

Melissa S. Dale

Biography

Melissa S. Dale is Executive Director and Associate Professor at the Center for Asia Pacific Studies at the University of San Francisco. She received a PhD in East Asian History (China) from Georgetown University, an MA in Asian Languages (Chinese) from Stanford University, and a BA in Oriental Languages (Chinese) from the University of California, Berkeley. Her research interests focus on the social history of late imperial China including Qing dynasty court life, eunuchs, Chinese-Western medical exchange, and gender studies. She has taught courses at Georgetown University, Santa Clara University, and the University of California, Santa Cruz, guest lectured at UC Berkeley, and led the CAL Alumni tour to China. Prof. Dale has served as Executive Director of the Center for Asia Pacific Studies since August 2012.

Before joining the faculty and staff at USF, she served as Associate Director of International Relations at the University of California, Berkeley (Nov. 2011 – Aug. 2012) where she worked in the areas of international relations and development with a particular focus on prospect development and stewardship for leadership and major gifts from the Asia-Pacific region. From Sept. 2008 – Nov. 2011, she was Assistant Director for Strategic Planning at the Institute of East Asian Studies at UC Berkeley. She previously worked at USF as the Associate Director of Research at the Center's Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History.

Research Interests

- Social history of late imperial China including Qing dynasty court life, eunuchs, Chinese-Western medical exchange
- Gender studies

Appointments

- Executive Director of the Center for Asia Pacific Studies
- Associate Professor at the Center for Asia Pacific Studies

Courses Taught

- Hist 130: East Asian Civilizations
- Hist 381: History of Modern China
- Hist 383: History of Modern Japan
- APS 601: Histories and Modernities

Education

- PhD, East Asian History (China), Georgetown University
- MA, Asian Languages (Chinese), Stanford
- BA, Oriental Languages (Chinese), UC Berkeley

Selected Publications

- *Inside the World of the Eunuch: A Social History of the Emperor's Servants in Qing China*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2018.
- "Running Away from the Palace: Chinese Eunuchs during the Qing Dynasty," *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 27, No. 1 (2017): 143-164.
- "Understanding Emasculation: Western Medical Perspectives on Chinese Eunuchs," *Social History of Medicine* 23, No. 1 (April 2010): 38-55.