

# **EAS408H1S Modern Taiwanese Literature**

Course Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Lau

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Winter Term Fridays 11-1 pm

Synchronous Zoom Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/81945445265>

Office Hours: Thursdays 1-3 pm or by appointment

## **Purposes of the Seminar:**

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This seminar explores modern Taiwanese literature from the twentieth century until today, with a focus on selections from several novels and short stories. We will continuously contemplate the productivity in considering Taiwanese contexts and spaces.

Paired with critical readings, we touch upon a handful of issues related to Taiwanese experiences as represented in literature and book culture. These issues include self-positionality in various historical contexts, the politics of sound and script, the concept of diaspora and cross-strait relations, mapping and urban space, and book production and translation in the global market. All required readings are available in English translation and all class discussions are conducted in English only.

This seminar aims to strengthen critical thinking, writing skills, as well as provide research and presentation experience. Students are thus asked to write three short position papers in preparation for the final research paper. The final research paper will then be presented to the class for peer feedback.

## **Evaluation:**

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Attendance and Class Participation		15%
Position Paper 1 (2-3 pages)	<b>January 21</b>	10%
Position Paper 2 (2-3 pages)	<b>January 28</b>	10%
Position Paper 3 (2-3 pages)	<b>February 4</b>	10%
Term Paper Outline	<b>February 18</b>	10%
Term Paper (20 pages)	<b>March 18</b>	30%
Oral Presentations	<b>April 1 &amp; 8</b>	15%

## Assignment Policies

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### Academic Integrity

To take credit in any way for work that is not your own without acknowledging the source(s) is considered as plagiarism and cheating. You must attribute ideas whether in book or online format in all writing assignments. For more specific ways to avoid academic suspension and consequences due to plagiarism offenses, please consult:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

### Assignment Submission Policy

Students must submit assignments through Quercus and all assignment dates are in EST (Eastern Standard Time).

### Plagiarism Detection Tool

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

### Late Assignment Policy

For each day an assignment is late, 5% of the final grade is deducted for the assignment. The maximum possible penalty is 35% or one week after the due date, whereby work will no longer be accepted. Documentation may be required, if relevant.

## Quercus Information

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This course uses the University's learning management system, Quercus, to post information about the course. This includes posting readings and other materials required to complete class activities and course assignments, as well as sharing important announcements and updates. The site is dynamic and new information and resources will be posted regularly as we move through the term, so please make it a habit to log in to the site on a regular, even daily, basis. To access the course website, go to the U of T Quercus log-in page at <https://q.utoronto.ca>. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, you should see the link or "card" for EAS408 Modern Taiwanese Literature. Click on the link to open our course area, view the latest announcements and access your course resources. There are Quercus help guides for students that you can access by clicking on the "?" icon in the left side column.

### *SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT GRADES POSTED ONLINE:*

Please also note that any grades posted are for your information only, so you can view and track your progress through the course. No grades are considered official, including any posted in Quercus at any point in the term, until they have been formally approved and posted on ACORN at the end of the course. Please contact me as soon as possible if you think there is an error in any grade posted on Quercus.

## **Copyright Information**

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### **No Taping/Recording of Lectures Allowed**

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. Students wishing to record lecture or other course material in any way are required to ask the instructor's explicit permission, and may not do so unless permission is granted. This includes tape recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Quercus materials, etc. Such permission is only for that individual student's own study purposes and does not include permission to "publish" them in any way.

## **Student Support and Accommodation**

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### **Students with Disabilities or Accommodation Requirements:**

U of T is committed to accessibility. Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or Accessibility Services at 416-978 8060; [studentlife.utoronto.ca/as](http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/as).

### **Religious Accommodations**

As a student at the University of Toronto, you are part of a diverse community that welcomes and includes students and faculty from a wide range of cultural and religious traditions. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. Further to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity (such as an in-class assignment) due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

### **Mental Health and Well-being**

As a student, you may experience challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation, financial concerns, family worries and so forth. These factors may affect your academic performance and/or reduce your ability to

participate fully in daily activities. Everyone feels stressed now and then – it is a normal part of university life. There is no wrong time to reach out. There are resources for every situation and every level of stress. There are many helpful resources available through your College Registrar or through Student Life

(<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca> and <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/feeling-distressed>).

An important part of the University experience is learning how and when to ask for help.

Please take the time to inform yourself of available resources.

### **Schedule:**

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- The asterisk (\*) marks the topic of the position paper assigned.
- The caret (^) marks the three novels you are expected to purchase for this course – assignments and essays involve these texts.
- The texts in teal blue are available for download online through the UofT library; if unavailable online, the instructor will post onto Quercus's Modules.

