

# 德之寶鏡：中古中國的傳記與修辭文化

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中國的過去，可以說是大幅度地依賴「個人」事蹟的講述與傳遞而保存下來。這裡所指的個人，可能是在歷史的架構，或不同的社會群體中；也可能是因為他/她們範例式的行為或特殊的才能。傳記常是傳播價值觀念的工具，因為行為的範式常透過特殊人物的模範言行而流傳。而在集體傳記中的類似記錄，更可以視為共同的道德觀念的表現。綜合起來，這些記敘不只是對於某些人外在行為的回憶，更可以作為每一個「個人」反省自身行為的借鏡。

在中古中國的文學寫作中，傳記確立了作為文字（文本？）媒介的地位，並持續影響了傳統中國的文學與文化。我的演講將討論傳記在傳遞文化傳統中所扮演的角色；個人特殊的和模式的行為被公式化描述的形成過程；以及某些文本傳統為了因應特殊的（時空？文學？）脈絡，而被重新詮釋的情況。我也會討論，傳記材料在歷史和文學研究上的價值，以及它在社會、宗教、地緣、親族、從政和行政單位等各種人群連結方式所形成的人物群體的研究上，可以如何被應用。在演講中，還會談到一直存在於中國的傳記中，簡略的模式化分類的問題，並且試著提出一種詮釋的策略，以消弭這些對於「個人」的描述方式，彼此之間的矛盾。

## **“Mirrors of Virtue: Biography and the Rhetoric of Culture in Medieval China”**

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China's past has been preserved and portrayed in great measure through its individuals, whether that be within a historical framework, sociological grouping of one sort or another, or as an example of a particular type of conduct or skill. Biography has also been a vehicle for the effective dissemination of values, for normative patterns of exemplary conduct often were expressed through the exposition of the lives of particular individuals, especially in the context of anthologized collective biographical accounts expressing a common underlying ethos. On a synthetic level, these portrayals functioned not only as recollections of someone else's overt acts, mirrors as it were onto a sector of the Chinese world, but also as Mirrors for reflection upon one's own conduct.

The textual medium of biography became established in the literary production of medieval China, with lasting influence on the literature and culture of traditional China. My talk will discuss the role of biography in transmitting cultural traditions; the formulation of the portrayal of the individual and patterned traits; and the reinterpretation of textual traditions to fit particular contexts. It also will address biographical writings as sources for historical and literary research, as well as their utility in prosopographical investigation in a variety of areas such as societal groupings, religious affiliations, geographical and family affinity, and official life and administrative practice. It also will look at the problematic nature of simple generic categorization in Chinese biography, and propose an interpretive strategy for mitigating a variety of seeming contradictions in the portrayal of individuals in traditional China.

### **主講人介紹：**

柏士隱，美國籍，1989年獲美國華盛頓大學中國語言及文學系博士學位，現擔任美國斯沃斯莫爾學院（Swarthmore College）講座教授。柏士隱教授主要研究領域為中古文學，近來特別將焦點放在隱逸文化與古琴方面。柏教授本次獲漢學研究中心獎助，來臺研究主題為「德之寶鏡：傳記在傳統中國文學與文化上的詮釋（Mirrors of Virtue: Biographical Traditions in Chinese Literature and Culture）」。