

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: Concepts in Chinese Culture

Course Number and Section

CHINESE

2652F - 550

Instructor Name(s): Sean Macdonald

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course is taught in English and requires no previous knowledge of Chinese culture. This course looks at approaches and questions linked to the humanities, arts, and the social and natural sciences. Readings consist of a diversity of material from some of the fields that make up Chinese Studies. This course introduces Chinese culture through discussions of Sinology, philosophy, religion, science, gender, food, politics, literature, and mass media. Sinology was the first European academic field to study Chinese language and culture. Confucianism and Legalism are important to understanding modern and postmodern Chinese culture. Contemporary Chinese studies is a broad collection of fields and disciplines with their own trajectories, trajectories that affect the way we discuss China today. This course attempts to discover some of the narratives around Chinese studies as an academic discipline.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand that Chinese studies is a multi-faceted discipline with a distinct history in Canada
2. Think critically and analytically using multiple discourses surrounding Chinese Culture
3. Analyze disciplinary content to identify contexts, learn fresh perspectives, and debate and discuss problems in the field.
4. Understand and apply the methods of close reading, note taking, analysis, and synthesis.
5. Develop essential research and study skills.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Chronological Bibliography

Williams, Raymond; "Culture"; "Civilization" Keywords: A vocabulary of culture and society. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2015, 49-54; 23-26.

Lee, Gregory B. China Imagined: From European Fantasy to Spectacular Power, 2018, 13-32.

Herbert Franke, "In Search of China." Europe Studies China. London, Han Shan Books, 1995, 11-25.

Chua Beng Huat, Ken Dean, Ho Eng seng, Ho Kong Chong, Jonathan Rigg & Brenda Yeoh Area Studies and the crisis of legitimacy: a view from South East Asia, South East Asia Research, 27: 1 (2019): 31-48.

Lee, Gregory B. "Addicted Demented and Taken to the Cleaners: the White Invention and Representation of the 'Chinaman,'" in *China's Unlimited: Making the Imaginaries of China and Chineseness*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2003, 24-54.

Dean, Kenneth, and Brian Massumi, *First and Last Emperors: the Absolute State and the Body of the Despot*. N.Y.: Autonomedia, 1992, 11-45.

Jullien, François. "'To Kill the Horse to Reach The Horseman' China's Rhetoric of Obliquity Javnost - The Public, Volume 12, 2005 - Issue 4: 27-38 (published Online: 07 Nov 2014). DOI: 10.1080/13183222.2005.11008899

King, Ambrose Yeo-chi, "Kuan-hsi and Network Building: A Sociological Interpretation." *Daedalus* 120. 2 (Spring 1991), pp. 63-84.

Xueguang Zhou, "Chinese Bureaucracy Through Three Lenses: Weberian, Confucian, and Marchian." *Management and Organization Review* 17.4 (October 2021): 655–682.

Ebrey, Patricia, "Women, Marriage, and the Family in Chinese History." *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization*. Ed. Paul S. Ropp. Berkeley : University of California Press, 1990, 197-223.

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Yan Fusun, "The Bridal Palanquin." Trans. Timothy C. Wong. *Stories for Saturday: Twentieth-Century Chinese Popular Fiction*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2003, 49-60.

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Susan Brownell, *Training the Body for China: Sports in the Moral Order of the People's Republic*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995, 34-64; 197-223.
Hubbert, Jennifer, "Of Menace and Mimicry: The 2008 Beijing Olympics," *Modern China*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (July 2013): 408–437.

Robert F. Company, "Ghost Matter: The Culture of Ghosts in the Six Dynasties Zhiguai," *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews (CLEAR)*. Vol. 13 (Dec. 1991): 15-34.

Yeh, Yueh-yu and Darrell William Davis, "Japan Hongscreen: Pan-Asian cinemas and flexible accumulation," in *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, Vol. 22, No. 1, 2002: 61-82.

Lu Xun, "The Wise man, the Fool, and the Slave" in *Wild Grass*, trans. Yang Hsien-I and Gladys Yang, Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1985: 69-71.

Takeuchi Yoshimi, *What is modernity? : Writings of Takeuchi Yoshimi*, trans. Richard Calichman. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

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Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation (including leading discussion of readings and note assignments)	Throughout the semester	30%
Response	Sept. 26	10%
Response	Oct. 24	10%
Response	Nov. 21	20%
Final open book	During exam period	30%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose

traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.