

WEN-QING NGOEI

Singapore Management University; College of Integrative Studies
10 Canning Rise, Level 3, Singapore 179873
wqngoei@smu.edu.sg | www.linkedin.com/in/wen-qing-ngoei/ | +65 6826 1380

EDUCATION

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| PhD | Northwestern University, History, 2015 |
| MA | Northwestern University, History, 2010 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | National Institute of Education (Singapore), 2002 |
| BA (Honors) | National University of Singapore, English Literature, 2000 |

EMPLOYMENT

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|----------------|---|
| 2019 – present | Singapore Management University, College of Integrative Studies Assistant Professor of History, 2019 – present |
| 2016-2019 | Nanyang Technological University, Department of History Assistant Professor of History, 2016 – 2019 |
| 2016-2017 | Yale University, International Security Studies Brady-Johnson Grand Strategy Postdoctoral Fellow |
| 2015-2016 | Northwestern University, Chabraja Center for Historical Studies Nicholas Chabraja Postdoctoral Fellow |
| 2010-2015 | Northwestern University Graduate Instructor and Teaching Assistant |
| 2002-2009 | Ministry of Education, Singapore |

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

2019 *Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States and Anticommunism in Southeast Asia*. (Cornell University Press); paperback edition forthcoming June 2023.

Chapters and Journal Articles

- 2022 “Exhibiting Transnationalism: The Alpha Gallery in pursuit of an authentic Southeast Asian art form,” *Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 29, no. 3 (2022): 271-299.
- “British Neo-colonialism in Malaya and Singapore, and U.S. Empire in the Pacific,” in *The Vietnam War in the Pacific World*, edited by Fredrik Logevall and Brian Cuddy (University of North Carolina Press).
- 2021 “On Circuits Broken, Remade and Newly Forged: Tracing Southeast Asia’s Foreign Relations after the Vietnam War,” *Diplomatic History* 45, no. 3 (2021): 549-555.
- “The United States and the “Chinese Problem” of Southeast Asia,” *Diplomatic History* 45, no. 2 (2021): 240-252.
- “Re-thinking Region: U.S.-Southeast Asian Relations in the Twentieth Century,” co-

authored with Anne L. Foster, *Diplomatic History* 45, no. 2 (2021): 219-222.

- 2019 "There and Back Again: What the Cold War for Southeast Asia can teach us about Sino-U.S. Competition in the region today," *International Journal: Canada's Journal for Global Policy Analysis* 74, no. 2 (2019): 301-312.
- 2017 "A Wide Anticommunist Arc: Britain, ASEAN and Nixon's Triangular Diplomacy," *Diplomatic History* 41, no. 5 (2017): 903-932.
- 2014 "The Domino Logic of the Darkest Moment: The Fall of Singapore, the Atlantic echo chamber and 'Chinese penetration' in U.S. Cold War policy toward Southeast Asia," *Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 21, no. 3 (2014): 215-245.
Winner, Frank W. Gibney Prize.
- 2023 "The Vietnam War and the Regional Context" in *The Cambridge History of the Vietnam War, Volume III: Endings and Legacies*, edited by Lien-Hang T. Nguyen and Pierre Asselin (forthcoming from Cambridge University Press).
- 2023 "Silver Screen Reversals of the Domino Theory: American movies and the re-imagining of Britain's triumph over Asian Communism" in *Asian Cinema and the Cultural Cold War*, edited by Sangjoon Lee and Darlene M. Espena (forthcoming from Amsterdam University Press)

Works in Progress

- "Better the Hegemon you know...': Singapore between the Superpowers from Cold War to Present," in *Anatomy of Choice: Southeast Asia and the Superpowers*, edited by Joseph Liow and Khong Yuen Foong, an SSRTG project (expected publication date 2024).
- "Independence Movements in Southeast Asia, 1945-1949" in *East Asia in the World, Volume II: From Imperialism to the Cold War*, edited by David Kang and Stephan Haggard (expected 2024).

