

LEIGH MILLER, PhD

SPIRITUAL CARE AND ACADEMIC RESUME

EDUCATION

- PhD 2014, Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University
Dissertation: Contemporary Tibetan Art and Cultural Sustainability in Lhasa, Tibet.
- MA 2005, Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University
- BA 1998, Emory University

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Maitripa College (2010 - present)

Director, Master of Divinity degree program; Faculty, since 2015.

Maitripa College (www.maitripa.org) is a Tibetan Buddhist graduate school in SE Portland where I am a faculty member and administrator, with responsibilities for graduate admissions, teaching courses in contemporary spiritual care and Buddhism in the modern world, MDiv curricula design and development, student advising, and contributing to the growth of the fields of spiritual care as an academic with clinical chaplaincy experience.

Administrative Coordinator, 2010-2011 (part time)

Director of Academic and Public Programs, 2011-2019

Faculty member, 2015 – present

Director of Academic Programs, 2019-2023

Director of MDiv, 2023-present

CHAPLAINCY AND HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- Director, Maitripa College Master of Divinity program and Faculty member
- American Academy of Religion, Co-Chair (2023 - 2025) Steering Committee (2022 - 2025), “Innovations in Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care” unit
- Grantee, *Innovations in Chaplaincy Education* fellowship, 2020-2021
- Buddhist Ministries Working Group of Spiritual Care Educators, Founding Member, 2015-2024; in process of incorporation as Buddhist Spiritual Care Educators of North America (– present)
- Maitripa College Chaplaincy Endorsement manager, 2018-present
- Convener, Portland Buddhist Chaplains’ Sangha group, 2019-present
- Chair (2019) and Member (2017-2021, 2023-present), Professional Advisory Group, Clinical Pastoral Education at Portland Providence Medical Center
- Member, Buddhist Task Force, Association of Professional Chaplains, 2017-2018
- Buddhist Mentor/Consultant for person’s seeking information/guidance in the field, referrals from Chaplaincy Innovation Lab

CHAPLAINCY/SPIRITUAL CARE TRAINING

- Clinical Pastoral Education, Two units
 - PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center. 1 Extended Unit. 2021-2022
Clinical placement: PHSW Vancouver, WA;
Clinical areas: ED, ICU, MedSurg
 - PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center. 1 Summer Unit. 2023
Clinical placements: Ray Hickey Hospice House, Vancouver; St Johns Medical Center, Longview, WA
Clinical areas: Hospice, Behavioral Health, ED, MedSurg
- *Daring Compassion*: Social Justice Movement Chaplaincy, Certificate, 2022
- Mental Health First Aid USA, The National Council for Behavioral Health; Certificate, Nov, 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Faculty, Maitripa College

Courses Taught:

Chaplaincy and Models of Spiritual Care (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024)

Servant Leadership in Buddhist/Spiritual Communities (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Engaged Buddhism (2015, 2020, 2023)

Theories and Methods in Buddhist Studies (2016, 2019, 2021, 2022)

Contemporary Buddhist Thought and Theology (2016, 2018, 2022)

Action Research Project I and II (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Introduction to the Arts of Buddhist Ministry (2018)

Thesis and Exam advisor (annually, 2015-present)

Course convener, facilitator, and teaching assistant:

A Good Death; facilitated course co-taught by Yangsi Rinpoche and professional chaplains and social worker

The Arts of Ministry: Embodied Spiritual Leadership; facilitated course with Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell, Chaplain Vitalia Brooks, and others

Instructor, Portland State University

International Studies: Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism (2009)

Instructor, Emory University

Interdisciplinary Studies: Visual Culture (2005, two semesters)

Interdisciplinary Studies: The Politics of Identity (2003)

Teaching Assistant, Emory University

Religion/Environmental Studies: Wilderness Spirituality and Philosophy:

Buddhist and Christian Contemplative Traditions (2003)

Teaching Assistant for Tibetan Culture and Civilization: Continuity and Change, and
Advisor for Independent Research Projects, Emory University, Tibetan Studies in Dharamsala,
India Study Abroad program (2001)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Post-Secondary Curriculum Design course, Portland State, Graduate School of Education (2017)

Graduate Seminar: Pedagogy, Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University (2003)

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Emory University, Teacher Training workshop (2002)

PUBLICATIONS

Miller, Leigh. (*under contract*) “Contemporary Tibetan Art,” in *The Tibet Reader*, forthcoming from Duke University Press.

Miller, Leigh. 2024. “Compassionately Present with Grief as a Buddhist Chaplain,” *Lapis: The Maitripa College Learning Story*, Spring 2024. <https://maitripa.org/compassionately-present-with-grief/>

Miller, Leigh. 2023. “Suffering is Not an Emergency....and, It Matters to End It: Some Outcomes of Training Tibetan Buddhist Scholar-Practitioners for Professional Spiritual Care” in *Refuge in the Storm: Buddhist Voices in Crisis Care*, Ed. Nathan Michon. North Atlantic Books.

