

# *William Figueroa*

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My area of expertise broadly is Sino-Iranian relations with a background in the modern history of both countries, and my research interests include the relationship between leftist politics and political Islam, the spread of ideas across regions, and connections between Asia and the Middle East. I am currently developing a thesis project on the history of Sino-Persian connections in the modern era which explores the impact of Maoist politics on the Iranian left. Ultimately, I would like complete a major study on the history of interactions between Iran and China, an area of intense public interest but little scholarly attention.

## **Education**

May 2019 (In Progress)	<b>Ph.D.</b> , History University of Pennsylvania
May 2013	<b>M.A.</b> , East Asian Languages and Culture University of Pennsylvania,
May, 2010	<b>B.A.</b> , Anthropology, <b>B.A.</b> , Asian Studies Rice University

## **Teaching Experience**

*HIST160 – Policy, Strategy, and War (Grader)*  
*HIST431 – A World At War (TA)*  
*HIST135 – Cold War: Global History (TA)*  
*HIST097 – History of Modern China (TA)*  
In HIST135 and 097, prepared and delivered one lecture in each class.

## **Language Ability & Training**

*Research and reading ability in **Mandarin Chinese** and **Persian**.*

## **Language Training**

Fall 2007	Mandarin, Central University of Nationalities <i>Beijing, PRC</i>
Spring 2008	Mandarin, Peking University <i>Beijing, PRC</i>
Summer 2013	Persian, CLS Persian Language Scholarship <i>Dushanbe, Tajikistan</i>
Summer 2014	Persian, Persian Summer Institute <i>University of Texas, Austin</i>
Spring/Fall 2015	Persian, FLAS Scholarship. <i>Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania</i>

## **Conferences**

December 18-19, 2018	China and Iran's Political and Cultural Relations Conference <i>Leiden University</i> Presentation: "Maoism and the Iranian Left"
May 4-5, 2018	Iran Graduate Student Workshop <i>University of Pennsylvania</i> Attendee and Graduate Student Coordinator
February 11, 2019	The Iranian Revolution at 40: A Half-Day Symposium <i>University of Pennsylvania</i> Presenter, "The Iranian Left in Global Perspective"

### **Awards and Fellowships**

AY 2015-2016	FLAS Academic Year Fellowship for Persian
December 2018	SASGov Conference Travel Fellowship, \$400
December 2018	History Department Travel Grant, \$400
AY 2019-2020	FLAS Academic Year Fellowship for Kurdish