

CIEE Study Center in Shanghai, China

Course number: EAST 3005 CSHA

Course name: Special Topics in Chinese Studies II: Traditional Chinese Literature

Term: Spring 2007

Language of instruction: English

Course meeting times: Tuesday 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Course meeting place: Humanities Building, Room 216, East China Normal University

Huádōng Shīfàn Dàxué Wén-ke lóu 216 shì 华东师范大学 文科楼 216 室

Instructor: Dr. Li, Yanfeng

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Office hours: Monday 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Wednesday 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Contact Hours: Forty-five

Recommended Credit: Three

Course Description

This general survey course introduces students to traditional Chinese literature through a wide variety of works and important genres that developed from the Western Zhou dynasty to the mid-Qing dynasty (11th ct. B. C. E through mid-18th ct. C. E.). These include: the early myths; the *Book of Songs*; the *Poetry of Chu* by Qu Yuan; famous fables, parables and anecdotes from major philosophical schools (Confucian, Daoist, etc.) in the Pre-Qin era (pre-221 B.C. E.); poetry, folklore, and especially the fascinating “tales of the strange,” stories involving spirits, demons, ghosts, unusual occurrences in the Han through the Six Dynasties period (206 B. C. E.-581 C. E.); regulated poems (*shi*) and irregular poems (*ci*) of the Tang (618-907) and Song (960-1279) dynasties; Yuan (1260-1368) dramas; short stories and novels of the Ming through Mid-Qing periods (1368-mid-18th ct.).

Learning Objectives

This course helps students gain basic knowledge of traditional Chinese literature and culture. The course seeks to demonstrate that traditional Chinese literature is a living heritage, rather than merely a relic of the past. Classical poetry, for example, is vigorously alive in modern Chinese speech and writing, and classical novels and short stories are frequently adapted into television series and films today, which are popular with young children and adults alike. Therefore, bridging what was written in the past with what students see in contemporary China is another important goal of this course.

Course Requirements

Reading

A course reader and additional reading materials will be handed out to students. Students can expect to read approximately 50-100 pages per week.

Quizzes

There will be pop quizzes designed to test if students have read the assigned materials for the week and identified key information from the texts.

Writing assignments

There will be three 3-page (750-800 words) writing assignments and one 5-page (1,250 words) final research paper during the semester. All papers should be formatted with double line spacing and typed using a 12-point font and include proper footnotes and bibliography of works cited. The preferred citation style for footnotes and bibliography for all written assignments is the Chicago Documentary-Note Style (also called the Chicago Humanities Style). For more information about

this style, please consult Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996); or *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003). Both books will be on reserve in the CIEE Study Center library. If you need assistance please ask your course instructor, writing workshop instructor or the Resident Director.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to arrive prepared for each class, to have completed the readings assigned in advance, and to remain for the entire duration of each class. Since class preparation and active participation in class is very important to an effective learning community, this will represent 20% of the final grade. Students who miss more than one week of classes will receive a warning from the Resident Director, and students who miss more than two weeks of classes will receive a second written warning sent to the instructor of record and to the study abroad advisor at the student's home institution. Any student who due to unexcused absences misses more than **25%** of classes may receive a grade of **F** and lose credit for the course. Students who miss the first or second hour of class may request the instructor to sign a Tardy Arrival Form and be marked as present for the remaining class hour(s). Students who arrive after the first fifteen minutes of class five times in the semester may be counted as absent once.

Optional Area Studies Writing Workshop

Five extra points will be awarded to any essay or presentation that successfully completes the optional Area Studies Writing Workshop process, including required draft/s, peer-review process, and attendance at the ASWW's 6 meetings. Students who do not want to select this optional workshop may instead choose to satisfy the contact hours associated with their area studies courses by attending the required number of Professional Lecture Series seminars and either 1) the CIEE weekend field trip or 2) all their area studies courses site visits.

Methods of Instruction

This is a seminar style class which emphasis both informative lecture from the instructor and student active participation in discussion so as to Train students critical thinking ability. Multimedia aids will be used whenever possible, including showing film.

Assessment and Final Grade

Attendance and Participation	20%
Pop Quizzes	10%
Writing Assignment 1	15%
Writing Assignment 2	15%
Writing Assignment 3	15%
Final Research Paper	25%

Overdue work may be counted down 1% for every day after the original due date. All coursework must be submitted directly to the instructor of record, unless the student has received other explicit, documented instructions to the contrary. Students are required to keep hard copies of all assignments (every major paper or take home examination) for up to one year after the completion of the program in addition to any digital copies required by the instructor. Hard copies of all final papers or final take home exams are *required* by CIEE, since digital copies submitted by email are easily deleted or misdirected by spam filters. It is *your* responsibility to make sure the instructor has received all your required work. Failure to do so may result in zero credit for lost assignments.

Neither individual instructors nor the Resident Director have final authority to extend deadlines past the end of the semester, make special arrangements for students to submit late work, or otherwise modify CIEE academic policies. The CIEE Chief Academic Officer is the only person authorized to approve exceptions to these policies.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1	Introduction
Week 2 March 5-9	Early Mythology Early Myths; oracle scripts; introduction to the <i>Book of Songs</i>
Week 3 March 12-16	Pre-Qin Literature Introduction to literature of the Confucian, Daoist, and Legalist, and stories/fables in the Pre-Qin periods (the Spring-Fall and the Warring States) One selected Late Ming short story about this period
Week 4 March 19-23	Literature of the Han Dynasty Works of the Grand Historian Sima Qian and of other Han writers; One selected Ming short story about Han Writing Assignment 1 due (by email): 12 p.m., Saturday, March 24
Week 5 March 26-30	Literature of the Six-Dynasties Period Folklore, poetry, Stories of the Strange from the Six-dynasties Selected chapters from <i>Romance of the Three Kingdoms</i>
Week 6 April 2-6	Literature of the Tang Dynasty Selected regulated poems (<i>shi</i>); Selected “Legends of Tang” (short stories in classical Chinese); Selected Chapters from <i>Journey to the West</i> , set in Tang
Week 7 April 9-13	Group Field Trip
Week 8 April 16-20	Literature of the Song Dynasty Selected Song <i>ci</i> poems, selected chapters from the Qing Novel, <i>Water Margins (Shuihu zhuan)</i> about the Song Writing Assignment 2 due (by email): 12 p.m., Saturday, April 21
Week 9 April 23-27	Literature of the Yuan Dynasty Selected dramas from the Yuan; watch Kunqu opera performance of the Yuan drama, <i>The Peony Pavilion</i>
Week 10 April 30-May 4	National Holiday
Week 11 May 7-11	Literature of the Ming Dynasty Selected short stories of Feng Menglong and Ling Mengchu of the late Ming Writing Assignment 3 due (by email): 12 p.m., Saturday, May 12
Week 12 May 14-18	Literature of the Ming and Qing Introduction to the Four Master Novels of Ming and Qing; Selected chapters from <i>Scholar and Strange Stories of the Leisure Studio</i>
Week 13 May 21-25	Literature of the Qing Selected chapters from <i>Dream of the Red Mansion</i>
Week 14 May 28-June 1	Literature of the Qing Selected chapters from <i>Romance of the Three Kingdoms</i>
Week 15	Final exam week

June 4-8

Students meet individually with the instructor by appointment to discuss final draft of the research paper.

Final Research Paper due (by email): 12 p.m., Saturday, June 9