### **January 14 – Introduction: Historical Overview and Course Expectations**

### **January 21 – The Scope of Taiwanese Literature: A General Question of Literary Genre\***

- Chang, Yvonne Sung-sheng. "Representing Taiwan: Shifting Geopolitical Frameworks" in *Writing Taiwan: A New Literary History*. David Der-wei Wang and Carlos Rojas, eds. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2007. 15-25.
- Chen, Fangming. "Postmodern or Postcolonial? An Inquiry into Postwar Taiwanese Literary History" in *Writing Taiwan: A New Literary History*. Eds. David Der-wei Wang and Carlos Rojas. Durham: Duke UP, 2007. 26-50.
- Tang, Xiaobing. "On the Concept of Taiwan Literature" in *Writing Taiwan: A New Literary History*. Eds. David Der-wei Wang and Carlos Rojas. Durham: Duke UP, 2007. 51-89.

### **January 28 – Passage from Colonial to Post-Colonial Writing: The Question of Identity Searching and the Issue of Script and Orthography: A Case Study on Wu Zhuoliu's *Orphan of Asia*\***

- Cheng, Ching-wen. *Three Legged Horse*. Pangyuan Chi, trans. New York: Columbia UP, 1999.
- Wu, Zhuoliu. *Orphan of Asia*. Ioannis Mentzas, trans. New York: Columbia UP, 2008.^
- Ching, Leo. "Into the Muddy Stream: Triple Consciousness and Colonial Historiography in *The Orphan of Asia*" in *Becoming "Japanese": Colonial Taiwan and the Politics of Identity Formation*. Berkeley: U of California P, 2001. 174-210.

- Wang, Xiaojue. “Wu Zhuoliu, Orphanization, and Colonial Modernity in Taiwan” in *Modernity with a Cold War Face: Reimagining the Nation in Chinese Literature across the 1949 Divide*. Cambridge: Harvard UAC, 2013. 155-201.

#### **February 4 – Nationalism and Nativism in a Settler Society: Aboriginal Peoples of Taiwan in Li Qiao’s *Wintry Night*\***

- Li, Qiao. *Wintry Night*. Trans. Taotao Liu and John Balcom. New York: Columbia UP, 2001.^
- Selections from Balcom, John and Yingtish Balcom, eds. *Indigenous Writers of Taiwan: An Anthology of Stories, Essays, and Poems*. Trans. John Balcom. New York: Columbia UP, 2005.
- Teng, Emma Jinhua. “The Raw and the Cooked: Classifying Taiwan’s Land and Natives” in *Taiwan’s Imagined Geography: Chinese Colonial Travel Writing and Pictures, 1683-1895*. Cambridge and London: Harvard U Asia Center: 2005. 122-148.
- ---. “A Hidden Jade in a Ball of Mud: Landscape and Colonial Rhetoric” in *Taiwan’s Imagined Geography: Chinese Colonial Travel Writing and Pictures, 1683-1895*. Cambridge and London: Harvard U Asia Center: 2005. 81-100.

#### **February 11 – Migrant Stories and Diasporic Imagination in Transnational Literary Writing**

- Lin, Fan. “Wounded Mother Tongue” in *Sailing to Formosa: A Poetic Companion to Taiwan*. Michelle Yeh, N. G. D. Malmqvist, and Xu Huizhi, eds. Seattle and London: U of Washington P, 2005. 68-71.
- Selections from Chi, Pang-yuan and David Der-wei Wang, eds. *The Last of the Whampoa Breed: Stories of the Chinese Diaspora*. New York: Columbia UP, 2003.
- Chi, Pang-yuan. “Taiwanese Literature 1945-1999” in Pang-yuan Chi and David Der-wei Wang, eds. *Chinese Literature in the Second Half of a Modern Century: A Critical Survey*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana UP, 2000. 14-30.
- Tsu, Jing. “The Missing Script of Taiwan” in *Sound and Script in Chinese Diaspora*. Cambridge and London: Harvard UP, 2011. 144-173.
- Yip, June. “Language and Nationhood: Culture as Social Contestation” in *Envisioning Taiwan: Fiction, Cinema, and the Nation in the Cultural Imaginary*. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2004. 131-180.

#### **February 18 – The Modernist Literary Movement\***

- Wang, Wen-hsing. “Flaw” in Joseph S.M. Lau and Howard Goldblatt, eds. *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Literature*. New York: Columbia UP, 2007. 235-245.

