

LAURENT VAN CUTSEM 方洛杭  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
December 2024

Ghent University, Faculty of Arts and Philosophy.  
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## EDUCATION

- 2023 **Ph.D. in Oriental Languages and Cultures (Sinology), Ghent University**  
Dissertation: “The *Zutang ji* 祖堂集: Aspects of Textual History, Genealogy, and Intertextuality.”  
External examiners: Benjamin Brose (Univ. of Michigan), Imre Galambos (Univ. of Cambridge & Zhejiang Univ.), Jason Protass (Brown Univ.), and James Robson (Harvard Univ.).
- 2015 **Master of Arts in Sciences of Religions, University of Louvain**  
*Summa cum laude* (“with highest praise”), with the congratulations of the jury.
- 2013 **Bachelor of Arts in History, Free University of Brussels**  
Minor: Sciences of Religions and Laicity.  
*Magna cum laude* (“with great praise”).

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

### *Researcher*

- Oct. 2023– **BOF Postdoctoral Fellow (“Doctor-Assistant”), Ghent Univ.**  
Research Project: Chan Historiography in Tang-Song Transition China.
- Oct. 2023– **Associate Researcher, ALTERGRAPHY (ANR project).**  
“Quand l’écriture devient calligraphie : une autre histoire de l’épigraphie chinoise à travers les paysages inscrits médiévaux et leur réception moderne.” Coordinated by Lia Wei 魏離雅 (Inalco).
- Aug. 2024– **Visiting Scholar, Research Institute for Ancient Books 古籍研究所, School of Literature 文學院, Zhejiang Univ. 浙江大學**  
Feb. 2025 Host: Prof. Feng Guodong 馮國棟.  
Research Project: Chan Historiography in Tang-Song Transition China.

### *Teaching and Tutoring Activities*

- 2023–2025 **“Research Seminar Oriental Languages and Cultures (A005143)” (13 credits); “Dissertation Seminar (A005571)” (10 credits), Tutor, Ghent Univ.**  
Responsibility: tutoring students (definition of research project, bibliographic review, research proposal, and draft dissertation chapter/Ph.D. proposal).  
MA students in Oriental Languages and Cultures (Sinology).
- Spring 2024 **“Contemporary Asian Academic Debates 2 (A005651)” (3 credits), Lecturer, Ghent Univ.**  
Responsibility: teaching one module, titled “Dunhuang Studies 敦煌學 and Chan 禪 Buddhist Manuscripts from Cave 17 at the Mogao Caves 莫高窟 complex” (3h).
- Spring 2021 **“Buddhism: Text and Material Culture (A005126)” (6 credits), Teaching Assistant, Ghent Univ.**  
Responsibility: introduction to Scholarly Digital Editions, XML, and TEI editions of pre-modern Chinese sources (transcription, identification of variant characters, diplomatic and critical editions).  
MA students in Oriental Languages and Cultures.

Dec. 2020 **“Linguistic Research: East Asian Languages” (5 credits), Substitute Teacher, Ghent Univ.**  
Responsibility: teaching “Chinese dialects: Part 2” (3h), focus on the historical developments of the Northern group of dialects.  
BA3 students in Oriental Languages and Cultures.

*Text Input, Mark-up, and Editing for the Database of Medieval Chinese Texts*

Sept. 2019– **Collection, identification, and input of variant characters (*yitizi* 異體字)**  
*Zutang ji* 祖堂集 (K.1503) and *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhuzhushi song* 泉州千佛新著諸祖師頌 (Or.8210/S.1635).

**TEI editions of pre-modern Chan Buddhist sources (e.g., *Zutang ji* 祖堂集, S.1635)**  
XML-based TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) diplomatic and critical editions, with a focus on philological aspects (*yitizi* 異體字, *tongjiazi* 通假字, *ezi* 訛字, variant readings, and so forth).

**ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (SELECTION)**

- 2023–26 Special Research Fund (Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds, BOF), Ghent Univ., Postdoctoral Fellow (“Doctor-Assistant”).
- 2021–22 Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange 蔣經國國際學術交流基金會: Dissertation Fellowship (DD010-U-20).
- 2018–19 Huayu Enrichment Scholarship 華語文獎學金.
- 2017–21 Special Research Fund (Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds, BOF), Ghent Univ., Ph.D. degree.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Peer-Reviewed**

- 2023 “The *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhuzhushi song* (Or.8210/S.1635): Manuscript, Textual History, and Genealogy.” *T’oung Pao* 109 (5–6): 527–78. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15685322-10905003>.
- “Lineages as Network: A Study of Chan Genealogy in the *Zutang ji* 祖堂集 Using Social Network Analysis.” *Religions* 14 (2), no. 205, 29 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel14020205>.
- 2021 First author, with Christoph Anderl. “A Translation and Study of Chán Master Jìngxiū’s 淨修禪師 Preface to the *Zútáng jí* 祖堂集.” *Religions* 12 (11), no. 974, 39 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel12110974>.

