

BICH-NGOC TURNER

Associate teaching professor, Vietnamese Language and Literature
University of Washington at Seattle
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EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Certified Vietnamese Oral Proficiency Interview Tester, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, July 2018

Ph.D., American Studies. Dissertation title: "Normalizing Vietnam: Vietnam veterans and the reconstruction of U.S.-Vietnam's postwar relations, 1985-2010." University of Hawaii, August 2011

M.A., American Studies. Thesis title: "Volunteers in Asia: U.S.-Vietnam's Educational Exchange Policies." University of Hawaii, December 2002

Graduate Certificate in International Cultural Studies. Research title: "Vietnamese American Music and the Politics of Nostalgia." University of Hawaii, May 2002

B.A., English (British literature and lexicology), Vietnam National University in Hanoi, June 1994

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Associate teaching professor, Vietnamese language and literature, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, Sept. 2025-present

Assistant teaching professor, Vietnamese language and literature, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, Sept. 2020-June 2025

Lecturer, Vietnamese language and literature, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, Sept. 2014-June 2020

Instructor, Vietnamese language and culture, Foreign Service Institute, US Department of State, Spring 2014

Vietnamese language consultant (contractor). Language Proficiency Testing Project, National Foreign Language Center, University of Maryland, 2013-2023

Lecturer of Vietnamese, Southeast Asian Studies Council, Yale University, Spring 2013

Research assistant, Sino-Vietnam relations, Vietnamese premodern history, Yale University, 2012-2013

Language partner and mentor, Vietnamese for Special Purposes, Center for Language Studies, Yale University, 2010-2012

Lecturer, US History, the Rise of East Asia, US-Vietnam relations, Research Methods Faculty of International Studies, Hanoi University, 2006-2009

Educational advisor, Institute of International Education, IIE-Vietnam, Hanoi, 2005-2006

Pre-departure trainer, English proficiency and Australian studies training, Asian Development Scholarship, Australian Embassy, Hanoi, 2004-2005

Instructor, English as a Foreign Language & English for Professional Purposes (Business and Law), Vietnam National University in Hanoi, 1994-2000

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Executive Committee, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, Aut. 2025-Win. 2026
Undergraduate Education Committee, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, Autumn 2023-Winter 2025
Subject Matter Expert, Search Committee of Vietnamese teaching professor, Oct-Dec 2024
Hiring Committee of temporary Khmer lecturer, Asian Languages and Literature, May-Sept 2024
Peer Teaching Review Committee, Asian Languages and Literature, 2022-2023
Hiring Committee of Diep Le, temporary Vietnamese lecturer, Winter-Spring 2023
Merit Review Committee for Amruta Chandekar, Winter-Spring 2022
Undergraduate Education Committee, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, 2021- 2022
Advancement Committee, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, 2016-2021
Reappointment Committee for Nandini Abedin, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, Aug-Sept 2020
Hiring Committee of Kim Tran, temporary Vietnamese lecturer, Aug - Dec. 2020.
Hiring Committee of Yen Nguyen, full time Vietnamese lecturer, Aug 2019-Mar 2020
FLAS Vietnamese Selection Committee, Center of Southeast Asian Studies, University of Washington, Feb 2020
Trainer, Vietnamese teaching pedagogy for Bilingual Education Capacity Program (BECA), Department of Education, University of Washington, Sept 2018; Sept 2019

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Graduate Admission Committee, Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Its Diasporas, Winter 2026
Liaison faculty, Southeast Asian Language Council Steering Committee, Luce Grant Foundation projects, University of Wisconsin at Madison, 2022-2024
Leader, Advanced Content-based Vietnamese lesson project, Southeast Asian Languages Council, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2021-2022
Co-leader, Vietnamese Oral Proficiency Guideline Project, Southeast Asian Language Council, University of Wisconsin at Madison, 2019-2021
Treasurer, Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America - GUAVA, Aug. 2019-July 2021
President, Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America - GUAVA, Aug. 2017-July 2019

ADVISING

PhD committee member, Grainger Lanneau (PhD, Asian Languages and Literature), Winter 2023-Winter 2025
Independent study mentor, Tom Truong (BS in Geography), Viet 499. Senior thesis topic: Natural Resources and Diverse Topography: Attractions for Foreign Intervention in Vietnam (Spring 2020).

