

Ruoshui Zhang

Education

University of Cambridge 2021-Present

Ph.D. in French

- Dissertation: “Infinite Traveling and Non-action: Taoist Modes of Post-metaphysical Existence in Wallace Stevens and Gu Cheng”
- Supervisor: Prof. Ian James; Advisor: Prof. Hugues Azérad
- Expected Submission in November, 2026

University of Toronto 2017-2018

M.A. in Comparative Literature

- Major research paper: “Poiesis vs. Praxis: The Poetics of Heidegger, Nancy, Stevens”

University of British Columbia 2012 - 2017

B.A. in Honours English

- Honours thesis: “Courtly Love as Mimetic Desire: Chaucer’s Appropriation of the Chivalric Romance in ‘The Knight’s Tale’”
- Grade Point Average (GPA): 4.0

Publications

Academic Publication:

- Ruoshui Zhang, 'Reading Wallace Stevens with Jean-Luc Nancy: A Poetics of Anti-dialectical Materiality', *French Studies Bulletin*, Special Issue, 'After Work / Après le travail' (University of Oxford Press, 2024).

Poetry Publication

- Ruoshui Zhang, ‘A Translation of Wallace Stevens’s ‘Notes Towards a Supreme Fiction’, section 1: ‘It Must be Abstract’, in *Not Averse* (The Girton Poetry Group, University of Cambridge, 2023)
- Ruoshui Zhang, ‘Work’ in *Wolf Words Poetry Anthology* (Wolfson College, Cambridge, 2024)

Select Conference Presentations

AAS Annual Conference (Vancouver) 2026

Association for Asian Studies

- Discussant: ‘Border-Crossing Studies on Daoism in Eurasia - Part I: Border-Crossing the Dao: Theological Legacies and Translational Lineages in Early Western Interpretations of the Daodejing’

MLA Annual Convention (Toronto) 2026

Modern Language Association

- Presentation: “The Difficulty to Think at the End of Day: From Technological Masculinity to Taoist Lethargy in Wallace Stevens’s “A Rabbit as King of Ghosts””
- Panelist: “Weakening Masculinities In Modernist Contexts”

The Poetics of Tao: French-Chinese Dialogues on Poetry, Art, and the Limits of Subjectivity 2025

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- Presentation: “Wuwei and Lethargic Existence in Wallace Stevens”

ICLA Congress (Seoul) 2025

International Comparative Literature Association

- Presentation: “Infinite Traveling: Gu Cheng’s Taoist Poetics and the Immanent Nonhuman”
- Panelist: “Approaching Nonhuman Narrative in World Literature”

ACLA Annual Conference 2025

American Comparative Literature Association

- Presentation: “Ecological Ecstasy and Mysticism: Wallace Stevens’ Poetry and the Transcendence of Modern Subjectivity”
- Panelist: “Ecology, Ecstasy, Mysticism”

Finding Community in and beyond the Francosphere 2023

University of Cambridge

- Presentation: ‘Stevens’s Planet: From the Metaphysical Poiesis to the Ethical Praxis of Community’

Society for French Studies Annual Conference 2022

- Poster: ‘From Concept to Sense: Wallace Stevens’s Revision of the Romantic Model of Poetry’

Après le travail: Society for French Studies Postgraduate Conference 2022

Society for French Studies

- Presentation: ‘Waste and Welter: Wallace Stevens’s Poetics of Anti-dialectic Materiality’

French Graduate Research Seminar 2021

University of Cambridge

- Presentation: “Forgetting Knowledge: The Post-metaphysics of Zhuangzi”

Thinking with Jean-Luc Nancy International Conference 2019

University of Oxford

- Presentation: “Unforeseen Enclosures: Nancy’s Critique of Heidegger’s Poetics”

Academic Services

Conference Organiser

University of Cambridge 2025

- ‘The Poetics of Tao: French-Chinese Dialogues on Poetry, Art, and the Limits of Subjectivity’
- Conference Sponsors: Society for French Studies; MMLL, French Section; Wolfson College Interdisciplinary Research Hubs; Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Lecture Organiser

Humanities Society, Wolfson College, Cambridge University 2025

- Jennifer Gosetti-Ferencei, Johns Hopkins University: Literary Reading and the Sense of an Inner Life

Lecture Organiser

Humanities Society, Wolfson College, Cambridge University 2025

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- Shi Xie, Sun Yat-sen University, China: ‘[Rivers, Polders, and Prosperity: How Water Shaped Society in Early Modern China](#)’
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Teaching Experience

Seminar Instructor

Christ’s College, Cambridge University, U.K. 2024–25

- Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Programme: “Rediscovering Reality: A Deep Dive into Existentialist Philosophy”

Co-lecturer

2021

Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, China

- Undergraduate course: “A History of Western Civilization”

Instructor

2020

Sun Yat-sen University, China

- Undergraduate course: “Academic Reading and Writing”

Co-lecturer

2020

Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, China

- Undergraduate course: “A History of Western Civilization”

Teaching Assistant

2019

Peking University, China

- Graduate Seminar: “Critical Terms of Chinese Thought”
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Academic Awards

Doctoral Fellowships (\$100,000), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council 2022–26

ACLA Horst Frenz Award, Honourable Mention 2026

Modern Languages Association Convention Grant (\$400) 2025

Conference and Workshop Grants, Society of French Studies (\$1850) 2025

Wolfson Travel & Research Grants (\$2200), University of Cambridge 2025

AUPHF+ Small Grants (\$920), AUPHF 2025

ACLA Travel Fund, ACLA 2025

Peter Bayley Travel Award (\$3600), University of Cambridge 2025

Odette de Mourgues Fund (\$1300), University of Cambridge 2022–25

Graduate Fellowship (\$12,000), University of Toronto 2017

Graduate Admission Award (\$5,000), University of Toronto 2017

Go Global University Award (\$2,000), University of British Columbia 2015

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Athletic Achievements

Wolfson College Basketball Team: <u>Captain</u> , 1st Division.	2023-2025
WCSA Yoga Society: <u>Founder</u> , <u>President</u> , <u>Instructor</u>	2023-2024
WCSA Dance Society: <u>Founder</u> , <u>President</u>	2023-2024
Cambridge University <u>Varsity Basketball Team</u> : Point Guard, Lions Division	2022-2023
British Columbia Table Tennis <u>Provincial Championships</u> : 2nd place.	2011-2012