



Professor Mayfair Yang

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Biography

Mayfair Yang (PhD, UC Berkeley) is a cultural anthropologist interested in the intertwined processes of religiosity, secularization, and state operations in modernity, post-colonial, and Communist conditions. Areas of research and teaching: Chinese religions & secularization; critical theory; China Studies, sovereignty and state power; gender and feminism; media studies; cultural approaches to political economy. Professor Yang has assumed teaching, research, and visiting scholar positions at the University of Michigan, University of Chicago, Beijing University, Academia Sinica in Taiwan, Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and the Center for the Study of World Religion at Harvard University. She was the Director of Asian Studies at the University of Sydney in Australia 2007-09. She is the author of *Gifts, Favors, and Banquets: the Art of Social Relationships in China* (Cornell University Press, 1994), and editor of *Spaces of Their Own: Women's Public Sphere in Transnational China* (1999) and of *Chinese Religiosities: Afflictions of Modernity and State Formation* (2008). She is currently completing a book manuscript on *Re-enchanting Modernity: Sovereignty, Ritual Economy, & Indigenous Civil Society in Coastal China*.