Abstract:

This talk is a survey and investigation of the topography of the intellectual terrain of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century China, via the synthetic concept of Qing thought, in which there are coherent patterns and modes of intellection and argumentation. These patterns and modes, as analytical categories that result from my hermeneutic intervention, forge an epochal concept that denotes a distinct worldview with a specific temporal location. Qing thought, conceptually, is rendered as four ideal-types of thinking—vitalism, historicism, utilitarianism, and intellectualism. Albeit not entirely new, it was in the late imperial period that they coalesced and were valued at the expense of other approaches. Together, they furnished the fundamental orientations and standards by which learning was pursued, adjudicated, and evaluated at the time.

Co-sponsor: Religion Department

Details:

Thursday, October 3, 2019
4:30 - 6:00pm
Pane Room, Alexander Library
169 College Avenue