

## **Viet Nam Literature Project**

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## **Executive Summary**

### **Goal**

Viet Nam Literature Project (VNLP) will make a vast body of literature and research of widespread interest universally accessible in English by curation on the web.

### **Now**

VNLP blogs to draw attention to its wiki on Vietnamese literature, Vietnamese studies, and the world literature – imaginative, medical, area studies –of the wars for Viet Nam.

### **Next step**

VNLP will fund an assistant to free the editor to migrate the project to a university.

### **Next step**

VNLP will join a university with a laboratory seminar where undergraduates will prepare reference and teaching materials.

### **Next step**

Writers and researchers worldwide will join the undergraduates in a teleconference series.

### **Next step**

VNLP will publish electronic books from seminar products.

### **Next step**

VNLP will fund graduate assistants and post-doctoral fellows to innovate its holdings while developing their own projects in curation of specialty scholarship to a worldwide audience through new media.

## **I. Mission**

The Viet Nam Literature Project (VNLP) helps the world read, research and teach the literature of Viet Nam, providing content to attract and build the audience in English for Vietnamese writers, Vietnamese Studies, and foreign authors touched by Viet Nam. The purpose of VNLP is to present each individual author within the context of the nation of Viet Nam which makes his or her particular voice ring out.

### **Discussion - topic**

We think that the wars for Viet Nam should be known in the words of those who fought them, that the story of the Vietnamese boat people is best learned through the work of those on the boats, that the nation the wars were fought for, which the people carried with them overseas, is best understood in the words of the Vietnamese.

Vietnamese writers have a great deal to say from their nation and diaspora about our common world. Their wars touched generations around the planet because they were fighting the conflicts of national independence and personal freedom that touch us all.

Their emigration speaks eloquently about the condition of exile that has become common worldwide. Their assimilation to the USA, Australia, and France and their adaptation at home to globalization are the stuff of everyone's daily life.

But they're different. The reason they have have a nation after centuries of war is that they all have insisted, at appalling cost, that they are Vietnamese, a specific people with a certain history.

Not only Vietnamese citizens have written this history. Exiles and foreigners have built an outside perspective on the nation. Authors and researchers especially in France and the United States, galvanized by Vietnamese nationalism, whether writing of the nation itself or its effect on their own lives and imagination, have built a world around Viet Nam.

### **Discussion - method**

VNLP is developing ideas, through its encyclopedia, teleconference, books, and teaching, for engaging research and writing of any kind with a general audience. Presenting our authors brings curated knowledge in depth to the public and to schools.

Our ideas, and a process for trying out new ideas, may be applied to topics throughout the research university. VNLP will spread not only knowledge of Viet Nam but our society's capacity to learn.

## **II. Program**

The Viet Nam Literature Project (VNLP) translates to the most useful level possible in English three bodies of knowledge occasioned by the growth of an independent Viet Nam:

- modern imaginative literature of the Vietnamese, overseas and at home, including their sense of the pre-modern literature,
- scholarship and science on the nation of Viet Nam,
- imaginative literature of those foreigners touched by Viet Nam, e.g. French colonials and American veterans.

VNLP brings this knowledge to its public through four vehicles:

- Wikivietlit, a free online encyclopedia,
- Viet Nam Literature Seminar, broadcast interactively by teleconference,
- Viet Nam Literature Anthologies, developed from the wiki and the seminar,
- Teaching undergraduates to develop reference and pedagogical materials.

## **Discussion**

VNLP publishes translations, in the common sense of the word. We make the Vietnamese literature written in Vietnamese and that written in French and Chinese all available in English.

We also translate between research communities, in sense of translational research as practiced in health sciences. We make the work of researchers and teachers in Vietnamese studies in different countries and different disciplines as well as Vietnamese writers available to any reader, researcher, student or teacher in English.

There already exists a wealth of both translation and commentary in English on Viet Nam and Vietnamese literature. But it is not yet readily available even to an Asia specialist using a college library.

We also bring to the attention of the audience for Vietnamese literature and that for scholarship on Viet Nam a third, related literature important to the understanding of Vietnamese literature and Vietnamese Studies: that of foreigners deeply engaged by Vietnamese nationalism, especially those who lived or fought in Viet Nam.

VNLP develops and organizes ready, free, intelligible public access to all three bodies of knowledge through a free online encyclopedia and archive, a free teleconference series, and book publishing. The founder will teach two-course university sequence that enlists university students in producing reference and teaching materials from our authors for the public.

## **Encyclopedia**

**Wikivietlit** will become the first stop for any research or teaching question in our three topics: modern Vietnamese literature, Vietnamese Studies, and foreign literature of Viet Nam.

Wikivietlit is a free online encyclopedia and archive. It differs from Wikipedia by publishing subject experts, original documents and translations.

### **Pilot**

On a Rockefeller post-doctoral fellowship, founder Dan Duffy enlisted colleagues in Vietnamese literature to document their own fields of reference. The three hundred entries first written introduce readers to Vietnamese authors and literary websites.

About three hundred entries on authors now provide access to their works online, including translations, bibliography, teaching aids and comics prepared by VNLP. Views of individual entries are now approaching 750,000.

### **Seed**

While developing operating funds for Wikivietlit, VNLP is adding annotated transcripts of Viet Nam Literature Seminars with figures in all three fields to Wikivietlit. When Duffy starts teaching his students' reference and pedagogical projects will join the wiki.

### **Operations**

VNLP will add entries on authors in Vietnamese Studies and foreign writers to our existing coverage of Vietnamese writers, giving biography and bibliography and the history of institutions such as schools and publishers. Wikivietlit will then develop articles on works, periods, and genre in each field.

