

World Cultures: China
Fall 07

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Meeting Time (Lecture): 4:55-6:10pm, Mon & Wed
Location: Cantor Film Center, Theater 200

This MAP course is an introduction to the main issues and foundational texts of imperial and modern China. Selected readings include excerpts from early Chinese classics such as Classic of Odes and the Analects to the vernacular novels of late imperial China. The classical canon is then coupled with the central texts from modern China, from the initial reflections of the mandarin scholars on a rapidly changing world, to the writings on revolution, the modern state, and the new culture of the enlightened individual by the leading Chinese intellectuals in the 20th century. Rather than a display of cultural and literary edifices, the course has as its intellectual and critical interest the rethinking of Chinese traditions, both imperial and modern, in terms of continuity as well as discontinuity.

The course consists of weekly lectures by the professor and recitations led by graduate teaching assistants/discussion. Final grade is based on attendance (20%), participation in group discussion (20%), 3 short response papers (3-4, 40%), and a final Q & A-style examination (20%).

All readings are uploaded onto the Blackboard site for this course. They are included in a coursepak for student to purchase. Limited amount of additional materials may be added at instructors see fit.

Part I. Foundations of Chinese Civilization: Early Classics

Sep 5 Introduction

Sep 10 & 12 Classic of Odes; Zhuo Zhuan; and Analects

Sep 17 & 19 Lao Zi and Zhuang Zi

Sep 24 & 26 Meng Zi and Sun Zi

Oct 1 & 3 The Imperial Order and Sima Qian's "Records of the Grand Historian"

First paper due on Oct 9

(Readings include: The Classic of Odes, SOCT 1, 37-40; CATCL, 149-69;
 From Zuo Zhuan, "Two Brothers of Cheng and the Mother Who Doted on the Younger,"
 CATCL, 514-17
 Confucius' Analects, SOCT 1, 41-63
 Lao Zi (from the Daodejing), and Zhuang Zi, "Free and Easy Wandering," "The Sorting
 Which Evens Things Out," "The Secret of Caring for Life," "In the World of Men," "The
 Sign of Virtue Complete," "The Great and Venerable Teacher," and "Fit for Emperors
 and Kings," SOCT 1, 77-111;
 Zhuang Zi, "The Way of Heaven," "The World of Thought," SOCT 1, 263-68
 Meng Zi and Zhuang Zi, "Bull Mountain," "Fish and Bear's Paws," "Autumn
 Floods" CATCL, 43-57;
 Meng Zi, SOCT 1, 114-58;
 Sun Zi, SOCT 1, 213-23
 From the Classic of Change, Classics of Filiality, and The Records of Rites, SOCT 1,
 318-44
 Qu Yuan, "Heavenly Questions," CATCL, 371-68
 Sima Qian, "The Biography of Ching K'o," CATCL, 671-98; Memorials on Li Si (on
 annexation of feudal states; the burning of books, and exercising heavy censure), SOCT 1,
 213-223)

Part II. The Golden Age of Imperial China: Literary Achievements
 (Weeks 5-7)

Oct 8 & 10 Ancient Folksongs & Ballads; Tang Poetry
 Oct 15 & 17 Tang Poetry, Tang & Song lyrics;
 Oct 22 & 24 The Classical Essay and the Ming-Qing fiction
 Oct 29 & 31 The Ming-Qing fiction

Second paper due on Nov 6 (mid-term grade is based on 1st and 2nd papers)

(Readings include: Songs from Han to Tang, CATCL, 443-88
 Poems by T'ao Ch'ien, CATCL, 177-83;
 Poems by Meng Hao-jan, Wang Ch'ang-ling, Wang Wei, and Li Po, CATCL 194-222
 Lyrics by Li Yu, Liu Yung, Ou-yang Hsiu, and Su Shih, CATCL, 309-26
 Rhapsodies by Su Shih, CATCL, 438-42
 Lyrics by Hsin Ch'i-chi, CATCL, 342-46;
 Classical Chinese essays by T'ao Ch'ien, Han Yu, and Ou-yang Hsiu, CATCL, 578-91-
 The Ming-Qing fiction
 P'u Song-ling, from Strange Tales from Make-Do Studio, CATCL, 786-804
 Excerpts from Romance of the Three Kingdoms (Anonymous), CATCL, 947-66;
 Excerpts from The Journey to the West, by Wu Ch'eng-en, CATCL, 966-80;
 Excerpts from Gold Vase Plum, Anonymous, CATCL 981-97;
 Excerpts from Water Margin, Anonymous, CATCL 997-1007;
 Excerpts from The Scholars, by Wu Ching-tsu, CATCL, 1007-1019;
 Excerpts from Dream of Red Towers, CATCL, by Ts'ao Hsueh-ch'in, 1020-1035

Excerpts from The Romance of the Flowers in the Mirror, by Li Ju-chén, 1035-1071)

Part III Modern China

Nov 5 & 7 Western Intrusion and Early Chinese Responses: Gong Zizhen, Lin Zexu, and Wei Yuan; Late Qing reforms (Kang Youwei, Yan Fu, and Liang Qichao)

Nov 12 & 14 Toward the Revolution: Zhang Binglin, Sun Yat-sen, and the New Culture Movement

