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Furniss Book Award Lecture

Victoria Tin-bor Hui

"War and State Formation in Ancient China and Early Modern Europe"

Monday, Feb. 26, 2007
Noon
Mershon Center for International Security Studies
1501 Neil Ave.

See a [streaming video](#) of this event. This streaming video requires RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can [download it free](#).

Victoria Tin-bor Hui is Assistant Professor of Political Science at University of Notre Dame. Her research examines the dynamics of international politics, the origins of constitutional democracy, and the development of trade and capitalism in the broad sweeps of history, with a special focus on classical China and modern Europe.

She is author of [War and State Formation in Ancient China and Early Modern Europe](#) (Cambridge, 2005), winner of the Mershon Center's [Edgar S. Furniss Book Award](#) for an author whose first book makes an exceptional contribution to the study of national and international security.

Hui's book demonstrates that from 656-221 B.C., China's government consisted of a system of sovereign territorial states similar to those in early modern Europe. This finding runs counter to the common belief that the roots of liberal democracy are unique to European civilization and alien to non-Western cultures. Hui examines why China and Europe shared similar processes but experienced opposite outcomes. The results shed light on efforts to promote democracy in general, and prospects for Chinese democracy in particular.

Hui has also published articles in *International Organization* and *The Journal of Political Philosophy*. Hui is currently working on *Development, Democracy, and the Two-tiered World: Lessons from the West on the Rest and Toward a Multicultural Approach to the Liberal Peace*.

Hui has a bachelor's from Chinese University of Hong Kong, and a master's and Ph.D.



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