These topic entries will rest on a depth of reference provided by the entries on authors and institutions. Student projects will enrich the author, work and topic entries with pedagogical materials. VNLP staff, contractors and volunteers will apply uniform standards by continual review.

VNLP will then develop the wiki as an archive as well as a reference tool. A web archive is needed because disruptions of modern Vietnamese history continue to scatter key documents, requiring scholars to journey the world to gather basic materials.

The advent of the Web and its Vietnamese websites has increased the problem, as essential sites go dark and struggle with vandalism by the Vietnamese government. The marginal status of Vietnamese Studies and the foreign literature of Viet Nam poses comparable challenges.

VNLP will approach the publishers of magazines and journals and websites in our three fields and liase with a university library to mount an online archive of key publications and integrate them in teaching as well as research.

## Encyclopedia: milestones

**Wikivietlit** will become the Web's English-language resource on Vietnamese literature, Vietnamese Studies, and world literature by foreigners touched by Viet Nam.

	<b>Wikivietlit milestones</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	1. Launched the online encyclopedia with 300 articles.
<b>Seed</b>	2. Initiate wiki entries to support each Viet Nam Literature Seminar. 3. Add handouts, transcripts and audio highlights of Viet Nam Literature Seminar proceedings. 4. Add student reference and pedagogy projects from Dan Duffy's university course.
<b>Operations</b>	5. Recruit advisory committee and external examiners. 6. Begin scheduled fact-checking, format review and updating. 7. Extend bio-bibliography of researchers, teachers, translators and institutions of our three fields available in English, with text of public and permitted publications. 8. Add articles on periods and topics. 9. Negotiate to archive defunct or vulnerable literary organizations in partnership with a university library. 10. Review and plan for next five years, with special attention to developing Wikivietlit as an archive.

## **Teaching**

VNLP founder Dan Duffy will teach a university course on worldwide Vietnamese literature and another on global health and the wars for Viet Nam. Each course will demand that the students participate in the **Viet Nam Literature Seminar** to develop a pedagogical or critical component for **Wikivietlit** or for a **Viet Nam Literature Anthology**.

## **Pilot**

**VNLP** has negotiated with universities in North Carolina about teaching a Vietnamese literature and Vietnamese Studies course, drawing on Duffy's experience teaching at Yale and Chapel Hill. Loyola University of Chicago's office in Saigon asked Duffy to visit twice a year to teach modern Vietnamese literature, initiated in person and concluded by distance learning, but the provost preferred to hire a local adjunct.

## **Seed**

Should the Loyola project stall, **VNLP** will canvass other foreign universities working in Viet Nam, liberal arts colleges in North Carolina, and institutions around the United States and Canada to find a paying home for a semi-distance learning course setting undergraduates to producing reference and teaching materials from Vietnamese literature.

## **Operations**

VNLP has begun talks with allies at the University of North Carolina and at Duke University toward an undergraduate teaching and graduate training program. The state system and the private university include multiple schools of education and of information science as well as departments, programs and institutes in Asian studies, global and international and studies, and literature.

With funding VNLP will install Duffy as a visiting professor in translation. He will teach the two courses to undergraduates. Graduate research and teaching assistants will help run the class and then devise their own teaching projects for public outreach from their own subject specialization.

In this way the courses will promote both VNLP subject matter and the more general cause of knowledge of Asia and the larger initiative of reforming the research university to teach the public through digital means.

**Teaching: milestones**

Founder Dan Duffy will teach a university course sequence on "Worldwide Vietnamese Literature" and "Global Health and the Wars for Viet Nam." Students will prepare reference and pedagogical materials for Wikivietlit. Graduate assistants will help run the course, then develop similar outreach from their own subject expertise.

	<b>Teaching</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	1. Meet with university officials, starting in North Carolina, to find potential partners and establish costs for a named visiting chair with graduate fellowships.  2. Find an undergraduate program where Dan Duffy may develop the courses on an adjunct basis, either in North Carolina, or on a semi-distance learning basis at an American program in Viet Nam, a North Carolina liberal arts college, or as a semi-distance learning course through an American or Canadian institution.
<b>Seed</b>	3. Teach the undergraduate courses as an adjunct.
<b>Operations</b>	4. Teach the undergraduate courses with graduate trainees at a research university as visiting professor.  5. Bring the work of the project to the attention of researchers, teachers and educators through journal articles and conference panels, both in the subject areas and in methods.



## **Teleconference**

**The Viet Nam Literature Seminar** takes place by teleconference. A speaker discusses his or her work with critics, journalists, readers, researchers, and teachers.

Annual repetition of each seminar develops a network of researchers and teachers on its topic. Each annual seminar develops materials in advance and then audio and print transcripts for swift publication at Wikivietlit and eventual production as a Viet Nam Literature Anthology.

## **Pilot**

The **Viet Nam Literature Seminar** began in the fall semester of 2010 with two seminars:

- **Death Anniversary of Nguyen Du**, author of the *Tale of Kieu*, September 16, 2010:  
Eric Henry of the University of North Carolina, on “The *Tale of Kieu* through English Translation.” This second iteration of Henry’s VNLP lecture approached the Vietnamese national poem through its English translations. Eight handouts from the two iterations will join Wikivietlit.
- **Armistice Day (EU)/Veterans Day (US)**, November 11, 2010:  
Marc Leepson of *The Veteran*, the magazine of the Viet Nam Veterans of America, interviewed David Willson, author of the REMF novels and distinguished bibliographer of Viet Nam war fiction, about his career. Willson’s answers to advance questions from an audience of about 40, including a dozen college students and the transcript have joined his entry at Wikivietlit.