PUBLIC SERVICE

Vice president, Greater Seattle Vietnam Association, Seattle-Hai Phong Sister City program, Seattle City Council, Washington State, Dec. 2017-Dec. 2023

Host Committee for the Vietnamese delegations, Asian Pacific Economic Forum, Senior Officials Meeting (APEC-SOM3), Seattle, July 19-Aug 21, 2023

Annotator and advisor, Burke Museum's Vietnamese cultural exhibition catalogues and captions for display collections, August 2017

Translator of Vietnamese in various assignments in the State of Washington (legal, military, educational, and electoral)

COURSES TAUGHT

- Viet 101, 102, 103: Non-heritage Elementary Vietnamese
- Viet 111, 112, 113: Elementary Vietnamese (mixed classes)
- Viet 121, 122, 123: Heritage Elementary Vietnamese
- Viet 211, 212, 213: Intermediate Vietnamese
- Viet 214: Accelerated Reading and Writing in Vietnamese for Heritage Learners
- Viet 311, 312, 313: Advanced Vietnamese
- Viet 499: Independent research and upper advanced reading for Vietnamese studies
- Viet 249: Urban Vietnam: Work and Culture (content course)
- Viet 361: Postwar Vietnam in Literature, Media, and Film (content course)
- Viet 486: 20th Century Vietnamese Literature (content course)
- Viet 496: Vietnamese for Medical Communication (special topic in Vietnamese)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Global Innovation Fund Award, University of Washington, "Professional Lives, Personal Voices", 2026-2027; Sabbatical leave: Spring 2026. Curriculum development project: Vietnamese for Professionals

Grantee fellow, Simpson Center for the Humanities, Winter 2025, workshop organizer "50th Anniversary of End of the Vietnam War - Postwar Vietnam and Cambodia," March 2025.

Grantee fellow, Henry Luce Foundation, Southeast Asian Languages Council, University of Wisconsin, Sept 2015 - June 2023.

Book grant, lightning talk panel "Literature Across Time and Space", Global Literatures and Global Literacies symposium, Simpson Center, University of Washington, Spring 2021

Grantee fellow, Technology Teaching Fellows Institute, Teaching online, Hybrid and Hy Flex technology (Spring 2020; Spring 2021)

Winner, Biographical Research Prize, "Reconstructing Memory: My Lai Peace Park Project," Center for Biographical Research, University of Hawaii, May 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Short story (in Vietnamese): *Lối rẽ* [Turning corners], *Báo Thanh Niên*, The Youth Literature Magazine, Sunday issue, March 15, 2026, pp. 10-11, No. 74. Access online:

<https://thanhnien.vn/loi-re-truyen-ngan-cua-bich-ngoc-turner-185260314184005242.htm>

Short story (in Vietnamese): *Thân Gái Dặm Trường* [Woman on the long road], *Tạp chí Đường Văn*, Vietnamese Literary Journey Magazine, May 2025. Access online:

<https://duongvan.com/than-gai-dam-truong/>

Short story (in Vietnamese): *Text messages at midnight* [Tin nhắn lúc nửa đêm], *Tạp chí Nhà Văn và Cuộc Sống*, Vietnamese Writers' Association's journal Authors and Life, October 2024.

<https://nhavanvacuocsong.net/tin-nhan-luc-nua-dem/>

Short story (in Vietnamese): *The Lost Passport* [Cuốn hộ chiếu bị thất lạc], *Tạp chí Nhà Văn và Cuộc Sống*, Vietnamese Writers' Association's journal Authors and Life, June 2024

<https://nhavanvacuocsong.net/truyen-ngan-bich-ngoc-turner/>

Article, "Voices from the Margins: Vietnamese Literature in Post-Communist Eastern Europe," *Weber: The Contemporary West*, Weber State University, Spring/Summer 2025 issue, vol. 41, No. 2, pp. 108-118 [4,207 words]

Short story (in Vietnamese): *Tết ở xứ tuyết* [Lunar New Year in the Snow Land] *Tạp chí Nhà Văn và Cuộc Sống - Journal of Vietnamese Writers and Life*, (online, in Vietnamese, Jan. 21, 2024). [2,672 words] <https://nhavanvacuocsong.net/tet-o-xu-tuyet/> (last accessed May 21, 2024)

Short story (in Vietnamese): *Những cơn sóng ở Hawaii* [Waves of Hawaii]. *Văn Nghệ - Journal of Arts and Literature*, pp. 9-10, April 2, 2023 [2,105 words]

Vietnamese Oral Proficiency Guidelines, Southeast Asian Language Council, University of Wisconsin at Madison, December 2021. Accessible online: <https://sealc.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1262/2021/04/Vietnamese-OPG-2020-2021-Final.pdf> (last accessed June 5, 2024).