**Not Peer-Reviewed**

- 2023 “The *Zutang ji* 祖堂集: Aspects of Textual History, Genealogy, and Intertextuality.” Ph.D. dissertation. Ghent: Ghent University, June 2023, 547 pp. <https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/01H9VN28QP3K607TSHPD9Y770V>.

**Book Reviews**

- 2024 “Review of: John Kieschnick. *Buddhist Historiography in China*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2022. 288 pp. \$140.00 (cloth), ISBN 978-0-231-20562-7.” *H-Net Reviews* (May 2024), 8 pp. <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=60185>.
- 2016 Second author, with Christoph Anderl. “Review of: Stuart H. Young. *Conceiving the Indian Buddhist Patriarchs in China*. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2015. 352 pp. \$60.00 (cloth), ISBN 978-0-8248-4120-1.” *H-Net Reviews* (June 2016), 6 pp. <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=46785>.

## Contributions to Online Databases and Dictionaries

- 2020– *Database of Medieval Chinese Texts*, ed.-in-chief, Christoph Anderl. Ghent Univ. and Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies 中華佛學研究所. <https://www.database-of-medieval-chinese-texts.be/>.
- “The *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhuzhuzushi song* 泉州千佛新著諸祖師頌 (S.1635): A TEI-Based Edition.” (January 2021).
- “Chan Master Jingxiu’s 淨修禪師 Preface to the *Zutang ji* 祖堂集 (K.1503): A TEI-Based Edition.” (October 2020).
- “The Goryeo 高麗 Preface to the *Zutang ji* 祖堂集 (K.1503): A TEI-Based Edition.” (October 2020).
- “The *Zutang ji* 祖堂集 (K.1503): A Comprehensive .xlsx Table of Its Contents and Structure.” (September 2020).
- 2020 Entries for the *Digital Dictionary of Buddhism*, ed.-in-chief, A. Charles Muller. <http://www.buddhism-dict.net/ddb/>.
- *Zutang ji* 祖堂集, Chan Master Jingxiu 淨修禪師, *Xu Baolin zhuan* 續寶林傳, a 阿; ana 阿那; anali 阿那裏; apo 阿婆; ani 阿你.

## Other Publications

- 2023 “The Database of Medieval Chinese Texts: A Critical Overview (Part Two).” *The Digital Orientalist* (April 2023). <https://digitalorientalist.com/2023/04/28/working-title-the-database-of-medieval-chinese-texts-a-critical-overview-part-two/>.
- “The Database of Medieval Chinese Texts: A Critical Overview (Part One).” *The Digital Orientalist* (March 2023). <https://digitalorientalist.com/2023/03/31/working-title-the-database-of-medieval-chinese-texts-a-critical-overview-part-one/>.
- 2022 “Graphic Variants and Phonetic Borrowings in Medieval Chinese Sources: A Report Article on the Workshop ‘Graphic Variation, Modification, and Replacement in Medieval Chinese Writing: Case Studies and Resources’ (August 17 and November 30, 2021).” Blog of the *Canadian Journal of Buddhist Studies* (May 2022). <https://cjbuddhist.wordpress.com/2022/05/15/bloggraphic-variants-and-phonetic-borrowings-in-medieval-chinese-sources-a-report-article-on-the-workshop-graphic-variation-modification-and-replacement-in-medieval-chinese-writing-case/>.

## PHOTOGRAPHY OF BUDDHIST SITES (SELECTED)

- 2019 “North Side of the Chaoyang North Pagoda (朝陽北塔—北面) during the 2019 Restoration.” UBC Community and Partner Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.14288/1.0394485>.
- “The Datongfa si (大通法寺) Stele on the Left Side of the Interior Court in the Guandi Temple (關帝廟).” UBC Community and Partner Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.14288/1.0394490>.

## LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

### Invited

- 2024 “Chan Historiography in Fragments: The *Shengzhou ji* 聖胄集 and the Dunhuang Manuscript Or.8210/S.4478,” Presented at the International Workshop “Buddhist Civilization and Manuscript Culture along the Silk Road” 絲綢之路上的佛教文明與寫本文化國際工作坊, School of History 歷史學院, Zhejiang Univ. 浙江大學, Nov. 15–18, 2024.