## **Seed**

Over 2001-12 VNLP will repeat **Nguyen Du Death Anniversary** and **Veterans Day** seminars and add teleconferences on the **USMC Birthday**, the **Fall of Saigon**, **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**, and **Memorial Day**

## **Operations**

With program funding, VNLP will add a **Viet Nam Literature Seminar** for each new **Viet Nam Literature Anthology** project, first in development and then in support of the book.

**Teleconference: milestones**

The **Viet Nam Literature Seminar** will grow a mixed audience of researchers, teachers, and the general public by annual teleconferences on specific topics.

	<b>Viet Nam Literature Seminar milestones</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	1. Launched the series with two seminars on days of commemoration: Nguyen Du death anniversary and Veterans Day.
<b>Seed</b>	2. Repeat established annual teleconferences and add new occasions to grow a network of interest around each <b>Viet Nam Literature Anthology</b> project.
<b>Operations</b>	3. Add annual teleconferences with networks of interest on such occasions as: Asian American Pacific Heritage Month, author death anniversaries, Dien Bien Phu, Fall of Saigon, Marine Corps Birthday, Memorial Day, Vietnamese Army Day, Vietnamese Women’s Day, etc.

## **Books**

**Viet Nam Literature Anthologies** will be searchable text PDFs and audio books supported by reference and archive materials on Wikivietlit. Manuscript development will include standard book copy-editing, typesetting, fact-checking, illustrations and permissions.

Readable on handheld devices and available for print on demand, **Viet Nam Literature Anthologies** will be for sale at the VNLP and retail sites. VNLP will promote the books to our known demographics such as Viet Nam veterans and Vietnamese Americans and through the Viet Nam Literature Seminar network of researchers and teachers that originates each title.

## **Pilot**

- ***Companion to Kieu***

Repeatedly translated, Viet Nam's national poem lacks a wide or deep critical tradition in English. VNLP will collect and commission scholarship and criticism to make the widely-read poem more deeply teachable and accessible.

- ***Portable REMF***

David Willson's three novels, *REMF Diary*, *REMF Returns* and *In the Army Now* are the sole fictional representations of the majority American military experience in Viet Nam, that of those in support roles in the rear. VNLP will gather the three novels with supporting audio, video and text materials.

## **Seed**

VNLP will publish ***Companion to Kieu*** and ***Portable REMF*** as funds for copy-editing, typesetting, fact-checking, illustrations and permissions arrive. VNLP will develop further book projects at the **Viet Nam Literature Seminar**.

## **Operations**

With program funding **Viet Nam Literature Anthologies** will make Vietnamese literature and foreign literature from Viet Nam teachable, informed by Vietnamese Studies scholarship.

“**Companion**” editions will collect critical and pedagogical materials to make more readable and teachable works which are already easily available in English.

“**Portable**” editions will make essential authors readable and teachable by gathering in one English book key works which are not yet translated or are now dispersed and out of print, along with their critical tradition.

**Books: milestones**

The **Companion** anthologies will stress critical perspectives and teaching guides to classic works. The **Portable** anthologies will introduce a coherent body of work by a single author.

	<b>VNLP Anthologies milestones</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	1. Develop <i>Companion to Kieu</i> and <i>Portable REMF</i> .
<b>Seed</b>	2. Publish <i>Companion to Kieu</i> and <i>Portable REMF</i> . Develop other titles.
<b>Operations</b>	3. Publish <b>Companion</b> and <b>Portable</b> anthologies developed through <b>Viet Nam Literature Seminar</b> and <b>Wikivietlit</b> to cover Vietnamese literature and literature from Viet Nam by foreigners, informed by scholarship from Vietnamese Studies.  <b>Companion</b> anthologies will first support those books and authors already widely available in English, with collections of scholarship useful to readers and teachers.  <b>Portable</b> anthologies will provide readable and teachable collections of work not now easily available in English.

### **III. Management**

This section details VNLP plans for outreach, development, personnel and administration. It is intended for internal use and to share in confidence with prospective partners.

## **Outreach**

### **Pilot**

VNLP has established its website and quarterly print newsletter. We have also held repeated events in Washington, DC, New York, and in North Carolina. The founder has presented at universities and led a tour of Viet Nam.

VNLP enjoys close and frequent contact with such allies as *Education About Asia* (Association for Asian Studies), Vietnamese Studies Group (Association for Asian Studies), the Asian American Writers Workshop, the Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network, the Southeast Asian Literature Series at Texas Tech University Press, and the Yale University Council on Southeast Asia Studies.

### **Seed**

VNLP will enhance regular outreach via the website and print newsletter with a program of book reviewing and author profiles on the wiki to lists developed through our activities. Serial publication of founder Dan Duffy books, with blog digests, will explain our larger purposes.

Outreach will go to our present contacts and through their networks to our constituencies: Vietnamese, Vietnamese Americans, the responsible class who took us to war in Viet Nam, foreign veterans, and the internationals now opening Viet Nam to the world. VNLP will add to the Web presence by liasing with Viet Nam veteran and Vietnamese American associations.

### **Operations**

VNLP will delegate website outreach to volunteers and contractors with instructions to reach our constituencies. VNLP will return to events and tours, adding to parties and tours tabling and presentations at professional conferences of researchers and educators.

Events are essential programs, furthering our educational mission, and further provide contacts and credibility for fundraising as well as outreach. They require substantial subsidy for direct costs and indirectly to hire contractors to replace the staff time they take.

### **Outreach: milestones**

VNLP conducts outreach to bring the public to its materials and to meet donors.