Film review "*The Artist*," [Người Nghệ Sĩ], *Văn Nghệ - Journal of Arts and Literature*, vol. 15, p. 19 (in Vietnamese, April 14, 2012) [1,843 words]

Op-ed, "Một cách nhìn khác về tinh thần dân tộc" (Another perspective to perceive nationalism), *BBC Vietnamese*, April 17, 2010; accessible online:

https://www.bbc.com/vietnamese/forum/2010/04/100417_do_ngoc_bich (last accessed: June 5, 2024). [1,434 words]

Op-ed, "Hà Nội, nơi ấy, xa lắm rồi" (Hanoi, such distant place and time), *Nhịp Cầu Thế Giới - Bridge of World Cultures*, Budapest, Hungary, Sept 25, 2010; accessible online:

<http://nhipcauthegioi.hu/Nguoi-Viet-muon-phuong/HA-NOI-NOI-AY-XA-LAM-ROI-2548.html> (last accessed: May 21, 2024). [1,880 words]

Op-ed, “Du học: Xác định và chấp nhận gian nan để thành công” (Study abroad: Define and accept hardship for success,” *Nhịp Cầu Thế Giới - Bridge of World Cultures*, Budapest, Hungary, Aug. 10, 2010; accessible online: <http://nhipcauthegioi.hu/Nguoi-Viet-muon-phuong/DU-HOC-XAC-DINH-VA-CHAP-NHAN-GIAN-NAN-DE-THANH-CONG-2487.html> (last accessed: May 21, 2024). [1,475 words]

Op-ed, “Tây có thực sự giỏi hơn ta? Lò ấp bằng của Mỹ ở Việt Nam” (Is a Western credential truly valuable? US diploma mills in Vietnam). *Nhịp Cầu Thế Giới - Bridge of World Cultures*, Budapest, Hungary, June. 24, 2010; accessible online: <http://nhipcauthegioi.hu/goc-nhin/TAY-CO-THUC-SU-GIOI-HON-TA-2421.html> (last accessed: May 21, 2024). [1,135 words]

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- Organizer, Language training workshop, “Language for Specific Purposes: Need Analysis, Curriculum Design, and Pedagogy,” **October 2025**
- Organizer, “Postwar Vietnam and Cambodia: Society, Culture, and Diaspora Communities in Seattle”, one day workshop that features Vietnamese and Cambodian scholars, community leaders, artists, writers and book translators to commemorate the 50th anniversary of end of the Vietnam War 1975-2025. **March 6, 2025**
- Organizer, “Southeast Asian Literature & Diasporas: Gender, Ethnicity, & Body Politics” with three autobiographical authors Putsata Reang, Susan Lieu, and Ayu Saraswati, Department of Asian Languages and Literature & Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Its Diasporas, **April 8, 2024**
- Organizer, “Vietnamese Language Instruction in the US: Pedagogy, Curriculum, and Approaches to Cultural Diversity,” Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America, Department of Asian Languages and Literature & Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Its Diasporas, **May 16, 2019**

GUEST LECTURES, INVITED TALKS, AND PAPERS

Presenter, “Preparation as a Graded Assignment: Student-Generated Content and Active Learning,” 41st annual conference of the Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, University of Wisconsin at Madison, July 2025 (virtual)

Presenter, “Know Your Students - Inclusive Teaching Strategies,” 40th annual conference of the Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, University of Michigan, April 2024

Invited speaker, “Using AI as teacher’s assisting tool to create content-based curriculum and language courses for professionals,” Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, Jan. 26, 2024 (virtual).

Presenter, “The Vietnamese novellas: From “Tố Tâm” (1925) to “Thiên Sứ” (1988) – Narratives of Individual and Intellectual Tragedies,” Association of Asian Studies, March 16, 2024

Presenter, "Writing from the Shadow: Vietnamese Literature in post-Communist Eastern Europe," American Comparative Literature Association, Chicago, March 2023

Presenter, "The Process of Proficiency Assessment & Test Development for Vietnamese language," Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, July 22, 2022 (virtual).

Guest lecturer, "Impacts of Social and Historical events on 20th Century Vietnamese Literature," Asian Literary Society - The Vietnam Forum, September 9, 2021 (virtual).

Presenter, "20th Century Vietnamese Literature," Spring Colloquium, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, May 28, 2021

Speaker, Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington, "Old Text, New Text: 20th Century Vietnamese Literature," Global Literary Studies Program, April 30, 2021

Presenter, "Vietnamese Proficiency Guideline Project: Report on Collaboration and Proficiency Standardization," University of Wisconsin at Madison, December 19, 2020 (virtual)

Presenter, "Gendered politics in James Webb's Novel 'Lost Soldiers': Reinterpreting the Vietnam War," Vietnam Legacies Symposium, University of Dayton, Ohio, October 2020

Panelist, COTSEAL-sponsored round table panel, "Trimming the Hegemony: Linguistic Imperialism and Ethnic Diversity in the Language Classroom," AAS, Denver, March 2019

