Abstract Over the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the Qing Empire used cartography to assert its control over domestic and familiar people and territory. Yet this mapping project extended far beyond the continental dominion of the Qing. The coastline and domestic sea space of the empire was also carefully delineated, depicted, and described in a series of maps of the maritime frontier (haijiangtu). This seminar examines the Shandong, Zhili, Shengjing haijiangtu, one of the maps produced around the 1650s. Although we are accustomed to thinking that the Qing (the early Qing in particular) was indifferent to the maritime frontier, this haijiangtu demonstrates that maritime mapping was not the exclusive purview of the West in the early modern period. It also indicates that the Qing leadership paid increasing attention to maritime control and coastal administration. Perhaps even more notable is that the sea space attached to Northeast China (the maritime Northeast) is the focal point of this map. Although academic attention over the past several decades has concentrated almost exclusively on the southeastern coast of China, the Qing court considered the northeastern coast from the Bohai Sea to Shanghai to be the strategic gateway to the

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imperial belt surrounding the capital. This *haijiangtu* was thus an imperial tool that enabled the Qing to solidify its supremacy over its domestic sea space using the Bohai Sea as the fulcrum of maritime governance. If we agree that Qing imperial power was cartographically projected through a variety of land-based mapping projects, this seminar argues that maritime maps such as the *Shandong, Zhili, Shengjing haijiangtu* also contributed to the consolidation of this imperial enterprise from the early Qing.

**Speaker**  Dr Ronald C. Po is Assistant Professor of Chinese History at the London School or Economics and Political Science. His current research focuses on Chinese frontiers, Chinese marine cartography, and the history of port cities in Northeast Asia. He has published refereed articles in *Late Imperial China*, the *American Journal of Chinese Studies*, the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, *Chinese Culture Quarterly (Jiuzhou xuelin)*, and *Chinese Studies (Hanxue yanjiu)*. Before joining the LSE, he was Postdoctoral Fellow at McGill University (2013-16) and Visiting Lecturer at the University of Chicago (2013). He was also previously an Erasmus Scholar at Cambridge (2011-12) and a Baden-Württemberg Fellow at Kyoto University (2012).