	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	1. Website, events, and tours of Viet Nam established.
<b>Seed</b>	2. Develop routine public relations through our Web resources and those of our allies. 3. Reach out from our Web work to individuals in our constituencies. 4. Liase with Viet Nam veteran and Vietnamese American associations.
<b>Operations</b>	5. Events and visits in North Carolina, New York City, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, and Singapore.

## **Personnel**

### **Pilot**

VNLP has assembled an initial team through ties of friendship and work.

**Founder Dan Duffy** is a career editor of scholarship and literature from Viet Nam and from the American war there. Educated at Exeter and Yale, he served as editor at Viet Nam Generation, Inc. and the Yale University Council on Southeast Asia Studies and advisor to NXB The Gioi in Ha Noi before founding Viet Nam Literature Project while earning his doctorate in Anthropology at Chapel Hill on field research on Vietnamese publishing in Paris. He serves on the advisory committee of *Education About Asia* (Association for Asian Studies) and the Modern Southeast Asian Literature series at Texas Tech University Press.

### **Authors**

The VNLP website displays VNLP collaboration with cartoonists, researchers, teachers, translators and webmasters.

### **Advisory Committee:**

**Linh Dinh** is a poet. Widely published in both Vietnamese and English, he as well translates Vietnamese fiction and poetry into English and Italian and teaches at universities around the United States and Europe.

**Lucien Ellington** is founder of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) teaching journal *Education About Asia* and editor of the AAS pedagogical series *Key Issues in Asian Studies*. A former high school teacher, he is UC Professor of Education at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga and Senior Fellow at the Wachman Center of the Foreign Policy Research Institute. He serves as state coordinator for the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia and has led hundreds of courses, institutes and tours for those teaching about China, Korea, and especially Japan.

**David Thomas** founded the Indochina Arts Project, now the Indochina Arts Partnership, bringing hundreds of artists back and forth between Viet Nam and the United States since 1988.

### **Board of Directors:**

**Peter Delevett**, travel writer, is an editor at the *San Jose Mercury News*.

**Daniel Egger** is founder and chair of Open Source Risk Management in Durham.

**Tom Enders** is a managing director at CSC Global Health Solutions Practice.

**James Friedlander** owns and operates Academic Arrangements Abroad.

**Pamela Rosenthal** is a professor of medicine at New York University.

**Nancy Seybold** develops web resources for health care in Washington, DC.

### **Seed**

VNLP will reach beyond immediate contacts to add further advisors and board members from its constituencies: see **Personnel: milestones** for details.

### **Operating**

VNLP will hire contractors for program and administration and recruit advisors and board members able to bring its specialist work to national and global interest and support.



**Personnel: milestones**

VNLP will move from relationships with friends and colleagues through more distant relationship with our constituencies and fields to the widest possible participation and representation.

<b>Pilot</b>	VNLP has assembled an initial team through ties of friendship and work. See previous page for details.
<b>Seed</b>	Add advisors and board members from VNLP constituencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vietnamese,</li><li>• members of the responsible class who brought the US to Viet Nam,</li><li>• foreign veterans of the Cold War,</li><li>• Asian Studies, Vietnamese Studies, American Studies, Asian American Studies, International Studies, Peace &amp; War Studies researchers and educators,</li><li>• foreigners now opening Viet Nam to the world.</li></ul>
<b>Operating</b>	VNLP will <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• hire contractors for program and administration and</li><li>• recruit advisors and board members able to bring its specialist work to national and global interest and support beyond immediate constituencies.</li></ul>

## **Development**

### **Pilot**

VNLP has funded operating costs through a demonstration period by requests to the board, membership and major donors.

### **Seed**

We will ask major donors to sponsor a seed period. In this time we will enlist institutional donors for specific programs and grow our network of individual donors toward funding a named visiting chair for VNLP founder Dan Duffy at a research university.

### **Operations**

When VNLP founder Dan Duffy is seated as a named visiting chair at a research university he will set graduate and post-doctoral fellows to writing grants for continuing programs.

**Development: milestones**

VNLP will establish its programs as a named visiting chair of translation at a research university.

	<b>Development</b>
<b>Pilot</b> <b>Up to</b> <b>\$36k/yr</b>	1. Newsletter, board of directors, membership, and editor’s circle established from friends and colleagues.
<b>Seed</b> <b>From</b> <b>\$36K/yr</b> <b>to</b> <b>\$150K/yr</b>	2. Ask major funders for seed money.  3. Expand the board of directors and editor’s circle to stakeholders in the categories of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vietnamese,</li> <li>• members of the responsible class who brought the US to Viet Nam,</li> <li>• foreign veterans of the Cold War,</li> <li>• Asian Studies, Vietnamese Studies, American Studies, Asian American Studies, International Studies, Peace &amp; War Studies researchers and educators,</li> <li>• foreigners now opening Viet Nam to the world.</li> </ul> 4. Find an institutional donor for each of four programs: Wikivietlit, Viet Nam Literature Seminar, Viet Nam Literature Anthologies, and Teaching & Training.
<b>Operations</b>	5. Established at a research university, work steadily through graduate and post-doctoral fellows for grant funding.

VNLP case statement with milestones

## **Administration**

See milestones.

**Administration: milestones**

The VNLP founder establishes administrative routine to hand off to contractors.

	<b>Administration</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	Established the corporation, won non-profit status, filed short tax form, started directors' meetings, bank and credit accounts, office rental, vendor relationships, health costs for Dan Duffy, the website, and mailing list.
<b>Seed</b>	Pay Dan Duffy salary, file long tax form.
<b>Operations</b>	Hire administrative support.

