

Mieke Matthyssen (° 09/02/1972)

Personal webpage: <https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/mieke.matthyssen>

RELEVANT EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 2008 - 2012 **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD): *Nande hutu* 难得糊涂 and 'The art of being muddled'**
Ghent University – Department of Eastern Languages and Cultures
Public defense: 14th December 2012 (Supervisor: Prof Bart Dessein)
- 1998 - 1999 **Certificate Specialization Year 'Modern Chinese'**
Sichuan University, Chengdu
- 1996 – 1998 **Master Eastern Languages and Cultures – Sinology**
Dissertation: Annotated translation of Ch. 20-21 of the Abhidharma (Buddhist cosmology)
Ghent University – Department of Eastern Languages and Cultures
- 1994 – 1996 **Bachelor Eastern Languages and Cultures – Sinology**
Ghent University – Department of Eastern Languages and Cultures

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2005 - now **Ghent University: Department of Eastern Languages and Cultures**
Research and teaching assistant; member of the master thesis assessment committee; coordinator/interviewer 'Oral Histories of Chinese Studies' project; guest lecturer at other UGent departments for issues related to China; expert advice for radio, TV, and newspapers.
- 2014 - 2019 **Ghent University: Department of Special Needs Education**
Researcher for the Huoshen Foundation, a platform for body-based health practices.
- 2014 - 2016 **Brussels Diplomatic Academy (Brussels Free University)**
Guest lecturer for the course 'Dealing with China: Intercultural Management Issues'
- 2006 - 2011 **Policy Advisor China Platform-International Relations Office (Ghent University)**
- 2000 - 2016 **Free-lance cross-cultural trainer and interpreter Chinese-Dutch/English/French**
a.o. for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, social sector, companies.
- 2001 - 2004 **Chief Representative Netherlands Business Support Office - Shenyang, China**
(Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2019. "World War 1, the May Fourth Movement and the Development of Psychology in China, and Europe: Reflections on their Mutual Influence." *Critical Theory* 3 (1): 57-72.
2018. "Chinese Happiness : a Proverbial Approach of Popular Philosophies of Life." In *Chinese Discourses on Happiness*, ed. Gerda Wielander and Derek Hird. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press. 189-207.
2017. "China in Belgium : from a Religious, Economic and Political Interest to the Development of an Academic Discipline." (Co-authored with Bart Dessein). In *From Sinology to Post-Chineseness : Intellectual Histories of China, Chinese People, and Chinese Civilization*, 41–53.
2015. "'The Art of Being Muddled' and Mental Health Practices in Contemporary China : a Philosophical-Anthropological Analysis of Mental Health Education." In *Visiting Program for Young Sinologists 2014*, ed. Nie Jiangbo, 126–132. Beijing: China and the World Cultural Exchange Magazine.

2015. “Zheng Banqiao’s Nande Hutu and ‘the Art of Being Muddled’ in Contemporary China.” *Contemporary Chinese Thought* 46 (4): 3–25. (Guest editor of the issue, which contains English translations of Chinese articles).
2014. “Self-assurance and Self-denial : Repositioning the Individual in Contemporary Chinese Society.” (Co-authored with Bart Dessein). *Synthesis Philosophica* 57 (1): 123–141.
- “Imprécision et ambiguïté dans la communication: tradition chinoise au service d’une ‘société harmonieuse?’”, Published May 2014 in Réseau Asie (online version, see <http://www.reseau-asie.com/>)
2013. “Scholars should be considered the last of the four classes: the case of scholar–official Zheng Banqiao.” *Journal of Asian History* 47 (2): 219-244.

CONFERENCES, ACADEMIC LECTURES and WORKSHOPS

Starting from 2008, I presented papers at several conferences such as the American Anthropological Association (Vancouver, 2019; 2009), European Association of Chinese Philosophy (Ghent, 2019), the Symposium on the First Great War and Chinese New Cultural Movement (Shanghai, 2018), the International Congress on Traditional Chinese Medicine (Kiel, 2017), the Académie du Midi (Alet-les-Bains, 2014), the European Association for Chinese Studies Conference (Glasgow, 2018; Lund, 2008; Paris, 2012), the International Conference on Specific Topics in Chinese Studies (St. Petersburg, 2011), China-Europe Forum (Zhejiang, 2010).

I also presented my work at various courses, lectures and workshops, such as at Oxford University (2014), and often for (Erasmus) staff exchange, such as at Zagreb University (2019), Nanjing University (2019), Vilnius University (2017), University of Oslo (2016), Liaoning University and Renmin University (2015), University of Iceland (2014), Charles University (Prague, 2013), Ruprecht-Karls-Universität (Heidelberg, 2009).

For the popular science TV-program and podcast “Universiteit van Vlaanderen”, I gave a 15’ lecture (Ted-talk like) on modern Chinese (2018).

GRANTS

- 2020-2023 Research Grant from the Flanders Research Foundation (FWO) – start: October 2020
- 2014 Sinologist Research Program organized by the Chinese Ministry of Culture and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)
- 2008-2011 Research grant from Ghent University (research project)
- 2001 Grant from the Chinese Ministry of Education for a summer course on ‘Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language’ (Beijing Normal University)

LANGUAGES

	Dutch	English	French	Chinese	German	Classical Chinese
Speaking	Mother tongue	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Good	Not applicable
Reading	Mother tongue	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent
Writing	Mother tongue	Fluent	Fluent	Good	Good	Not applicable