Nov 19-21 Lu Xun

Nov 26-28 Lu Xun & Shen Congwen

Dec 3-5 Mao Zedong, Mao's China and After

Third and last paper due on Dec 11; final exam on Dec 17, 6pm-7:50pm

(Gong Zizhen, "On the Lack of Moral Fiber among Scholar-Officials," "Institutional Paralysis and the Need for Reform," "The Scholar-Teacher and Service to a Dynasty," "Respect for the Guest," SOCT 2, 179-84;

Lin Zexu, "Letter to the English Ruler," "Letter to Wu Zixu on the Need for Western Guns and Ships,"

and Wei Yuan, "Preface to Military History of the Qing Dynasty," "Preface to Illustrated Gazetteer of the Maritime Countries," SOCT 2, 198-212;

Yan Fu, "On Strength;"

and Kang Youwei, "Confucius as a Reformer," "Three Three Ages," "The Need for Reforming Institutions," and "The Grand Commonality," SOCT 2, 250-271

Liang Qichao, "Renewing the People," "The Meaning of Renewing the People," "On Public Morality," "On Progress," "The Consciousness of Rights," "The Concept of the Nation," "Inaugural Statement for the Eastern Times," SOCT 2, 287-302; "On the Relationship between Fiction and the Government of the People," MCLT, 74-81;

Zhang Binglin, "Letter Opposing Kang Youwei's Views on Revolution," SOCT 2, 308-13; Sun Yat-sen, "The Three People's Principles," "Three Stages of Revolution," SOCT 2, 320-30;"

The New Culture Movement

Chen Duxiu, "The Way of Confucius and Modern Life," "On Literary Revolution," "The True Meaning of Life;" Hu Shi, "A Preliminary Discussion of Literary Reform,"

"Constructive Literary Revolution—A Literature of National Speech," "Pragmatism,"

"The Fundamental Concepts of Dewey's Philosophy," "Science and Philosophy of Life,"

"Our Attitude toward Modern Western Civilization," "Criticism of the 'Declaration for Cultural Construction on a Chinese Basis;'" ; "Gu Jiegang, "Preface to Debating on Ancient History;" Zhang Junmai, "The Philosophy of Life;" Ding Wenjiang,

"Metaphysics and Science;" Wu Zhihui, "A New Concept of the Universe and Life based on a New Belief;" Liang Qichao, "Travel Impressions from Europe;" Liang Shuming,

"Chinese Civilization vis-à-vis Eastern and Western Philosophies;" Sa Mengwu et. al,
 "Declaration for Cultural Construction on a Chinese Basis;" SOCT 2, 351-94;
 Zhou Zuoren, "Humane Literature," MCLT, 151-61.
 Lu Xun (fiction), "Preface to Cheering from the Sidelines," "Diary of a Madman," "Kong
 Yiji," "Medicine," "Hometown," "New Year's Sacrifice," "Upstairs in a Wineshop,"
 "The Loner," "Morning the Dead;" DOM, 21-58; 89-100; 219-54; 311-62;
 Lu Xun (prose), "From Hundred Plant Garden to Three Flavor Study," "Father's
 Illness," "Mr. Fujino," "The Hanging Woman;" SWLH 1, 387-409; 432-40; "The
 Collapse of Leifeng Pagoda," "On Deferring Fair Play," "In Memory of Miss Liu Ho-
 Chen," "Silent China," SWLH 2, 82-84; 208-18257-62; 319-33; "In Memory of the
 Forgotten," "Shanghai Girls," SWLH 3, 202-13; 297-98; "Peking Types and Shanghai
 Types," "In Memory of Wei Suyuan," "Have the Chinese Lost Their Self-Confidence?"
 SWLH 4, 17-19, 65-70, 127-28;
 Shen Congwen, "The Husband," "San San," "Guisheng," "The Vegetable Garden,"
 "Eight Steeds," IP, 29-53, 222-56, 266-319; 346-380
 Li Dazhao, "The Victory of Bolshevism," SOCT 2, 404-406;
 Mao Zedong, "Report on an Investigation of the Hunan Peasant Movement," "The
 Question of Land Redistribution," "The Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist
 Party," "The Mass Line," "On New Democracy," "The Dictatorship of People's
 Democracy;" "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People;"
 "Quotations from Chairman Mao," SOCT 2, 406-425; 459-64; 475-76)

Film Screening(s):

Crows and Sparrows

White Haired Girl("Revolutionary Model Drama")

Yellow Earth

The Story of Qiu Ju

Notes:

SOCT=Sources of Chinese Tradition, volumes 1 & 2, comiled by Wm. Theodore de Bary
 Richard Lufrano, New York, Columbia University Press, 1999
 CATCL=The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature, ed. by Victor Mair,
 New York, Columbia University Press, 1994
 MCLT=Modern Chinese Literary Thought, ed. by Kirk Denton, Stanford, CA: Stanford
 University Press, 1996
 DOM=Diary of A Madman and Other Stories, tran. By William Lyell, Honolulu, HI:
 University of Hawaii Press, 1990
 SWLH=Selected Works of Lu Xun, trans. by Gladys Yang, Beijing: Foreign Languages
 Press, 1964, volumes 1-4
 IP=Imperfect Paradise, by Shen Congwen, trans. by Jeffrey Kinkley et. al, Honolulu, HI:
 University of Hawaii Press,1995