- “Texts Within Texts: A Study of the Fragments of the *Baolin zhuan* 寶林傳 Quoted in the *Keitoku dentō shōroku* 景德傳燈鈔錄,” Presented at the International Conference “Cross-Regional and Cross-Cultural Interaction and Integration between Buddhism and Other Asian Religions 佛教與亞洲宗教跨地域與跨文化的互鑒與共融,” organized by the Center for Buddhist Culture Studies 佛教文化研究中心 at Zhejiang Univ. 浙江大學, in collaboration with the Glorison Global Network of Buddhist Studies, with administration support from the FROGBEAR project at the University of British Columbia. Zhejiang Univ., August 16–19, 2024.
- 2023 “Towards a Definition of *Yitizi* 異體字: Some Preliminary Remarks.” Presented at the Workshop “ALTERGRAPHY Project Launch Workshop,” Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Nov. 31–Dec. 1, 2023.
- “Chan/Zen and the Art of Quoting (Part II): A Comparative Philological Analysis of the Fragments of the *Baolin zhuan* 寶林傳 Quoted in the *Keitoku dentō shōroku* 景德傳燈鈔錄 against the *Jinzang* 金藏 Edition.” Presented at the Symposium “International Travels of Chinese Text: Global Perspectives and New Approaches to Chinese Textual Culture 漢籍文本之國際漫遊: 對漢籍文本文化之當代態度與寰宇視角,” National Library of Latvia, in collaboration with the National Central Library 國家圖書館, Nov. 10–11, 2023.
- “Lineages as Network: An Inquiry into the Representation of Dharma Lineages of Chan Buddhism in the *Zutang ji* 祖堂集.” Presented at the Symposium “Perspectives of Digital Humanities in the Field of Buddhist Studies,” Hamburg Univ., Jan. 13–14, 2023.
- 2022 “From Quanzhou to Dunhuang: A Multifaceted Approach to Wendeng’s 文澄 (d. 972) Praise Verses for the Patriarchs and Early Masters of the Southern Chan Tradition.” Presented at the Dunhuang & Silk Road Seminar Series, Easter 2022, Univ. of Cambridge, May 19, 2022.

### Anonymous Peer-Review Selection

- 2024 “Did the Indian Patriarchs Matter?: A Diachronic Study of Chan Hagiographies of Ānanda from the Late Tang to the Early Northern Song.” Presented at the International Conference “Canonical, Non-Canonical and Extra-Canonical: Interdisciplinary and Multi-media Studies of the Formation, Translation and Transmission of Buddhist Texts 佛教典籍的成立與傳譯視閥下的佛教中國化,” co-organized by The Wutai Shan Institute of Buddhism and Eastern Asian Culture 五臺山東方佛教文化研究院, the FROGBEAR project based at the Univ. of British Columbia, and the Institute for Ethics and Religions Studies 道德與宗教研究院 at Tsinghua Univ. 清華大學. Great Bamboo Grove Monastery 大聖竹林, Mount Wutai 五臺山, August 11–15, 2024.
- 2022 “Chan/Zen and the Art of Quoting: On the Surviving Fragments of the Nonextant Tenth *Juan* of the *Baolin zhuan* 寶林傳 in the *Keitoku dentō shōroku* 景德傳燈抄錄 and their Relationship with the *Zutang ji* 祖堂集.” Presented at the International Conference “How Zen Became Chan: Pre-modern and Modern Representations of a Transnational East Asian Buddhist Tradition,” co-organized by the FROGBEAR project at the Univ. of British Columbia and the Glorison Global Network of Buddhist Studies at Yale Univ., July 29–31, 2022.
- 2021 “An Attempt at Editing and Translating the *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhu zhuzushi song* 泉州千佛新著諸祖師頌 (Or.8210/S.1635).” Presented at the Workshop “Pre-modern Chinese Buddhist Texts: A Translation Workshop of Readings from the Sinophone World,” SOAS, Univ. of London, June 14–16, 2021.

### Other Presentations

- 2024 “A Typology of Demotic Characters Used in Dunhuang Manuscripts.” Presented at ALTERGRAPHY Workshop, Ghent Univ., Inalco, and Heidelberg Univ., July 3, 2024.