Gauthier, Jitsujo; Kinst, Daijaku; Miller, Leigh; Yuen, Elaine. 2023. “A Path to Buddhist Chaplaincy: Academic Education, Religious Endorsement, Professional Board Certification,” in *Refuge in the Storm: Buddhist Voices in Crisis Care*, Ed. Nathan Michon. North Atlantic Books.

Miller, Leigh. 2022. “Buddhist Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care” website. <https://maitripa.org/buddhist-chaplaincy/>

Miller, Leigh. 2022. “Contemplative Practice is the Heart of Spiritual Formation,” *Lapis: The Maitripa College Learning Story*, <https://maitripa.org/contemplative-practice-spiritual-formation/>

Yuen, E., Cline, G., Gauthier, J., Kinst, D. J., and Miller, L. 2018. “Professional Endorsement for Buddhist Chaplains” <http://magazine.naropa.edu/wisdom-traditions-fall-2017/features/upaya-buddhist-ministry.php>

Miller, Leigh. 2017. “Deconstruction/Reconstruction in the Works of Tulku Jamyang and Tsherin Sherpa,” In *BETWEEN US: Relationship and Identity in Tibetan Contemporary Art*. Westerville: Otterbein University.

_____. 2016. “Mickey Mouse in Tibet.” In *Figures of Buddhist Modernity in Asia*, by Jeffrey Samuels. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

_____. 2016. “The Look of Tibet without Religion: A Case Study in Contemporary Tibet” in *Himalaya. Special Issue: The Secular in the Himalayas*. Edited by Holly Gayley and Nicole Willock.

_____. 2015. “Transcending Tibet, Transcending Borders.” in *Transcending Tibet: 30 Contemporary Artists Explore What It Means to be Tibetan Today*. Edited by Jonathan Wilber.

- New York: Trace Foundation.
- ____. 2015. "Tibetan art Today" in *Tibet: Made by Tibetans*. Imago Mundi - Luciano Benetton collection.
- ____. 2014. "Contemporary Tibetan Art and Cultural Sustainability in Lhasa, Tibet." Ph.D. diss., Emory University. <https://legacy-etd.library.emory.edu/view/record/pid/emory:fzp40>
- Sangster, Leigh Miller. "Memory and Cultural Sustainability in Contemporary Tibetan Art." *Asian Art Archive*, 2012: <http://www.aaa.org.hk/Diaaologue/Details/1136>.
- ____. "The Afterlife of Images." *Cultural Anthropology*, 2012: <http://www.culanth.org/?q=node/542>.
- ____. "The Work of Art in the Age of Self-Immolation." *Cultural Anthropology*, 2012: <http://www.culanth.org/?q=node/543>.
- ____. "Fragile Mandala: Nortse and Tsering Nyandak." Plum Blossoms, HK.
- ____. "Foreword." *Return to Lhasa*. Red Gate Gallery, Beijing.
- ____. 2008. "Gade – Mushroom Cloud" Plum Blossoms, Hong Kong.
- ____. 2007. "Sexual pleasure in Buddhism," and "Divorce in Buddhism," in *The Encyclopedia of Love in World Religions*. Edited by Yudit Kornberg Greenberg, pp. 167-68, 549-50. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO.
- ____. 2007. "Inside out," in *Lhasa: New Art from Tibet*. Edited by Tony Scott. Beijing: Red Gate Gallery / 798.
- ____. 2007. "Old Buddhas in New Clothes," in *Contemporary Meets Tradition*. London: Rossi & Rossi.
- ____. 2007. "Art and Culture" and other sections of the guidebook, *Lhasa*. Ed. Reid Barrett, et al. Beijing: Immersion Media.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Academic Conference presentations accepted and delivered from 2003 – 2023, including:

- International Association of Tibetan Studies (2003, 2006, 2010, 2016, 2019)
- American Academy of Religion (2008, 2010, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024), e.g.:
 - Buddhist Chaplaincy and Education panel and paper presentation, 2019
 - Innovations in Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care unit: "Buddhist Chaplaincy and 'Difference': A View Post-2020", 2021
- American Academy of Religion, Western Region, "A Pedagogy of Kindness: Scholarship, Meditation, and Service at Maitripa College" (2018)
- Himalayan Studies Conference (2016)
- American Academy of Religion, Pacific Northwest Region (2012)
- International Association of Buddhist Studies (2010)
- Association of Asian Studies (2009)

Invited presentations at colleges, universities, and foundations include:

- "Buddhist Chaplaincy: A Japan-US Dialogue," University of California, Berkeley and Institute of Buddhist Studies at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, invited presenter for a panel on Educational Training and Buddhist Chaplaincy, 2023
- Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- University of Portland, Portland, OR
- Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR

- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of Saskatchewan, Canada
- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- Emory University, Michael C. Carlos Museum, Atlanta, GA
- Trace Foundation, New York City, NY
- Linfield College, McMinnville, OR
- Reed College, Portland, OR
- Elon College, Elon, NC

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant, 2006 (*Award Declined*)
 Fulbright Student Program Research Grant, China, 2006-2007
 Scholar in Residence, Red Gate Gallery (Beijing), October 2006
 Emory Fund for International Graduate Research, Dissertation research grant, 2005-2006
 Andrew W. Mellon Internship, Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University, Summer 2005
 Emory Fund for Internationalization, Pre-Dissertation Research Abroad Grant, 2003-2004
 Vernacular Modernities Fellowship, one year anthropology seminar with funding for language training and summer research abroad (a Ford Foundation initiative at Emory), 2002-2003
 Institute for Liberal Arts summer research grants, 2002, 2003, 2004
 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Fellowship, 2001-2005
 Boozier-Norther Internship in Religion & Community Service, Dept. Religion, Emory, 1998

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

Consultant, Docent Training, and public lecture in support of Gonkar Gyatso solo exhibition, Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University, 2016
 Consultant, “Tibetan Contemporary Art: From the Collection of Shelley & Donald Rubin” Oglethorpe University Museum of Art, Atlanta. January 2009.
 Co-curator, “LHASA: New Art from Tibet”, Red Gate Gallery / 798, Beijing. June 2007.
 Curator, “Inside Out: Group Show”, Gedun Choephel Artists’ Guild Gallery. Lhasa. May 2007.
 Curator, “Rethinking Tradition: Contemporary Tibetan Artists in the West”, Visual Arts Gallery, Emory University, 2006.
 Emory, 2005. Co-sponsored by Mechak Center for Contemporary Tibetan Art.
 Author, *Teacher’s Guide to “The Arts of India and the Himalayas” at the M. C. Carlos Museum*, manuscript for Carlos Museum Education Dept./ Five Faiths Initiative, Emory

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE ABROAD

Dissertation ethnographic fieldwork, Central, Eastern, and Western Tibet (2006-7)
 Pre-Dissertation Research, Contemporary Art and Visual Culture in Lhasa, Tibet (2004)
 Pre-Dissertation Research, Pilgrimage Sites and Religious Revival, Kham/E. Sichuan (2003)
 Assistant Program Director and Teaching Assistant, Tibetan Studies in Dharamsala, India (2001)
 Member, Emory-Loseling Delegation to Dharamsala, India (1999)
 Independent Research with Tibetan refugee population and in Buddhism, Nepal (1996-1997)

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant, Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation (2008)
 Guide and College group specialist, Education Department, Museum of Contemporary Craft, Portland (department closed after one month of employment, 2008)

Administrative Assistant, Institute for Comparative and International Studies, Asian Studies Program and Center for International Programs Abroad (part time, 2001-2005)
Research Assistant, Dr. Barbara Patterson (Spring 2003); Dean Robert A. Paul (Fall, 2003);
Dr. Ellen Schattschneider (2002)
Assistant Program Director, Teaching Assistant, Independent Research Advisor, and Residential Advisor, Emory University – Drepung Loseling Monastery *Tibetan Studies in Dharamsala, India* Study Abroad Program, India. (2001)
Associate Director of Programs, Drepung Loseling Monastery, Inc. (North American Seat of Drepung Loseling Monastery, Atlanta, Georgia) (1998-2001)

PHD QUALIFYING EXAM FIELDS Twentieth Century Tibetan History and Culture
Memory and Modernity
Ways of Knowing: Visual Culture and Oral Narrative

REFERENCES

SPIRITUAL CARE/ CHAPLAINCY

Rev. Janet Hanson, CPE Certified Educator, PeaceHealth Southwest
JHanson4@peacehealth.org

EMPLOYMENT/ COMMUNITY REFERENCES

Yangsi Rinpoche, President
Namdrol Adams, Dean
1119 SE Market St.
Maitripa College
president@maitripa.org
503-235-2477

GRADUATE SCHOOL REFERENCE

Dr. Angelika Bammer, Assoc. Professor
(Dissertation Committee, Chair)
Institute of Liberal Arts, S405 Callaway Center
Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322
abammer@emory.edu 404. 727. 4223

CONTACT

Leigh Miller
Maitripa College
1632 SE 11th Ave
Portland, OR 97214
program@maitripa.org
503-325-2477