Presenter, "Content-based instruction in Vietnamese: From theory to practice," Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, Cornell University, Sept. 2017

Guest lecturer, "Vietnamese Overseas Investment in the Homeland: A Comparative Case Study of Eastern European and North American Vietnamese Businesses in Vietnam," Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw, Poland, Sept. 2016

Invited speaker, "Higher Education in the US and Educational Opportunities at the University of Washington, Vietnamese-Polish Community Center, Warsaw, Poland, Sept. 2016

Invited speaker, "Normalizing Vietnam and America: Peaceful Cooperation, Ambivalent Memories," Engaging with Vietnam: Vietnamese Studies Conference, Hanoi, July 2015

Presenter, "Diversity, Personalities, and Learning Styles in a Vietnamese Language Classroom," University of California at Los Angeles, Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America, UCLA, May 2015

Presenter, "The Road to Thang Long or the route to Chinese re-colonization? Debates and Implications about Vietnam's Contemporary Domestic Politics," Yale Vietnamese Studies Group, Yale University, Nov. 2010

Presenter, "Strengthening Internationalism in An International Studies Program: Cultural and Language Immersion in the ASEAN," Faculty of International Studies, Hanoi University, March 2008

Guest lecturer, School of International Training-SIT, "History and Development of Hanoi," Hanoi University, March 2007, March 2008, Oct. 2008

Guest lecturer, Center for Educational Travel-CET Academic Programs, "Overview of Vietnam's Education System: Divisions and Management," Hanoi, July 2007, Aug 2008

Guest lecturer, "Modern Vietnam: Building Socialism, Wars, Present and Outlook, 1945-2005," Hanoi University, July 2008

Guest lecturer, Council on International Educational Exchanges (CIEE), "Gender and Economic Development in Vietnam, 1945-2005," Hanoi, Dec. 2008

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

- SEALC symposium, “Innovation in Teaching LCTL in time of AI and High Flexibility”, July 11-12, 2025 (virtual)
- SEALC symposium, “Implementing Action Research in Southeast Asian Language Education: A Practical Guide for Teachers”, February 1st, 2025 (virtual)
- Partnership in an Unequal World: Building Partnerships Workshop, Office of Global Affairs, University of Washington, April 26, 2024 (virtual)
- Partnership in an Unequal World: Globally Engaged Pedagogy, Office of Global Affairs, University of Washington, April 9, 2024 (virtual)
- 2024 Winter UW/UO Language Educator Summit, “A.I.: Large Language Models, and University Language Courses,” Language Learning Center, UW, March 15, 2024
- Exploring the Connection between Language Instruction and Area Studies, COTSEAL-sponsored panel at the AAS, March 15, 2024
- Introduction to Open Pedagogy, Center for Teaching and Learning, UW, March 4, 2024
- Asian Law Scholars Conference, “Contemporary and Historical Topics in Vietnamese Legal System,” Asian Law Center, University of Washington, Sept 14-15, 2023
- Adopting a ‘Restorative’ Approach to Teaching” (Reflection and Practice Series), Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Washington, Nov. 16, 2023 (virtual)
- Making AI Work for Teachers and Students,” Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, UCLA, Oct. 27, 2023 (webinar)
- Fostering proficiency development in online and hybrid language courses,” Department of Asian Languages and Literature, June 2022 (virtual)
- Reading Proficiency Assessment Symposium, Southeast Asian Language Council, University of Wisconsin at Madison, March 2022; June 2022 (virtual)
- Technology Teaching Fellows Institute training, UW, Online Teaching 101, Spring 2020
- Design Hybrid/HyFlex instructional courses, University of Washington, Spring 2021
- Achieving Coherence in Content-Based Instruction with a 6 Ts Framework, Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, UCLA, July 2020 (virtual)
- Empowering Southeast Asian Language Teachers: Collaborated Technology Innovations, Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, UW Seattle, May 2019
- Teaching Southeast Asian Languages: New Directions, Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages, Cornell University, Sept. 2017
- Oral Proficiency Test and Proficiency Guidelines training, American Council for Teachers of Foreign Languages, University of Washington, June 2017 (fully certified in July 2018)
- Teaching Heritage Learners in Mixed Language Classes, Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages workshop, University of Wisconsin at Madison, June 2016
- Content-Based Instruction and Assessment Techniques, Council for Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages workshop, University of California at Berkeley, Sept. 2015
- Second Language Acquisition and Job-related language teaching, Foreign Service Institute, US Department of State Training Center, Virginia, Feb. 2014
- Practical Use of Technology in Vietnamese Teaching and Learning, Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America, Yale University, Aug. 2011