## Appendix A – Course descriptions

Dan Duffy will teach courses on Vietnamese literature and Vietnamese studies at the University of North Carolina as a professor of translation.

1. The appointment will create a state, national and world resource on a nation of importance to North Carolina and the United States and provide a model for combining research with teaching for public service through new media, stressing rapid evolution and transmission through participation in global networks, all open-sourced.
2. In alternating courses, students will navigate two hundred years of worldwide Vietnamese literature and foreign scholarship centering on Viet Nam to discover a passionate interest to present to the public.
3. One course will focus on fiction, film, poetry and song. Viet Nam developed a modern literature while regrouping through the twentieth century after French political domination over the nineteenth century. Conquest and rebellion threw fractions of the nation out around the world and continues to inspire foreign adventurers and distant observers to write.
4. Another course will review medical and policy literature. The wars for Viet Nam formed the common sense of global public health. Contemporary issues of amputees, chemical war, ecocide, human rights, improvised explosives, refugees, sex tourism, terror and traumatic stress all emerged from this hot crucible of the Cold War. In every course:
  - Undergraduates will read classic works alone, discuss them with each other, and attend lectures on area studies.
  - Graduate assistants from education, information science and journalism will advise each student on an individual term project: production of a reference or teaching resource for public use.
  - Viet Nam Literature Project will include its students, assistants, and outside teachers in the ongoing Viet Nam Literature Seminar teleconference with authors and researchers worldwide and publish student projects through the Wikivietlit online encyclopedia.
  - The University of North Carolina will engage K-12 teachers throughout the state and the world in developing and using student projects.
5. Both courses will be “translational humanism”, guiding basic research toward classroom application, in the model of “translational medicine.” They will be a model for further innovation at the research university.

## **Worldwide Vietnamese Literature**

Dan Duffy, Ph.D. (Anthropology, University of North Carolina)

Students will navigate two hundred years of worldwide Vietnamese literature and foreign literature about “Viet Nam” to discover a passionate interest to present to the public through new media.

### **Background**

Viet Nam developed a modern literature while regrouping through the twentieth century after French political domination over the nineteenth century. Conquest and rebellion threw fractions of the nation out around the world and continue to inspire foreign adventurers and distant observers to write.

The home literature in Vietnamese is known to the outside world only through a few authors, while both literature of the diaspora and foreign literature of “Viet Nam” are little known among Vietnamese. Students in North Carolina will import the national literature and export the diasporic and foreign literature through the English-speaking Web.

### **Elements and outcomes**

Lecture: the instructor will brief the class on background

Reading: the class will prepare assigned readings for written Q&A before each lecture

- *Students will be exposed to world history from 1800 centered on Viet Nam.*

Interview: the class will engage with authors and researchers in person and by teleconference

Discussion: non-directed meetings on humanist texts from literature and the fine arts

- *Students will join in the tradition of humanist scholarship.*

Bibliography: individuals will prepare a term project identifying English-language texts by a writer, or on a work, period, genre or topic of interest.

- *Students will acquire the habit of locating documents, the historic method.*

Service: each student will make a significant reference or pedagogical contribution.

- *Students will gain experience in improving public access to information by curation.*

### **Level**

Since the course assumes no prior knowledge, first-years and sophomores could participate and learn fundamental university skills.

Juniors and seniors would integrate knowledge from previous study in comparative literature, English, French, history, anthropology, and political science for practical application.

## **Global Health and the Wars for Viet Nam**

Dan Duffy, Ph.D. (Anthropology, University of North Carolina)

The wars for Viet Nam have formed the common sense of global public health. A laboratory course in medical anthropology will review fundamental documents and interview experts and witnesses to unpack this common sense. Why does everyone think that war makes people sick? How can we find out?

### **Background**

Struggles internal to mainland Southeast Asia attracted French then Japanese expansion and finally the participation of China, Russia, the United States and their allies in a proxy conflict for the Cold War. Cambodia and Laos as well as Viet Nam were battlegrounds while Japan, the Philippines and Thailand as well as United States bases worldwide were staging areas.

The conflict raged out of all proportion to its proxy role, attracting the appalled attention of researchers worldwide. Issues arising after the previous global war such as human rights and new political actors such as women and the environment shaped their agendas.

Medicine and the international community made strides understanding and intervening in issues ranging from dioxin, to emergency medicine, to the health effects of stress, to refugees, to the role of soldiers and tourists in sexually transmitted disease.

### **Elements and outcomes**

Lecture: the instructor will brief the class on background

Reading: the class will prepare assigned readings for written Q&A before each lecture

- *Students will be exposed to world history from 1800 centered on Southeast Asia and the history of the international community since 1945.*

Interview: the class will debrief experts and witnesses in person or by teleconference

Discussion: non-directed meetings on humanist texts from literature and the fine arts

- *Students will practice listening, observation and discussion, the ethnographic method.*

Bibliography: individuals will prepare a term project identifying a chain of key documents

- *Students will acquire the habit of locating documents, the historic method.*

Service: the class will together launch and publicize a website of useful overview and access to foundational documents on sequelae of the wars, e.g. Agent Orange, helicopter tactics, landmines, migration, PTSD, sex tourism, and trauma medicine.

- *Students will gain experience in improving public access to information by curation.*

### **Level**

Since the course assumes no prior knowledge, first-years and sophomores may participate and learn fundamental university skills.

Juniors and seniors will integrate knowledge from previous study in anthropology, history, political science, policy, natural sciences and public health for practical application.



