

Pei-Lin Chiou (邱珮琳), MA

Information as of February 11, 2026

PhD candidate in Doctoral Programme in Philosophy Languages and Cultures in South Asia and Tibet (Tibetan and Buddhist Studies), University of Vienna / pre-doctoral research at the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia (IKGA) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

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Research Interests

- Buddhist Yogācāra and Madhyamaka philosophy and epistemology (Pramāṇa) in South Asia (main philosophers in focus: Śāntarakṣita and Kamalaśīla)
- Tibetan Buddhism
- Indian philosophy

Education

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| 2016– | Doctoral Programme in Philosophy Languages and Cultures in South Asia and Tibet (Tibetan and Buddhist Studies), University of Vienna |
| 2015–2016 | Doctoral studies in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (Classical Indology), University of Heidelberg |
| 2009–2014 | MA in Classical Indology, University of Heidelberg
MA thesis: Analytische Aspekte des buddhistischen Heilswegs anhand von Kamalaśīlas drei <i>Bhāvanākramas</i> |
| 2002–2007 | MA in Religious Studies, National Chengchi University, Taiwan |
| 1998–2002 | BA in Plant Biology, National Taiwan University, Taiwan |

Publications

- “Kamalaśīla’s “Middle Way” (*madhyamā pratipad*) and His Theory of Spiritual Cultivation: A Study with a Special Focus on the Fourteenth Chapter of the *Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇīṭīkā*,” *Asiatische Studien* (2023) 77/1: 117–144
- Pei-Lin Chiou, Hiroko Matsuoka, and Serena Saccone (eds.), *Asiatische Studien: Special Issue: Kamalaśīla and His Place in the Intellectual History of Buddhism*

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Honors and Awards

- Prize for outstanding paper, young scholars' forum, 2018 winter program of the international project "From the ground up: Buddhism and East Asian religions" (FROGBEAR), held at Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, Taipei
- Member of the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society, Republic of China (Taiwan)

Grants and Fellowship

- 2019.09–2023.12 Doctoral research fellow in the Austrian Science Fund project
"Rationality, Meditation, and Liberation in Indian Buddhism:
Kamalaśīla's Scriptural Commentaries in Context" (FWF P
32617)
- 2017.06–2019.05 Studying abroad scholarship, Ministry of Education, Taiwan

Conference Presentations

- 2025 "Negation and Its Soteriological-Psychological Dimension in
Kamalaśīla's Madhyamaka Philosophy," 20th International Association
of Buddhist Studies Conference, August 10th–15th, Universität
Leipzig, Leipzig (presentation supported by JSPS KAKENHI [Grant-
in-Aid for Scientific Research (B), Project No. 25K00395, PI: Jun
Fujii, Komazawa University])
- 2024 "Negation and Its Soteriological-Psychological Dimension in
Kamalaśīla's Madhyamaka Project," Negation and Truth in Buddhist
Philosophy, September 16–17, 2024, University of Vienna, Vienna
- 2024 "Kamalaśīla's View on the Nature of the *ākāra* of Cognition and His
Theory of Customary Reality," Madhyamaka in South Asia and
Beyond, August 18–22, Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual
History of Asia (IKGA) of Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna
- 2024 "Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇīṭikā §7.1–2 and §14.1," Impact of the
Thunderbolt Workshop, February 23–27, Stanford University, Stanford
- 2023 "How does a Mādhyamika yogi transform ordinary cognitions to a
yogic perception of emptiness? An examination of Kamalaśīla's view,"
The Sixth International Workshop on Madhyamaka Studies, November
3–4, 2023, National Taiwan University/National Chengchi University,

- Taipei
- 2022 “Purifying the Mind and Non-conceptually Realizing the Reality: Kamalaśīla’s View on the Non-conceptuality of Yogic Cognition (*yogijñāna*),” The Sixth International Dharmakīrti Conference, August 22–26, Dongguk university, Seoul
- 2022 “Kamalaśīla’s Gradualist Interpretation of the *Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇī*,” 19th International Association of Buddhist Studies Conference, August 15th–19th, Seoul university, Seoul
- 2022 “Kamalaśīla’s Middle Path and His view on Non-conceptual Gnosis in the *Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇīṭīkā*,” International Symposium “Kamalaśīla’s Significance in the Intellectual History of Buddhism,” March 4th–6th, 2022, Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia (IKGA) of Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna
- 2018 “*Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇī*, Chan in Dunhuang and Kamalaśīla,” Young Scholars’ Forum, 2018 Winter Program of the International Project “From the Ground Up: Buddhism and East Asian Religions” (FROGBEAR), January 13th–19th, 2018, Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, Taipei

Invited Lectures

- “Gaining Insight into Buddhist Literature through the Tibetan Language,” at Fo Guang University, Taiwan, December 24th, 2025, online
- “Non-Conceptual Gnosis as a Madhyamaka Yogi: Kamalaśīla’s Theory of Meditative Cultivation and Cognitive Transformation,” Beihai chaoyin lecture series, at Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, Taiwan, October 1st–2nd, 2025
- “nirvikalpajñāna and Kamalaśīla’s Yogācāra-Madhyamaka Philosophy,” at the Department of Philosophy, National Taiwan University, March 12th, 2025
- “Kamalaśīla’s middle path, his meditative method, and his view on non-conceptual gnosis in the *Avikalpapraveśadhāraṇīṭīkā*,” at Tsukuba global science week 2021, session 4-6, “Tsukuba Indology colloquium,” November 27th, online

Organization of Conferences, Symposia, and Workshops

- Member of the organizing committee: *Madhyamaka in South Asia and Beyond*, International conference, Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia (IKGA) of Austrian Academy of Sciences, August 18–22, 2024
- together with Hiroko Matsuoka and Serena Saccone: *Kamalaśīla’s Significance in*

the Intellectual History of Buddhism. International symposium, Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia (IKGA) of Austrian Academy of Sciences, March 4–6, 2022

Research Experience

- 2016– Content editor of the bio–bibliographical database EAST,
“Epistemology and argumentation in South Asia and Tibet”
(<http://east.uni-hd.de>)
- 2012–2016 Graduate student assistant, Chair of Buddhist Studies, University of
Heidelberg (bibliographical database entry and correction according to
the MODS metadata standard, literature research)
- 2011–2016 Graduate student assistant for the research project “Buddhist stone
inscriptions in Northern China,” Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and
Humanities (literature research, bibliography management, translator
and proofreader of Chinese texts)

Language Skills

- Main research languages: Sanskrit, Classical Tibetan, Classical Chinese, Pāli
- Communication languages: Chinese (mother tongue), English, German.