

# Focusing World History Through A Comparison of China and the West.

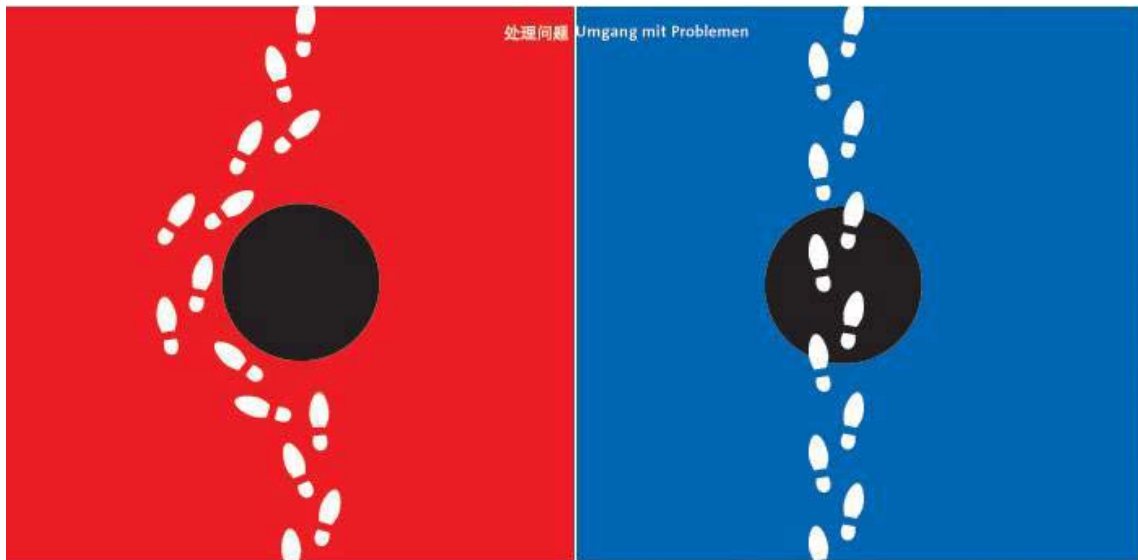
## World History Seminar for Teachers

Monday November 9 2009

5:30-8:30 P.M.

4130 Wesley W Posvar Hall, University Of Pittsburgh

**Dealing With A Problem: Which Approach is Western? Which Chinese?**



This is the eighth seminar presented by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), the Asian Studies Center (UCIS), and the World History Center at the University of Pittsburgh. The general public is welcome.

Our speakers will be John Blair and Jerusha McCormack who, while born and educated in the United States, left the U.S. as young academics and established themselves at universities in, respectively, French-speaking Switzerland and Ireland. While their earlier academic concerns were distinctly Western, e.g., comparing literatures and cultures on both sides of the Atlantic, their experiences teaching at the Beijing Foreign Studies University during the past decade led them to comparing China and the West. Their current project is entitled *Western Civilization with Chinese Comparisons* a sourcebook they have used in China and now for American students at St. Francis University in Loretto, PA.

**Through a mixture of formal presentation and active discussion, this seminar will explore the following aspects of their comparative work:**

- Mapping Ethnocentrism
- Body maps, East and West
- Constructing Selves: family, face, *guanxi*
- Seeking the Really “Real” in the West and China
- Getting along without God
- Scenes from a village election: Western-style democracy in China?
- Human rights or doing right by humans? Two perspectives
- Two paintings: Putting two civilizations in perspective

**Preparatory Readings:** Prior to the seminar please read at least one of the following by Drs. Blair and McCormack which are available on our website at:

- <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/pdffiles/ChinaandtheWestEEAArticle.pdf>
- <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/pdffiles/MappingEthnocentrismexcerpt.pdf>

**PARKING:** Vouchers for the Soldiers and Sailors Garage will be distributed during the seminar.

**ACT 48:** Requests for Act 48 credit will be submitted.

**FOOD:** A light dinner and drinks will be provided.

**THIS SEMINAR IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. YOU NEED NOT HAVE ATTENDED THE PREVIOUS SESSIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SEMINAR.**

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**NCTA, The World History Center, and The Asian Studies Center (UCIS)**

**Focusing World History Through A Comparison of China and the West  
REGISTRATION**

Please return the following information by **Wednesday, November 4** by **fax** (412-624-4665), by **email** ([dmwood@ucis.pitt.edu](mailto:dmwood@ucis.pitt.edu)) or by **mail**: NCTA, Asian Studies Center, 4400 Wesley W Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School at which you teach: \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects you teach: \_\_\_\_\_