David J. Mozina studies living Daoist and Buddhist ritual traditions in rural Hunan province, and their roots in the liturgical vibrancy of the Song, Yuan, and early Ming periods (10th–15th centuries), and in the religious traditions of the late imperial period (16th–19th centuries). Within the comparative study of religion, he is interested in phenomenological and semiotic approaches to ritual; in the relationship between ritual and material culture (i.e., talismans, liturgical implements, religious art); and in different ways of combining ethnographic and historical research.