## Appendix B – Dan Duffy resume

Dan Duffy

[editor@vietnamlit.org](mailto:editor@vietnamlit.org)

**Research goal:** Translate to the most useful possible level in English three bodies of knowledge:

- 1) Modern imaginative literature of the Vietnamese, overseas and at home, including their sense of the pre-modern literature
- 2) Scholarship and science on Viet Nam
- 3) Imaginative literature of those foreigners touched by Viet Nam, e.g. American veterans

**Publication methods:** Website, wiki, edited collections, and monographs

### Next projects

- 1) Establish a student research course for public service on the topic of war as a global health issue, to publish literature review and expert interviews on the topic of the Vietnamese wars' morbid and positive consequences through such vectors as dioxin, migration, mines, sex work, stress disorder, and trauma medicine
- 2) Establish student research courses for public service on the world literature from the wars for Viet Nam and the literature of Vietnamese people worldwide
- 3) Produce as books my master's thesis, on an intelligence archive in wartime Saigon, my doctoral dissertation, on modern Vietnamese history as written on the streets of Paris, and a post-doctoral ethnography of the post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis

### Current project (2005-present)

Viet Nam Literature Project, Hillsborough, North Carolina

Conceived and manage a project to educate the United States about the outside world through Vietnamese literature. Administer the non-profit corporation; convene a seminar, edit a comic book series, a translation series and a reference wiki; conduct outreach through social media, print newsletter, a boat tour of the Mekong and events in major U.S. cities; raise funds

### Previous projects (to 2005)

I have conceived and carried out research, publication, and teaching projects in Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Paris, France; and Ha Noi, Viet Nam, and New Haven, Connecticut.

Previous to the Viet Nam Literature Project, I was responsible for the journal *Viet Nam Forum* and *Lac Viet* imprint at Yale University Council on Southeast Asia Studies, and for Viet Nam Generation, Inc., an American Studies journal and press.

## **Education**

- 2008 Doctorate, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Self-Reliance: Ethnography of Literature Outside Viet Nam”
- 2008 Certificate, Cultural Studies, University of North Carolina (earned; paperwork lost by program office)
- 2000 Certificate, Non-Profit Management, Duke University
- 1999 Master of Arts, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “The Combined Documents Exploitation Center: Ethnography of the Archive”
- 1998 Southeast Asia Studies Summer Institute, University of Oregon
- 1991 Southeast Asia Studies Summer Institute, Cornell University
- 1983 Bachelor of Arts, English Language and Literature, Yale College
- 1978 Phillips Exeter Academy

Languages: use French and Vietnamese daily

Subject expertise: general anthropology; medical anthropology; multi-disciplinary area studies covering France, Southeast Asia, and the United States; intellectual property in open source

## **University teaching experience:**

Pertinent to the next project is “Asia in North Carolina”, a student research project in public service I developed at the University of North Carolina. We reviewed what was known and conducted interviews to put out a print publication.

- Fall 2004 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology and Asian Studies, University of North Carolina, “Asia in North Carolina.” 15 students.
- Spring 2004 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology and Asian Studies, University of North Carolina, “Asia in North Carolina.” 15 students.
- Fall 2003 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Folklore and Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Asia in North Carolina.” 15 students.
- Spring 2003 Graduate Teaching Fellow Anthropology, “Medical Anthropology”. Ran sections and ethnographic field teams. 45 students.
- Fall 2002 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Cultures of the South”. Ran sections and ethnographic field teams. 45 students.
- Spring 2002 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Introduction to Anthropology.” 200 students.
- Fall 2001 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Introduction to Anthropology.” 200 students.
- Summer 2001 Instructor, International Studies, University of North Carolina, “Introduction to the Study of Society: The Case of Viet Nam.” 15 students.

- Spring 1998 Teaching Assistant, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Introduction to Anthropology”
- Spring 1997 Visiting Lecturer, English Department, Yale University, "Viet Nam is not a War: Contemporary Fiction and Poetry in English from Viet Nam and Vietnamese Americans. ” 15 students.

### **Fellowships, grants, and honors**

- 2006-7 Rockefeller Fellowship, William Joiner Center, University of Massachusetts
- 2001-5 Graduate teaching fellow, Anthropology, University of North Carolina
- 2000-1 Bourse Chateaubriand, Ministere des Affaires Etrangeres, France
- 1999-0 Foreign Language Area Studies fellowship in Vietnamese
- 1999 Vietnamese Advanced Studies Institute fellowship (declined)
- 1999 Summer travel grant, University Center for International Studies, University of North Carolina
- 1998-9 Foreign Language Area Studies fellowship in Vietnamese
- 1998 National Science Foundation fellowship in Democracy
- 1998 Southeast Asia Studies Summer Institute/Foreign Language Area Studies fellowship in Vietnamese
- 1998-9 South Atlantic States Association for Asian Studies grant in support of Vietnamese Literature Study Group
- 1998 Summer travel grant, University Center for International Studies, University of North Carolina (declined)
- 1997-8 Research and teaching fellowships, Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina
- 1990-9 Various grants from the Ford Foundation, Asian Cultural Council, Albert Kunstadter Foundation and the C.E.&S. Foundation in support of projects of cultural exchange and educational publishing regarding Viet Nam and the US
- 1994-5 Network Fellow, Center for Advanced Technology and the Humanities, University of Virginia
- 1983 Certificate of Recognition for High School Teaching, Dean's Office, University of Chicago
- 1982 Strong Prize, English Department, Yale University

### **References**

- James Peacock, Anthropology, University of North Carolina. *Dissertation chair*
- Michele Thompson, History, Southern Connecticut State University. *Medical historian, past president of Vietnamese Studies Group (Association for Asian Studies)*

