



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

East Asian Studies

## University of Arizona, Khyentse Foundation Buddhist Studies Lecture

**MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 5, 2016**

**LOCATION:**

UA Poetry Center  
Dorothy Rubel Room  
Helen S. Schaefer Building,  
1508 E. Helen St.

**TIME:**

3:00 pm

**SUGGESTED PARKING:**

Highland Garage



### **Sickness (and Birth, Old Age, and Death) in Chinese Buddhism: Perspectives from Art and Ritual**

Canonical Buddhist texts proclaim that sickness is one of the four signs of sentient existence: birth, aging, sickness, and death. In this view, only perfect beings such as the Buddha are capable of evading the clutches of impermanence. At the same time, Buddhists all over the world engage in practices to cure illness and secure a happier fate. They imagine a robust, healthy life in Buddhist terms. This lecture reviews some of the broader Buddhist understandings of illness, drawing particularly on the ritual texts and paintings of medieval Chinese Buddhism.



#### **PROFESSOR STEPHEN F. TEISER**

*Princeton University*

Stephen F. Teiser is D.T. Suzuki Professor in Buddhist Studies and Professor of Religion at Princeton University, where he also serves as Director of the interdepartmental Program in East Asian Studies. He is interested in the interaction between Buddhism and indigenous Chinese traditions, brought into focus through the wealth of sūtras, non-canonical texts, and artistic evidence unearthed on the Silk Road.