In this talk Wilcox will discuss her recent book, *Revolutionary Bodies: Chinese Dance and the Socialist Legacy*. The book examines previously unexamined dance films, a wide range of Chinese-language published and archival materials, and ethnographic field research to analyze the work of major Chinese choreographers from 1935 to 2015. With a focus on transnational connections in this history, Wilcox challenges the previously held view that Soviet ballet was the primary force shaping China’s socialist dance creation, instead showing the impact of a broader range of intercultural connections. Wilcox also shows the important role that ethnic minority and diaspora artists played in twentieth-century Chinese dance history and demonstrates continuities and changes from the early socialist period to new choreography that has emerged in the past two decades. A central argument of the book is that transnational socialist dance experiments laid the basis for the art form today known around the world as “Chinese Dance.”

Emily Wilcox is Associate Professor of Chinese Studies in the Dept. Modern Languages and Literatures at William & Mary. She is a leading scholar of Chinese dance and performance, with broader interests in twentieth-century global history, transnationalism, and social movements. Wilcox’s first book, *Revolutionary Bodies: Chinese Dance and the Socialist Legacy* (University of California Press, 2018) won the 2019 de la Torre Bueno Prize© from the Dance Studies Association. Wilcox is co-editor with Katherine Mezur of *Corporeal Politics: Dancing East Asia* (University of Michigan Press, 2020) and co-creator with Liangyu Fu of the University of Michigan Asia Library Chinese Dance Collection. Wilcox has published more than twenty journal articles and book chapters, in English and Chinese. Wilcox taught at the University of Michigan from 2013 to 2020, where she served most recently as Associate Professor, Associate Chair, and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.