

Travels on the Revolution's Edge: The Life and Times of Xu Ming (1920-2014)



Dr. Gail Hershatter

Research Professor and Distinguished Professor
Emeritus of History, University of California,
Santa Cruz

Xu Ming had many identities: coddled son of an elite family, patriotic activist, underground Communist organizer, Clark University graduate student, New York-based journalist, land reform cadre, Korean War negotiator, diplomat, politically disgraced Rightist, rural laborer, small-town junior high basketball coach, globe-trotting government economic advisor, and eyewitness to the 1989 Tiananmen suppression. This talk explores what we can learn from the life of a single individual about a canonical event of Big History: the Chinese Communist revolution.

Lecture sponsored by the Asian Studies Program

Cosponsor: History Department

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 1-2:30 pm, Library Gallery