- “Texts Within Texts: A Study of the Fragments of the *Baolin zhuan* 寶林傳 Quoted in the *Keitoku dentō shōroku* 景德傳燈鈔錄.” Presented at the Research Forum of the Ghent Centre for Buddhist Studies, Ghent Univ., March 25, 2024.
- 2022 “Lineage Claims in the *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhū zhuzushi song* 泉州千佛新著諸祖師頌 (Or.8210/S.1635).” Presented at the Doctoral School “Demystifying Chan (Japanese: Zen) Buddhism,” Ghent Univ., July 5, 2022.
- 2021 “The Preface to the *Quanzhou Qianfo xinzhū zhuzushi song* 泉州千佛新著諸祖師頌 (Or.8210/S.1635): Aspects of Textual History and Translation.” Presented at the Research Forum of the Ghent Centre for Buddhist Studies, Ghent Univ., Nov. 16, 2021.
- 2019 “The *Zutang ji* 祖堂集 between ‘Transmission’ and ‘Teaching’: Some Reflections on the Nature of Early of *Denglu* 燈錄.” Presented at the Symposium “Stone Carved Scriptures, Belief, and Religious Life: The Ideology and Medium of the Chinese Buddhist Social Life 石刻，信仰與生活—漢傳佛教社會生活的觀念與載體,” organized by Tsinghua Univ. 清華大學, July 6–7, 2019.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Chan Buddhist literature, with a focus on the late Tang 唐 (618–907), the Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms 五代十國 (907–960/979), and the early Northern Song 北宋 (960–1127).
- Chan texts and manuscripts from Dunhuang 敦煌 (e.g., S.1635, S.4478, P.2045, P.2074).
- Chinese Buddhism up to the Southern Song (1127–1279), with a particular interest in intellectual history and literature.
- Chinese Buddhist manuscript/print culture.
- TEI-based critical editions of pre-modern Chinese Buddhist texts.
- Writing in medieval China (e.g., variant characters, phonetic borrowings).

## LANGUAGE COMPETENCES

- European languages:
  - French: native language.
  - English: professional competence in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
  - Dutch: professional competence in reading and listening, good in writing and speaking.
  - German: basic skills in reading.
- Asian languages:
  - Modern Chinese: professional competence in reading, good in listening and speaking.
  - Classical Chinese: professional competence in reading.
  - Japanese: satisfactory skills in reading.

## OTHER COMPETENCES

- TEI mark-up and production of diplomatic and critical editions of pre-modern Chinese sources (with basic skills for editing .xslt and .html files).
- Historical Social Network Analysis (HSNA) and graph visualizations (Gephi).
- Photography related:
  - Landscape photography (<https://www.laurentvancutsem.com/photography-main>).
  - Photography of Buddhist religious sites and objects & production of metadata.
  - Image post-processing with Adobe Lightroom.
  - Image post-processing with Adobe Photoshop.
- Squarespace (<https://laurentvancutsem.com/>).
- Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

## LANGUAGE PROGRAMS, FIELDWORK, AND WORKSHOPS (SELECTION)

### 2016–19 Language Programs

- Modern Chinese Seasonal Program (intensive track, ca. 500h). National Taiwan Normal University 國立臺灣師範大學, Mandarin Training Center 國語教學中心 (Sept. 2018–May 2019).
- Modern Chinese Summer School (80h). Beijing Language and Culture University 北京語言大學, College of Intensive Chinese Study 漢語速成學院 (July 2018).
- Modern Chinese (9 ECTS/credits; 120h). University of Louvain (2017–2018).
- Sanskrit Summer School (47h), with Leonid Kulikov. Académie Belge pour l'Étude des Langues Anciennes et Orientales (Univ. of Louvain) (Aug. 2016; Aug. 2017).
- Classical Chinese (30 ECTS/credits; ca. 320h). Ghent University (2015–2018).

### 2018–22 FROGBEAR Research Fieldwork and Programs

- Cluster 3.1 “Multicultural Dunhuang: Manuscripts and Paintings,” The British Library and The British Museum, London (Aug. 1–5, 2022).
- Cluster 2.2 “Secondary Producers, Primary Roles” and Cluster 2.5 “From the Canonical to the Post-Canonical,” Hangzhou, Beijing, and Chaoyang (July 2–12, 2019).
- International Program on Buddhism and East Asian Cultures, Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts 法鼓文理學院 (Jan. 7–15, 2019; Jan. 13–21, 2018).

### 2017–22 Workshops and Doctoral/Summer Schools

#### *Ghent University*

- “Demystifying Chan (Japanese: Zen) Buddhism,” July 4–8, 2022 (Robert H. Sharf).
- “Buddhism and Medicine in East Asia,” June 28–July 2, 2021 (Pierce Salguero; Leslie de Vries).
- “Chinese Buddhist Historical Records in the Context of Digital Humanities,” Oct. 21–25, 2019 (Marcus Bingenheimer; Christian Wittern).
- “Buddhism in Medieval Chinese Silk Culture,” May 28–June 1, 2018 (Stuart Young).
- “East Asian Historical Phonology in a Comparative Perspective,” March 13–17, 2017 (Guillaume Jacques; Sven Osterkamp).

#### *Others*

- “Literary Studies & Digital Humanities,” June 20–23, 2022 (Leiden Univ., KU Leuven, Univ. of Liège).