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## **Profession**

Anthropologist

## **Education**

- 2008 Doctorate, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Self-Reliance: Ethnography of Literature Outside Viet Nam”
- 2008 Certificate, Cultural Studies, University of North Carolina (earned)
- 2000 Certificate, Non-Profit Management, Duke University
- 1999 Master of Arts, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “The Combined Documents Exploitation Center: Ethnography of the Archive”
- 1998 Southeast Asia Studies Summer Institute, University of Oregon
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## **References**

James Peacock, Anthropology, University of North Carolina. *Dissertation chair*  
Michele Thompson, History, Southern Connecticut State University. *Medical historian, past president of Vietnamese Studies Group (Association for Asian Studies)*

**Research goal:** Translate to the most useful possible level in English three bodies of knowledge occasioned by Vietnamese nationalism:

- 1) Modern imaginative literature of the Vietnamese, overseas and at home, including their sense of the pre-modern literature
- 2) Scholarship and science on Viet Nam
- 3) Imaginative literature of those foreigners touched by Viet Nam, e.g. American veterans

**Publication methods:** Curated website, edited collections, and my own monographs

### **Next projects**

- 1) Establish a student research course for public service on the topic of war as a global health issue, to publish literature review and expert interviews on the topic of the Vietnamese wars' morbid and positive consequences through such vectors as dioxin, migration, mines, sex work, stress disorder, and trauma medicine
- 2) Establish student research courses for public service on the world literature from the wars for Viet Nam and the literature of Vietnamese people worldwide
- 3) Produce as books my master's thesis, on an intelligence archive in wartime Saigon, my doctoral dissertation, on modern Vietnamese history as written on the streets of Paris, and a post-doctoral ethnography of the post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis

### **Current project (2005-present)**

Viet Nam Literature Project, Hillsborough, North Carolina  
Conceived and manage a project to educate the United States about the outside world through Vietnamese literature. Administer the non-profit corporation; convene a seminar, edit a comic book series, a translation series and a reference wiki; conduct outreach through a print newsletter, a boat tour of the Mekong and events in major U.S. cities; raise funds

### **Previous projects (to 2005)**

I have conceived and carried out research, publication, and teaching projects in Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Paris, France; and Ha Noi, Viet Nam, and New Haven, Connecticut.

Previous to the Viet Nam Literature Project, I was responsible for the journal *Viet Nam Forum* and *Lac Viet* imprint at Yale University Council on Southeast Asia Studies, and for Viet Nam Generation, Inc., an American Studies journal and press.

### **University teaching experience:**

Pertinent to the UNC proposal is “Asia in North Carolina”, a student research project in public service I developed at the University of North Carolina. We reviewed what was known and conducted interviews to put out a print publication.

- Fall 2004 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Anthropology and Asian Studies, University of North Carolina, “Asia in North Carolina.” 15 students.
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- Fall 2003 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Folklore and Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Asia in North Carolina.” 15 students.
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- Spring 1998 Teaching Assistant, Anthropology, University of North Carolina, “Introduction to Anthropology”
- Spring 1997 Visiting Lecturer, English Department, Yale University, "Viet Nam is not a War: Contemporary Fiction and Poetry in English from Viet Nam and Vietnamese Americans. ” 15 students.

## **Publications**

Viet Nam Literature Project has been my vehicle for writing and editorial service since 2005.

### **Some outstanding VNLP projects:**

- Wikivietlit  
The online encyclopedia to Vietnamese literature.
- Viet Nam Literature Seminar  
Teleconference series on dates of commemoration, such as the death anniversary of national poet Nguyen Du, and Veterans' Day

### **Two recent examples from these projects:**

- David Willson  
Extensive Wikivietlit entry with links to online work of the veteran novelist, enriched by the transcript of his Viet Nam Literature Seminar interview
- Nguyen Chi Thien  
A full presentation on the Ha Noi anti-communist poet, including biography, bibliography, memoir, and selection of poems in translation

### **Other current publishing:**

I post fieldnotes and reviews regularly to *vsg*, the listserv of the Vietnamese Studies Group (Association for Asian Studies), to *Diacritics*, the blog of the Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network, and to Amazon.

I serve on the advisory boards of *Education About Asia* (Association for Asian Studies), the series *Modern Southeast Asian Literature* (Texas Tech University Press), and *Diacritics* (Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network).

Previous work:

## Articles

- 2002 Beyond the National Tradition: Thuong Vuong Riddick's Two Shores/Deux Rives" *Harvard English Studies: American Literatures and Languages* (Harvard University Press)
- 1997 "Not a War: Suggestions from a College Reading Course in Fiction and Poetry from Viet Nam and Vietnamese Americans" *Education About Asia* (Association for Asian Studies), Volume 2, Number 2: Fall

## Field notes

- 2000-1 Over the field season in Paris I posted twenty-three substantial notes to the listserv of the Viet Nam Studies Group, Association for Asian Studies about events of general interest to producers of academic knowledge about Viet Nam. These notes are widely cross-posted to consumers of knowledge about Viet Nam among Asianists and Americanists, to Vietnamese emigrant intellectuals and those in the home country.

