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Ideographia is delimited historically by two scenes of European-Chinese encounter: the first Jesuit mission to China in 1563, and the last British trade mission to China in 1816. Prior to 1583—Marco Polo notwithstanding—there was relative silence; afterward came the Opium War, marking not only the insertion of China into more familiar narratives of imperialist coercion and conquest but the end of any relatively "pure" scene of a Chinese statist or diplomatic discourse uninflected by its ...

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Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe For Porter, the European fascination with the Chinese writing system serves as a paradigm for the entire cultural encounter. Thus the i–rst chapter, & Linguistic Legitimacy and the Interpretation of Chinese Writing,& explores the place of Chinese in the universal-language schemes of Bacon, Thomas Sprat, David Wilkins, Leibniz, and others.

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Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe 1st Edition by David Porter (Author)

**Ideographia : the Chinese cipher in early modern Europe ...**  
Ideographia. The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe. By David Porter. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2001. xiv + 296pp. \$49.50.

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Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe. From the first successful Jesuit mission in 1583 until the disastrous failure of the British trade embassy in 1816, China's cultural practices transfixed the attention of Western philosophers, theologians, architects, artists, entrepreneurs, and social critics.

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David Porter received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Stanford University in 1996 and has been teaching at the University of Michigan since that time. He is the author of Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe (2001) and The Chinese Taste in Eighteenth-Century England (2010).

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Ideographia is composed of four sections which treat in more-or-less chronological order the vagaries of European attitudes toward China. In the seventeenth century, the influential work of Matteo Ricci, the head of the first long term Jesuit mission in China, produced a doctrine of accom modationism that sought to minimize differences between Catholicism and Confucianism.

**Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe ...**  
From the first successful Jesuit mission to China in 1583, China's cultural practices transfixed the attention of Western philosophers, theologians, architects, artists, entrepreneurs, and social This book traces recurrent patterns in the European imaginative constructions of China through four illuminating spheres of encounter: linguistic, theological, aesthetic, and economic.

**David Porter | U-M LSA International Institute**  
Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe Hardcover – 1 Jul 2002 by David Porter (Author)

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The direct influences on European culture were many and profound, ranging from Chinese teahouses in European palace gardens to adaptations of Chinese plays for the popular stage, from calls for the restructuring of the civil service on the model of Chinese meritocracy to the espousal of Confucian precepts in the moral education of children.

**Ideographia: The Chinese Cipher in Early Modern Europe ...**  
From the first successful Jesuit mission in 1583 until the disastrous failure of the British trade embassy in 1816, China&rsquo;s cultural practices transfixed the attention of Western philosophers, theologians, architects, artists, entrepreneurs, and social critics. The direct influences on...

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