DAVID GERMANO
THE CONTEMPLATIVE UNIVERSITY: FROM MONASTERY TO THE ACADEMY

Universities historically emerged with complex and deeply ambivalent relationships to the monasteries that preceded them. The current interest in the significance of contemplation for Universities in classrooms, research labs, and engaged work thus presents an interesting set of questions. These questions range over the nature of learning, holistic student development, the relationship between the humanities and sciences, and the boundaries between religious and secular knowledge systems. This talk will explore these questions in relationship to modern research Universities and especially the complexities of understanding, assessing, and adapting Asian contemplative traditions in modern secular education.

David Germano teaches Tibetan Buddhist Studies at the University of Virginia, and his personal research focuses on Buddhist contemplative and philosophical traditions. He directs University of Virginia’s Contemplative Sciences Center in its developing of learning, research, and engagement initiatives regarding contemplation. He has lived for many years in Tibetan communities in China, in the context of which he has worked extensively on programs of scholarly engagement, community service, particularly knowledge, and digital technology initiatives.

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4:00 PM

CCAS Conference
Room: 209
Mechanical Laboratory

Faculty host:
Anne Klein

Chao Center for Asian Studies
Speaker Series