## Journalism

- 1999 Review of *Modern Southeast Asian Literature in Translation: A Resource for Teaching*, edited by Grant Olson (Arizona State University, 1996), for *Education About Asia*
- 1996 Review of *A Time Far Past*, by Le Luu (University of Massachusetts Press, 1996), for *The Nation*: July 4
- 1996 "Three Writers: Nguyen Huy Thiep, Ho Anh Thai, and Phan Thi Vang Anh," *Heritage Magazine*: May/June
- 1996 "Life Stories: Phan Thanh Hoai," *Viet Nam Investment Review*: 29 January - 4 February
- 1995 "Cultural Collage: Vietnam's New Breed of Artists Leave Lasting Impressions," *The Far Eastern Economic Review*: July 6
- 1993 Review of *Paradise of the Blind* (Morrow, 1993) by Duong Thu Huong: *The Nation*, April 12

## Translations

- 1996 "The Iron Spike," a translation with Huu Ngoc of the short story "Chiec coc sat" by Phan Thanh Hoai, in *Viet Nam News*, January 7



1995 "The Wallet," a translation with Huu Ngoc of the short story "Cai vi" by Phan Thanh Hoai, in *Viet Nam News*, December 31

### **Research presentations**

2011 "The Vietnamese and Orientalist Bookstores of Paris, France" and "Introduction to Ly Lan", on the ship Marguerite on the Mekong River for Academic Arrangements Abroad

2009 "I am getting over a virus", post-doctoral medical ethnography, Global South Working Group, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

2008 Presentation of doctoral thesis, "Self-Reliance: Ethnography of Literature Outside Viet Nam", in New York City

2000-8 Public launches of new Viet Nam Literature Project resources in New York and Washington, DC.

2000 "Vietnamese Literature in an Out of the Way Place", Association for Asian Studies, San Diego

1999 "Calling Down a Hungry Spirit: Vietnamese Ghost Stories in Ha Noi and Los Angeles", Vietnamese Literature Study Group, University of North Carolina

1997-9 "Beyond the National Tradition: Thuong Vuong Riddick's Two Shores/Deux Rives", American Comparative Literature Association, Puerto Vallarta, 1997; Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Amsterdam, 1997; Association for Asian Studies/Southeast, University of Virginia, 1998; and Association for Asian Studies, Washington DC, 1998, and the Vietnamese Literature Study Group, University of North Carolina, 1998

1997 "Remembering the Countryside: Nguyen Huy Thiep and Dang Nhat Minh", Association for Asian Studies/Southeast, Wesleyan University

## **Editorial service**

## **Editorial boards**

- 2010 *Diacritics*, Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network
- 2010-present Advisory Board, *Southeast Asian Fiction Series*, Texas Tech University Press
- 1997-present Advisory Board, *Education About Asia* (Association for Asian Studies)

## **Collections edited**

All my recent work in anthologies has been for Viet Nam Literature Project.

- 1996 *North Viet Nam Now: Fiction and Essays from Ha Noi* (Viet Nam Forum 15: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies)
- 1996 *Not a War: American Vietnamese Fiction, Poetry and Essays* (Viet Nam Forum 16: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies)
- 1994 *Nobody Gets Off the Bus: The Viet Nam Generation Big Book* (Viet Nam Generation, Inc.), with Kali Tal

## **Books Packaged**

- 1997 *Vietnamese Perspectives on the War in Viet Nam: an annotated bibliography to works in English* (Lac Viet 17: Yale University Council on Southeast Asia Studies), by John Schafer
- 1997 *Literature News: Nine Stories from the Viet Nam Writers Union newspaper, Bao Van Nghe* (Lac Viet 16: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies), selected and translated with introductions and illustrations by Rosemary Nguyen
- 1993 *The End of the Vietnamese Monarchy* (Lac Viet 15: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies), by Bruce McFarland Lockhart

## **Conference service**

### **Study groups organized**

1999-0 Vietnamese Literature Study Group, Asian Studies, University of North Carolina

1998-9 Vietnamese Literature Study Group, Asian Studies, University of North Carolina

### **Cultural exchange**

1994-6 initiated, found funding for, and organized US tours for literary critic Hoang Ngoc Hien, cultural journalist Huu Ngoc, fiction writers Nguyen Huy Thiep and Phan Thi Vang Anh, and playwright Hoang To Mai

### **Conference panels organized**

1998 “Vietnamese Literature Outside of Viet Nam: Beyond the National Tradition,” with Renny Christopher, Karl Britto, Qui-Phiet Tran, and Laurie Sears, at the Association for Asian Studies annual meeting at Washington, DC

1998 “Vietnamese Literature: Traditional, Modern and Global,” with Eric Henry, Randy Fertel, Patrick Laude, and Margaret Wiener at the Association for Asian Studies/Southeast regional meeting at the University of Virginia, January, 1998

### **Conferences Organized**

1995 "Writers and Painters of Ha Noi," Yale Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University

1994 "Sixties Generations," with Kali Tal and Steven Gomes, Western Connecticut State University

1993 "Sixties Generations," with Kali Tal, at George Mason University

## **Fellowships, grants, and honors**

- 2006-7      Rockefeller Fellowship, William Joiner Center, University of Massachusetts
- 2001-5      Graduate teaching fellow, Anthropology, University of North Carolina
- 2000-2      Bourse Chateaubriand, Ministere des Affaires Etrangeres, France
- 1999-0      Foreign Language Area Studies fellowship in Vietnamese
- 1999      Vietnamese Advanced Studies Institute fellowship (declined)
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University of North Carolina
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- 1998-9      South Atlantic States Association for Asian Studies grant in support of  
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- 1998      Summer travel grant, University Center for International Studies,  
University of North Carolina (declined)
- 1997-8      Research and teaching fellowships, Department of Anthropology,  
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Kunstadter Foundation and the C.E.&S. Foundation in support of projects  
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- 1983      Certificate of Recognition for High School Teaching, Dean's Office,  
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- 1982      Strong Prize, English Department, Yale University