- Chu, Hsi-ning. "Molten Iron" in Joseph S.M. Lau and Howard Goldblatt, eds. *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Literature*. New York: Columbia UP, 2007. 201-214.
- Chang, Yvonne Sung-sheng. "The Rise of the Modernist Trend" in *Modernism and the Nativist Resistance: Contemporary Chinese Fiction from Taiwan*. Durham: Duke UP, 1993. 23-49.
- Ko, Ch'ing-ming. "Modernism and its Discontents: Taiwanese Literature in the 1960s" in Pang-yuan Chi and David Der-wei Wang, eds. *Chinese Literature in the Second Half of a Modern Century: A Critical Survey*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana UP, 2000.

## February 25 – Reading Week

### March 4 – Nativist Literature (*Xiangtu wenxue*) in Taiwan and its Debates

- Wang, Zhenhe. "An Oxcart for a Dowry" in Joseph S.M. Lau and Howard Goldblatt, eds. *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Literature*. New York: Columbia UP, 1995. 255-274.
- Huang, Chunming. "Using One's Two Feet to Study Geography" Trans. J. R. Barnard. The Chinese Pen. Taipei: Taipei Chinese, 1999. 32-40.
- Chang, Yvonne Sung-sheng. "The Nativist Resistance to Modernism" in *Modernism and the Nativist Resistance: Contemporary Chinese Fiction from Taiwan*. Durham: Duke UP, 1993. 148-176.
- Yip, June. "Confronting the Other, Defining a Self: Hsiang-t'u Literature and the Emergence of a Taiwanese Nationalism" in *Envisioning Taiwan: Fiction, Cinema, and the Nation in the Cultural Imaginary*. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2004. 12-48.

### March 11 – History and Wounded Memories: The Works of Chen Ying-chen and Liu Ta-jen

- Chen, Ying-chen. "Mountain Path" In *Death in a Cornfield and Other Stories from Contemporary Taiwan*. Ching-Hsi Perng and Chiu-Kuei Wang, eds. Hong Kong, Oxford, and New York: Oxford UP, 1994. 1-22.
- Liu, Ta-jen. "Azaleas Wept Blood" In *Death in a Cornfield and Other Stories from Contemporary Taiwan*. Ching-Hsi Perng and Chiu-Kuei Wang, eds. Hong Kong, Oxford, and New York: Oxford UP, 1994. 23-47
- Braester, Yomi. "Taiwanese and the Crisis of Memory: Post-Chiang Mystery" in *Writing Taiwan: A New Literary History*. David Der-wei Wang and Carlos Rojas, eds. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2007. 213-232.

**March 18 – Urban Writing in the Context of Literary Cosmopolitanism: Chu T'ien-hsin's *Ancient Taipei***

- Chu, T'ien-hsin. *The Old Capital: A Novel of Taipei*. Trans. Howard Goldblatt. New York: Columbia UP, 2007. ^
- Huang, Fan. "Tung-p'u Street" Yuan-lin Huang, trans. In *Death in a Cornfield and Other Stories from Contemporary Taiwan*. Ching-Hsi Perng and Chiu-Kuei Wang, eds. Hong Kong, Oxford, and New York: Oxford UP, 1994. 181-200.
- Tsai, Suh-Fen. "Taipei Train Station" in *The Border as Fiction: Writers of Taiwan*. Maurice A. Lee, ed. Toronto: Quattro Books, 2010. 311-320.
- Allen, Joseph. "Mapping Taipei: Representation and Ideology, 1626-1945" *Studies on Asia*, Series II, 2.2 (Fall 2005): 59-80.
- Chen, Lingchei Letty. "Mapping Identity in a Postcolonial City: Intertextuality and Cultural Hybridity in Zhu Tianxin's Ancient Capital" in *Writing Taiwan: A New Literary History*. David Der-wei Wang and Carlos Rojas, eds. Durham and London: Duke UP, 2007. 312-324.

**March 25 – On Translation of Taiwanese Literature: Book Culture in a Global Market**

- Wu, Zhuoliu. *Orphan of Asia*. Ioannis Mentzas, trans. New York: Columbia UP, 2008.
- Chang, Yvonne Sung-sheng. "Political and Market Factors in the Literary Field" in *Literary Culture in Taiwan: Martial Law to Market Law*. New York: Columbia UP, 2004. 45-70.
- Genette, Gérard. "Introduction" in *Paratexts: Thresholds of Interpretation*. Jane E. Lewin, trans. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1997. 1-15.
- Lau, Jennifer J. "Unsuspected Introductions in Translated Texts: A Case Study on Wu Zhuoliu's *Orphan of Asia*" *Journal of Translation Studies* 14 (2001): 1-16.

**April 1 – Presentations**

**April 8 – Presentations**