Essays, Reviews, and other Media

- "The deeper roots of a potential new Cold War with China," *Washington Post*, 5 April 2022.
- "After the Fall: Saigon and Kabul in U.S.-Southeast Asian Relations," *Philippine Strategic Forum*, 10 September 2021.
- "Looking back on ASEAN and the Sino-US rivalry in the Cold War," *e-International Relations*, 9 March 2021.
- Review of David Fields, *Foreign Friends: Syngman Rhee, American Exceptionalism, and the Division of Korea* (University of Kentucky Press, 2019), in *Diplomatic History* (June 2020)
- "The 'Lessons' of Britain's Counterinsurgency in Malaya: An American Obsession." *Perspectives Daily* (American Historical Association), 2 July 2019.
- "The Origins of American Hegemony in East and Southeast Asia – and why China Challenges it Today," *History News Network*, 16 June 2019.
- Interview with *Voice of America* correspondent Greta van Susteren on the Trump-Kim Summit in Singapore, 11 June 2018.
- Review of Ang Cheng Guan, *Southeast Asia's Cold War: An Interpretative History* (University of Hawaii Press, 2018), in *Calcutta Journal of Global Affairs* (2018)
- "Doubling Down in Asia: Review of Victor Cha, *Power Play: The Origins of the American Alliance System in Asia* (Princeton, 2016), and Michael Auslin, *The End of the Asian Century: War, Stagnation and risks to the World's Most Dynamic Region* (Yale, 2017)," in *Orbis (Journal of the Foreign Policy Research Institute*, no. 1 (2018): 154-157.

- Review of Daniel Chua, *US-Singapore Relations, 1965-1975: Strategic Non-Alignment in the Cold War* (NUS Press, 2017), in *H-Diplo Roundtable Review* (2018)
- "Have We Missed the Big Picture with Our Laser-Focus on Vietnam?" *History News Network*, 15 December 2017.
- "This is What Happened in an Earlier Brexit," *History News Network*, 23 July 2017. [Republished on the London School of Economics International History Blog, 13 December 2017].
- "Commentary: A Past Littered with Brexits Shaped Great Power Politics in Asia," *Channel News Asia*, 1 September 2017.
- "Commentary: Cold War offers Lessons on Big Power Relations for ASEAN," *Channel News Asia*, 15 April 2017.
- "World War II, Race, and the Southeast Asian Origins of the Domino Theory," *Sources and Methods*, The Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, 4 April 2017.
- "Lee Kuan Yew's Singapore Bloomed in the Shadow of the Cold War," *The Diplomat*, 28 March 2017.
- "The Long Hagggle: Review of Kenton Clymer, *A Delicate Relationship: The United States and Burma/Myanmar since 1945* (Cornell University Press, 2015)" in *Reviews in American History* (Johns Hopkins University Press) 45, no. 1 (March 2017).
- Review of "Beyond and Between the Cold War blocs," Special Issue of *The International History Review* 37:5 (December 2015), in *H-Diplo Article Review Forum*, no. 614 (May 2016).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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| 2021 | MOE Tier-1 Academic Research Fund for "Anglophone Speculative Fiction in late Cold War Southeast Asia." |
| 2020 | MOE Tier-1 Academic Research Fund for "ASEAN writers and artists in the post-Vietnam War world" |
| 2018-19 | Global and Diversity Scholars Fellowship from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) |
| 2016 | Lacey Baldwin Smith Prize for Teaching Excellence in Northwestern University. |
| 2016 | Henry Chauncey '57 Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Grand Strategy Program, International Security Studies, Yale University |
| 2016 | John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding Postdoctoral Fellowship, Dartmouth College [Declined] |
| 2015 | Chabraja Postdoctoral Fellow with the Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies at the Department of History, Northwestern University. |
| 2015 | Rajawali Research Fellow with the Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) Program, Northwestern University. |
| 2014 | Frank W. Gibney Award from the <i>Journal of American-East Asian Relations</i> for best article "The Domino Logic of the Darkest Moment: the fall of Singapore, the Atlantic echo chamber and 'Chinese penetration' in U.S. Cold War policy toward Southeast Asia." |
| 2014 | SHAFR Diversity and International Outreach Fellowship |
| 2013 | SHAFR W. Stull Holt Dissertation Research Fellowship |

