



# THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

## INSTITUTE FOR CHINESE STUDIES

ICS presents the "Re-Imagining China's Past and Present" Lecture Series

### The Politics of Rights and the 1911 Revolution in China

Friday, December 1, 2017

4:00-5:30 pm

Orton Hall 110

155 S Oval Mall

#### Xiaowei Zheng

Associate Professor of History

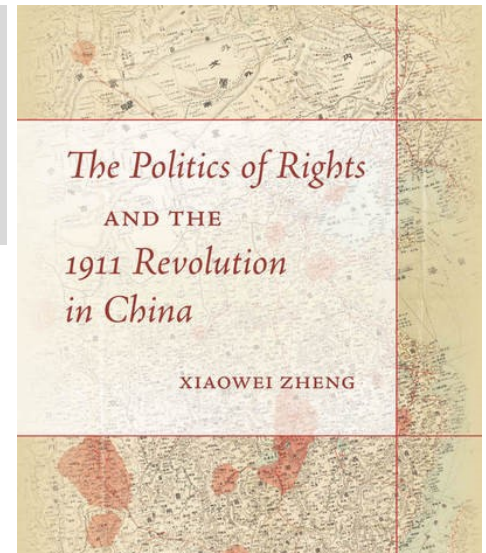
University of California at Santa Barbara

**Abstract:** China's 1911 Revolution was a momentous political transformation. Its leaders, however, were not rebellious troublemakers on the periphery of imperial order. On the contrary, they were a powerful political and economic elite deeply entrenched in local society and well-respected both for their imperially sanctioned cultural credentials and for their mastery of new ideas. The revolution they spearheaded produced a new, democratic political culture that enshrined national sovereignty, constitutionalism, and the rights of the people as indisputable principles.

Based upon previously untapped Qing and Republican sources, *The Politics of Rights and the 1911 Revolution in China* is a nuanced and colorful chronicle of the revolution as it occurred in local and regional areas. Xiaowei Zheng explores the ideas that motivated the revolution, the popularization of those

ideas, and their animating impact on the Chinese people at large. The focus of the book is not on the success or failure of the revolution, but rather on the transformative effect that revolution has on people and what they learn from it.

**Bio:** Xiaowei Zheng is an associate professor of History and EALCS at University of California at Santa Barbara. Her research interests include local history of the Qing dynasty and early republican political culture, with a special focus on the emergence of popular nationalism and the potential of republicanism. She also researches and writes on comparative revolutions, the historiography of constitutionalism and democracy, and critical theory.



### Free and Open to the Public

*This event is made possible by OSU's Department of History and by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant to The Ohio State University East Asian Studies Center.*

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