy Intervention and Rural Transformations: Comparative Issues, China Agricultural University, Beijing, September 2007.
- “Risks and Opportunities: Class Difference in China,” EastAsiaNet.eu Conference, University of Lund, May-June 2007.
- “Social Mobility and Disparities in China: Challenges for the Study of Chinese Society,” International Conference on Chinese Society and China Studies, Nanjing University, May 2007.
- “Life Chances in Reform China: Livelihood, Esteem, Rights, and Risks,” seminar, Beijing Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, April 2007.
- “Life Chances in Reform China: Livelihood, Esteem, Rights, and Risks,” seminar, Institute for Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, April 2007.
- “Theoretical Reflections on Recent Chinese Migration,” Seminar, Duisburg-Essen, February 2007.
- “Telling the History of the Mongols,” Worldwide Universities Network Contemporary China Center virtual seminar, 3 December 2006.
- “Class in China: Seeking Livelihood, Recognition and Influence,” First International Workshop of the Association for Social Science Research on China (ASC), University of Cologne, November 2006.
- “Social Groups in Rural-Urban Transition,” Eighth European Conference on Agricultural and Rural Development in China, Yiwu, September 2006.

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- "Social Change and Emergence of Social Strata in China during the 1920s and 1930s," Fifth International Symposium of the History of Republican China, Xikou, July-August 2006.
- "Indigenous Villagers, Insurrectionist Radicals, Colonial Cronys, Sexist Traditionalists, Political Activists: Trans-National Identities between Hong Kong's New Territories and Europe's Chinese Communities," Conference on Colonial and Postcolonial Migrations, University of Leeds, June 2006.
- Seminar on Overseas Chinese, University of Chester, 2006.
- Conference on Women and Development in China, Nottingham, 2006.
- Fourth ICAS Conference, Shanghai, 2005.
- Conference on Rural Chinese Development, Zhejiang University, 2005.
- Seminar, Inner Mongolian Identity, Leeds, 2004.
- ECARDC Conference, Greenwich, 2004.
- International Conference, Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University Hohhot, 2004. International Workshop on Rural Women in China, Nottingham, 2004.
- Seminar, Urbanisation in China, Leeds, 2004.
- Seminar, Overseas Chinese, Leeds, 2003.
- EACS Conference, Moscow, 2002.
- International Conference, China's Economic Development, Athens, 2001.
- Fourth ECAN Conference, China's WTO Accession: National and International Perspectives, Berlin, 2001.
- Conference on Multiple and Diasporic Identities: National and Ethnic Belongings in East Asia and Europe, Aalborg, 2000.
- ISCCO Conference, Jinan University, Guangzhou, 2000.
- One-day conference, China's Development, Copenhagen, 1999.
- Seminar, Hakka Identity, Lund, 1999.
- Workshop, China's Globalisation, Aalborg, 1998.
- Seminar, Hakka Identity, Aalborg, 1998.
- European Confederation of Chinese Associations, Amsterdam, 1998.
- EACS Conference, Edinburgh, 1998.
- Seminar, Overseas Chinese, Aberdeen, 1998.
- International conference, Hong Kong, 1997.
- Policy conference on overseas Chinese in Italy, Prato, 1997.
- Conference, Xiamen, 1997.
- International conference on China's Internal and International Migration, Oxford, 1996.
- ECARDC Conference, Manchester, 1995.
- International Conference, Chinese Rural Collectives and Voluntary Organisations, Leiden, 1995. ESRC Pacific Asia Initiative: Workshop, Guildford, 1995.
- Seminar, Contemporary China: Environmental Issues, South Bank University, 1995.
- Workshop, Brussels, 1995.
- Seminar Chongqing University, 1993.
- Seminar, Hong Kong, 1993.
- Workshop, European Network on Chinese Anthropology, Leiden, 1992.
- EADI Workshop on Labour in Development, 1991.
- Conference on Chinese Geography, University of Keele, 1991.
- ECARDC Conference, Leiden, 1991.
- Seminar at University of Leeds, 1990.
- Workshop on Political Economy of the Chinese Reforms, University of California, Los Angeles, 1990. European Association for Chinese Studies, Leiden, 1990.
- International Association for Communist Studies, Harrogate, 1990.
- ECARDC Conference, Denmark, 1989.
- Workshop on Rural Development, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, 1989.
- Sixth Sino-European Conference in Europe, Paris, 1989.
- Workshop on Chinese Development, Rotterdam 1988.
- Workshop, Chinese Rural Development, Leiden, 1985.
- Conference, Chinese Studies, Oslo, 1980.