- 2012 Departmental Research and Travel Funding from the Department of History at Northwestern University for archival research.
- 2010 Teagle Teaching and Learning Fellowship from the Teagle Foundation in Northwestern University.
- 2009-15 Northwestern Graduate Fellowship from The Graduate School of Northwestern University.
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INVITED TALKS, CONFERENCES, AND PRESENTATIONS

- “Teaching about America in the Actual World,” Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 10-11 June 2022.
- “Making a Region of Southeast Asia: Traditions and New Possibilities,” Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies (hybrid), 24-27 March 2022.
- “Fresh Perspectives on and against Security (Race)” and “The Transnational Networks of Southeast Asia’s Culture-makers,” Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (hybrid conference), 17-20 June 2021.
- “The United States, ASEAN, and the Pacific Basin Initiative,” Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (New Orleans, LA), 18-22 June 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19).
- “Britain and the Chinese ‘problem’ of Southeast Asia after 1945,” The World the War Made conference at the University of Texas-Austin, 30 April 2020 (postponed due to COVID-19).
- “ASEAN and the Emergence of Sino-U.S. Détente” at the Points of Entry series of the National University of Singapore Museum, 22 February 2020.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” in the Lectures of Opportunity Series of the U.S. Naval War College (Newport, RI), 24 October 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the Council of Southeast Asian Studies of Yale University (New Haven, CT), 23 October 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” in the Pardee Research Seminar of Boston University, 21 October 2019.
- “The Malayan Emergency: An American Obsession” at the “Malaysia and the Cold War” Conference organized by the History Department of East China Normal University (Shanghai, PRC), 28-29 September 2019.
- “British Neocolonialism in Malaya and Singapore and U.S. Empire in the Pacific” at the “Vietnam War in the Pacific” Conference organized by Macquarie University (Sydney, Australia), 15-16 August 2019.
- “The Malayan Emergency: An American Obsession” in the Histories Series of the National Library Board (Singapore), 25 July 2019.
- “Teaching to Render the Unseen American Empire Visible” at the Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (Washington DC), 20-22 June 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the Committee for International Relations of the University of Chicago, 24 April 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the

Chabraja Center for Historical Studies/ Department of History of Northwestern University, 23 April 2019.

- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, 19 April 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the Washington History Seminar of the Woodrow Wilson Center (Washington DC), 11 March 2019.
- “Arc of Containment: Britain, the United States, and Anticommunism, in Southeast Asia” at the Weatherhead East Asian Studies Center/ Center for International History of Columbia University (New York), 7 March 2019.
- “Empire of Dominoes: Britain, Southeast Asian Anticommunism, and U.S. Hegemony,” at the Clements Center for National Security in the University of Texas-Austin, 5 March 2019.
- “Solving the Chinese Problem: US Cold War Policy, Southeast Asia’s Chinese Diaspora and Indigenous Nationalism Across the Region” at the American Historical Association Annual Conference, 3-6 January 2019.
- “Teaching the Vietnam War in the Singapore Classroom” at the Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 21-24 June 2018.
- “Southeast Asia in the Cold War”, Ministry of Education (Singapore) Lecture for Cambridge Advanced Level Examinations Teachers, 2 March 2018.
- “U.S.-Southeast Asia Relations in the Twentieth Century,” at the Southeast Asian History Seminar, Brown University, 11 April 2017.
- “Patriot Games: How British Nation-Building Colonialism solved Malaya’s ‘Chinese Problem’” at the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Toronto, Canada, 16-19 March 2017.
- “ASEAN Diplomatic Strategies in the Recent Past” at the *Troubled Waters: The South China Sea Question* Conference, organized by the Brady-Johnson Grand Strategy Program, Yale University, 3 March 2017.
- “Containment without Isolation: ASEAN and the Roots of Sino-U.S. Détente” at the ASEAUK Conference of the SOAS University of London’s Center of Southeast Asian Studies, 16-18 September 2016.
- “The Wide Anticommunist Arc: ASEAN’s pro-U.S. diplomacy and Richard Nixon’s Triangular Diplomacy, 1967-72” at the Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), 23-25 June 2016.
- “Magic Bullet Empire: The American Fascination with British-Malayan Counterinsurgency in Cold War Southeast Asia and beyond” at the Annual Conference of SHAFR, 25-27 June 2015.
- “Manifest Fantasies: British-Malayan Nation-Building and Counterinsurgency in the American Cold War project” at the London School of Economics-George Washington University-UC Santa Barbara International Graduate Student Conference on the Cold War, April, 2015.
- “Cold War Merdeka: Legitimizing Malaysian independence and the Remaking of non-alignment in Southeast Asia” at the Annual Conference of SHAFR, 19-21 June 2014.
- “Patriot Games: How British nation-building colonialism solved the ‘Chinese Problem’ and

inspired the United States” at the Inaugural Comparative Race and Diaspora Symposium, Northwestern University, 30 May 2014.

“Darkest Moment: The fall of Singapore and the interconnected insecurity of Southeast Asia” at the London School of Economics Cold War Research Seminar chaired by Odd Arne Westad, October 2013.

“Points of the Lance: Counterinsurgency Lessons from, and the Peace Corps in, America’s encounter with Malaya, 1954-65” at Loyola University of Chicago History Graduate Student Conference, 3 November 2012.

“Silver Screen Reversals of the Domino Theory: American movies and the reimagining of Britain’s triumph over Asian Communism in the Cold War” at Stony Brook University (Manhattan) “Global Lives” Graduate Conference, 13 October 2012.

TEACHING

At the Singapore Management University, my undergraduate offerings include all the COR3001 Big Questions core modules on the themes of Happiness and Suffering, Global and Local, War and Peace, and Wealth and Poverty. I also taught COR2691: “Making Peace in, and with, a World at War.”

While at the Nanyang Technological University, I offered undergraduate and graduate history courses on U.S. and Southeast Asian relations, the Vietnam War, the Modern Middle East, and Singapore. Earlier, I taught undergraduate classes at Northwestern University on U.S. Foreign Relations history, and the Colonial and Cold War History of Southeast Asia.

Prior to my graduate studies, I was a teacher for the Ministry of Education (Singapore), and taught Cambridge “A” Level Courses on International History, the History Special Paper, and the Practical Criticism of English Literature.

SERVICE AND CONSULTANCY

University and School Committees and Service

Faculty Lead for College of Integrative Studies, Singapore Teaching and Research Talent (START) Development Program, 2022-present

Co-Chair, Wee Kim Wee Centre, Alumni, and External Relations Committee, 2022-present

Member, SMU-International Review Board, 2022-present

Member, Dean’s Evaluation Committee for MOE Academic Research Fund Applications, 2020-present

Professional Service and Consultancy (External)

Editorial Board Member, *Diplomatic History*, 2022-present

Manuscript peer reviewer for *Cold War History*, *Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, *Kyoto Southeast Asian Studies*, and *Modern Asian Studies*.

Syllabus Consultant and Content Lecturer for the History Team of the Humanities Branch, MOE Curriculum Planning and Development Division (CPDD), 2018-present

Expert Mentor, MOE-HSSRP (Humanities and Social Science Research Program), 2021

Organizing Committee, Annual Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), 2018-2020

