

# Jed D. Forman

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## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA

Fall 2014-Present

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M.A./Ph.D. in Religious Studies, Buddhist Studies  
GPA: 4.0

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## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE

Fall 2011-Spring 2014

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Master of Sciences *with Distinction*, Kinesiology, Dance Concentration  
GPA: 4.0 – *with Distinction* May 2014

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## TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Fall 2003-Spring 2007

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Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy  
Certificate in *Ethics, Law, and Society*  
**French Immersion** Talloires, France  
GPA: 3.6 – *Magna Cum Laude* May 2007  
Summer 2004

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## Awards and Fellowships

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- ❖ *American Institute of Indian Studies* Junior Fellowship 2018-2019
  - ❖ *John Templeton Grant Finalist (decision pending)*, Fieldwork Coordinator 2018-2019  
Doctor Ann Taves, Project Lead
  - ❖ *Fulbright Semi-Finalist (decision pending)* 2018-2019
  - ❖ *Ostad Elahi* Fellowship Award 2017-2018
  - ❖ *The Professor R. Ninian Smart Memorial Award:* 2015-2016  
Excellence in Philosophy of Religion
  - ❖ *Confucius Institute Travel Grant* 2017
  - ❖ Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee – *UCSB Graduate Student Assoc.* 2016-2017
  - ❖ *Tufts University Dance Studies Award* 2007
  - ❖ *Tufts Summer Scholar* (Fellowship with R.F.K. Memorial Foundation) 2006

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## Publications

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The Yakherds (José Cabezón, Thomas Doctor, Douglas Duckworth, Jed Forman, Jay Garfield, John Powers, Sonam Thakchoe, and Tashi Tsering. *Knowing Illusion: Madhyamaka and Epistemology in Tibet*. In progress.

“Victory through the Ultimate Dharma Sutra.” In *The Kangyur*. Translated from the Tibetan by Erdene Baatar Erdene-Ochir, Jed Forman, and Michael Ium. New York: 84,000, forthcoming.

“The Noble Mahāyāna Sūtra ‘Surata’s Questions.’” In *The Kangyur*. Translated from the Tibetan by Erdene Baatar Erdene-Ochir, Jed Forman, and Michael Ium. New York: 84,000, forthcoming.

Forman, Jed. “The Body Incantatory: Spells and the Ritual Imagination in Medieval Chinese Buddhism – By Paul Copp.” *Religious Studies Review* 43, no. 2 (2017): 201.

—. “Review of Madhyamaka and Yogācāra: Allies or Rivals?” *Reading Religion: A Publication of the America Academy of Religion*. February 27, 2018.  
<http://readingreligion.org/books/madhyamaka-and-yogacara>

- Theologically Incorrect (A Response to C. White on Theological Incorrectness). *The Religious Studies Project*, February 6, 2016.  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2016/02/06/theologically-incorrect/>.
- "Objectivism." *Encyclopedia of Religious and Spiritual Development*, edited by George W. Scarlett and Elizabeth M. Dowling, 325-326. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc., 2006.

### **Paper Presentations**

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- Forman, Jed. "Not Just Any Dream Will Do: Tsong kha pa on Yogic Perception." Presentation at the International Seminar of Young Tibetologists, St. Petersburg, Russia, September 3-7, 2018 (forthcoming).
- "Seeing Bones: Yogic Perception and Indian Mysticism" Presentation at The Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington DC, March 22-25, 2018 (forthcoming).
- "Pus and Nectar: Mixing Pramāṇa with Madhyamaka." Presentation at the American Academy of Religion National Conference, Boston, MA, November 18-21, 2017.
- "Ghosts, Pus, and Falling Hairs: Tibetan Buddhist Polemics on Epistemology." Presentation at the International Association for Buddhist Studies, Toronto, ON, August 21, 2017.
- "The Self and the Non-Other: The Individual and Power in Tibetan Buddhism." Presentation at the American Academy of Religion Western Regional Conference, Rosemead, CA, March 17-19, 2017
- "No Data for Religion? The Interdependence of Method and Object." Presentation by proxy reader at the International Association for the History of Religions, Erfurt, Germany, August 23-29, 2015.
- "Stakeholders in Ethical Investing for the Norwegian Petroleum Fund." Presentation at the Tufts University Summer Scholars Conference, Medford, MA, October, 27, 2006.

### **Theses**

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- Forman, Jed. "Ghosts, Pus, and Falling Hairs: Tibetan Buddhist Polemics on Epistemology." Master's thesis, University of California Santa Barbara, 2017.
- "Identity Fluidity: A Novel Explanatory Construct for Flow and Dissociation." Master's thesis, California State University Northridge, 2014.
- "The Limits of Our Beliefs: A Look at the Relationship between Morality and Coercion." Ethics, Law, and Society thesis, Tufts University, 2006.

### **Lectures at UCSB**

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- Forman, Jed. "Tibetan Buddhism and Politics." RGST 35: *Religion and Politics*, November 2, 2017 and November 11, 2016.
- "Buddhist Ethics." RGST 154: *Ethics, Enterprise & Leadership*, April 18, 2017 and May 9, 2016.
- "Serene Insight: The Phenomenology of Tsongkhapa's Non-Conceptual Perception." Religious Experience and Mind Lab, February 2, 2016.
- "Gelug Practices." RGST 31: *Tibetan Religions*, April 21, 2015.

## Research Assitantships at UCSB

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Correlations between Islamophobia on Twitter and Alt-Right Events	2018
Doctor Kathleen Moore, Project Lead	
Crimson Hexagon and DiscoverText	

## Teaching Assitantships at UCSB

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RGST 35: <i>Religion and Politics</i>	Fall 2016 & 2017
RGST 12: <i>Religious Approaches to Death</i>	Winter 2017
RGST 4: <i>Intro to Buddhism</i>	Winter 2017
RGST 154: <i>Ethics, Enterprise &amp; Leadership</i>	Spring 2016 & 2017
RGST 31: <i>Tibetan Religions</i>	Spring 2015
RGST 20: <i>Indic Civilization</i>	Winter 2015
RGST 21: <i>Zen Buddhism</i>	Fall 2014 & 2015
DANCE 43C: <i>Intro to Street Dance</i> , Instructor of Record	Spring, 2017

## Service

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UCSB Religious Studies Graduate Liaison	2017-2018
UCSB Religion, Experience, and Mind Lab Group (Dr. Ann Taves) Treasurer	2017-2018
UCSB Gaucho Street Dance Club, Teacher	2015-2018
UCSB Buddhist Meditation and Discussion Group, President	2014-2017
Amy Biehl Foundation Volunteer, Cape Town, South Africa	Fall 2002-Winter 2003

## Languages

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Tibetan: five years of *written* Tibetan classes. Translation of *sūtra* (see above).  
*spoken*: four years, 6 hr/week online conversation with Esukhia Language School.  
3 summer intensives including immersion in Ladakh, Summer 2016

French: spoken and written over 8 years. Immersions in Talloires and Grenoble.

Sanskrit: written. 4 years.

German: written. 1 year.

## Research Interests

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- ❖ Yogic Perception (*yogipratyakṣa*) – transformations from India to Tibet
- ❖ Tibetan Buddhist Epistemology – intersections between *pramāṇa* and *madhyamaka*
- ❖ Gelug and Sakya Polemics – debates on the works of Taktsang Lotsawa (b. 1405)
- ❖ Cognitive Science Study of Religion – questions of consilience
- ❖ Continental Philosophy – Buddhist intersections with phenomenology and idealism