

Dr. Jonathan Benney  
Chinese Studies  
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## Biography

I'm a Lecturer in Chinese Studies in the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics at Monash University. Before coming to Monash, I was a lecturer at Macquarie University; a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for U.S.-China Issues at the University of Oklahoma; a visiting researcher on the LOEWE Research Focus project 'Extrajudicial and Judicial Conflict Resolution' at the Goethe University Frankfurt; and a research fellow at the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore.

Before starting my academic career, I studied and worked in Australia, China, and Taiwan. I received my PhD from the University of Melbourne in 2010.

My first book, *Defending Rights in Contemporary China*, was published by Routledge in 2013.

I study contentious politics and political communication in modern China, with particular emphasis on new media, aesthetics, activism, dispute resolution, the role of law and rights, and the history of ideas. I'm also increasingly interested in how Chinese culture and society are taught and learnt at secondary schools and universities.

I am the Honours Coordinator for the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics.

I welcome enquiries from students who are interested in doing postgraduate degrees under my supervision. I'm especially interested in supervising topics relating to my research interests, listed above, but if you have other ideas I'm happy to discuss them too. Please get in touch at any time!

Together with the Debaters Association of Victoria and the Monash Association of Debaters, I organise the yearly Monash Asian Studies Debating Competition for secondary schools.

For more information, please have a look at the **papers** and **curriculum vitae** on my Academia.edu website, or send me an email!

## Qualifications

### Employment

#### Lecturer

Chinese Studies  
MONASH UNIVERSITY  
13 Jul 2015 → present

## Research output

#### **Aesthetic resources in contemporary chinese politics**

Benney, J., 2020, In : *Critical Inquiry*. 46, 3, p. 606-626 21 p.

#### **Selective use of political opportunity: A case of environmental protest in rural China**

Deng, Y. & Benney, J., 7 Jan 2019, *The Palgrave Handbook of Local Governance in Contemporary China*. Springer, p. 403-418 16 p.

#### **The Decline of Sina Weibo: A Technological, Political, and Market Analysis**

Benney, J. D. & Xu, J., 2018, *Chinese Social Media: Social, Cultural, and Political Implications*. Kent, M., Ellis, K. & Xu, J. (eds.). 1st ed. New York: Routledge, p. 221-235 15 p.

#### **Selective use of political opportunity: A case of environmental protest in rural China**

Deng, Y. & Benney, J., 2017, In : *Journal of Chinese Governance*. 2, 1, p. 91-105 15 p.

#### **Weiwen at the Grassroots: China's stability maintenance apparatus as a means of conflict resolution**

Benney, J., 2016, In : *Journal of Contemporary China*. 25, 99, p. 389 - 405 17 p.

### **"The corpses were emotionally stable": agency and passivity on the Chinese Internet**

Benney, J. D., 2015, *China Online: Locating Society in Online Spaces*. Marolt, P. & Herold, D. K. (eds.). 1st ed. Abingdon Oxon UK: Routledge, p. 33-48 16 p. (Media, Culture and Social Change in Asia; vol. 41).

### **Introduction: modes of activism and engagement in the Chinese public sphere**

Benney, J. D. & Marolt, P., 2015, In : *Asian Studies Review*. 39, 1, p. 88 - 99 12 p.

### **Social media: China and India compared**

Benney, J. D. & Rangaswamy, N., 2015, *Media at Work in China and India: Discovering and Dissecting*. Jeffrey, R. & Sen, R. (eds.). New Delhi India: SAGE Publications Ltd, p. 295 - 325 31 p.

### **The aesthetics of Chinese microblogging: state and market control of Weibo**

Benney, J. D., 2014, In : *Asiascape: Digital Asia*. 1, 3, p. 169 - 200 32 p.

### **Defending Rights in Contemporary China**

Benney, J. D., 2013, Abingdon Oxon UK: Routledge. 197 p.

### **How to avoid the centre: the strategies of a small feminist workshop in rural China**

Benney, J. D., 2012, In : *International Journal of China Studies*. 3, 3, p. 383 - 410 28 p.

### **Twitter and legal activism in China**

Benney, J. D., 2011, In : *Communication, Politics & Culture*. 44, 1, p. 5 - 20 16 p.

### **Rights defence and the virtual China**

Benney, J., 1 Jan 2007, In : *Asian Studies Review*. 31, 4, p. 435-446 12 p.

## **Activities**

### **Contemporary Chinese Political Economy and Strategic Relations: An International Journal (Journal)**

Jonathan Benney (Editorial board member)

Jan 2015 → ...

### **Asian Studies Review (Journal)**

Jonathan Benney (Associate editor)

Nov 2014 → ...

## **Press / Media**

### **Complaints by Chinese students about Australian universities**

Jonathan Benney

30/09/17

1 Media contribution

### **How should Australia respond to China's influence in our universities?**

Jonathan Benney

30/10/17

1 Media contribution

### **Review: In 'Hooligan Sparrow,' a Chinese Activist's Hair-Raising Defiance of the State**

Jonathan Benney

22/07/16

1 item of Media coverage

**Students from China may defend their country but that doesn't make them Communist Party agents**

Diarmuid Cooney-O'Donoghue & Jonathan Benney

8/10/19

1 Media contribution