

Chinese Literature (Song to Qing)

EAS 257H1F (2021 Fall)

Course Instructor: Yu Wen

E-mail: yu.wen@mail.utoronto.ca

TA: TBA

Time: Online Synchronous Monday 9-11 am EDT

Office Hour: Mon. 8-9 am EDT or by appointment (Zoom)

Course Description

This course is designed to give students an overview of the major genres, authors and works of Chinese literature from the Song to Qing dynasties (960-1911). I will put these works in their historical and cultural context as much as time allows. Prior knowledge of premodern China and taking the companion course, EAS 256H, would be helpful, but is not essential. Readings are available in English on Quercus; all lectures and course work are in English.

Lectures, Q&A, Office Hours

We will have our lectures online synchronous Monday 9-11 am EDT. For those who cannot attend the lectures due to time zone difference, I will upload the recorded narrated slides each Monday before midnight, starting on Mon. 13 September. Please do the readings beforehand. I will hold an online *office hour* for individuals via Zoom each Mon. @ 8-9 am EDT. You will be placed in a virtual waiting room and then admitted when I am ready to speak to you privately. You can also email me through my email address.

Marking Scheme

Reading Responses (5 x 10% each)	50%	26 September; 10, 24 October; 7, 21 November
Essay Proposal	10%	15 November
Essay	40%	12 December

Outline of Topics and Readings in Owen Anthology

#	Date	Lecture	Owen (pp.)
1	13 Sep.	Introduction & What is Chinese Literature	Intro & 553-558
2	20 Sep.	Do These Genres Make Me Look Big? (Classical Prose in Tang and Song)	570, 613, 684-88 577-79, 663-77
3	27 Sep.	It's the Little Things in Life (Song Classical Poetry; Su Shi and Ouyang Xiu)	684-703
4	4 Oct.	Let's Party Like It's 999 (Song Lyrics)	569-77, 583-89
October 11 Thanksgiving Day (no class)			
5	18 Oct.	What is Love Anyway? (Li Qingzhao)	580-83, 591-96
6	25 Oct.	Abandoned in Demi-monde (Yuan Vernacular Plays and Songs Part I)	728-39
7	1 Nov.	Abandoned in Demi-monde (Yuan Vernacular Plays and Songs Part II)	739-44
November 8-12 Reading Week (no class)			
8	15 Nov.	Sisters Are Doing It for Themselves (Women in Vernacular Literature)	744-70, 834-55
9	22 Nov.	Weirdos! (Li Zhi, Yuan Hongdao, Zhang Dai, Li Yu, and Pu Songling)	807-20, 1103, 1113-27
10	29 Nov.	Battles and Bandits (<i>Three Kingdoms & The Water Margin</i>)	Quercus

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| 11 | 6 Dec. | Monkeying Around (<i>Journey to the West & Plum in the Golden Vase</i>) | Quercus |
| 12 | 9 Dec.
(Make-up day) | Can't Live With 'Em, Can't Live Without 'Em (Family in <i>Story of the Stone & Six Records of a Life Adrift</i>) | Quercus |

Reading Sources

All primary texts will be in English translation from Owen, Stephen (1997), *An Anthology of Chinese Literature: Beginnings to 1911*, which is out of print, so it will be available in PDF format via Quercus. Selected Chinese readings in PDF format are also available there in PDF format.

A useful encyclopedia of Chinese literature is *The Indiana Companion to Traditional Chinese Literature* (2 vols.). You can check it out virtually through the HathiTrust collection for one hour at the following links: [Vol. 1](#) & [Vol. 2](#). Click on the yellow LOGIN button and choose University of Toronto, then login with your UTORid to access it. When you are done consulting it, click on "Return Early" so another student can access it.

A useful online history of Chinese literature is *The Cambridge History of Chinese Literature*, which can be found at the following links: [Vol 1: To 1375](#) and [Vol 2: From 1375](#). Click on "Cambridge Histories" under Holdings to access a PDF version of the text, which you can download to your computer.

Assignments

The **Reading response** questions will be posted by midnight on Monday after lectures, and you will have around 2 weeks' time to finish each reading response. Each response should be 600-800 words, and must be submitted by 11:59pm EDT on the deadline. **You will be expected to draw upon the readings and your own ideas in providing your answers**, rather than external sources. It is important to upload your responses on time. Each response is worth 10 points; late submissions will be penalized -2 points (out of 10) per day late, *without exception*.

The **essay proposal** is due by 11:59pm on **15 November** (after reading week) and consists of three paragraphs describing the essay, plus a list of sources, which must include course readings, lecture notes, and **two** other sources you feel are appropriate, with annotations explaining their relevance. Topics and guidelines will be posted along with suggestions for how to find sources. Penalty for lateness is -2 points (out of 10) per day late.

The **final essay** is a 2,000 word (6 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font, 1" margins) assignment based on your proposal, due by 11:59pm on **12 December**. The penalty for late submissions of essays is -2 points (out of 40) per day late. The *only* sources you will be allowed to use are those approved in your proposal. I will provide guidelines for what is expected on the essay and how to format proper citations. In the meantime, please visit the [Writing at the University of Toronto](#) website to familiarize yourself with the resource tabs available there, especially the sections on *Planning*, *Researching*, and *Using Sources*. College writing centres will be available for online consultation. Visit this [list](#) as soon as possible for the centre associated with your college if you want to reserve an appointment. Support for multilingual students whose first language is not English can be found at the [English Language Learning website](#).

The last day to cancel this course or designate it CR/NCR is 8 November.

Academic Integrity

Do not submit in your weekly response, essay proposal, or essay anything written by someone else, copied from the internet, copied from a book, or any other source without proper citation. All instances of plagiarism, no matter how minor, will be reported to the [Office of Student Academic Integrity](#) (OSAI). As noted above, you can find resources defining plagiarism and tips on how to avoid it at the [Writing at the University of Toronto website](#). When you submit *any* written online (including weekly responses), they will be automatically checked by **Turnitin.com** for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism from published work, internet sources, and *submissions by other students*. Your submission will be included among source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where it will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the [Turnitin.com](#) website.

Missed Work and Accessibility

The only acceptable reason for missing a deadline is a medical emergency. All *medical notes* must be submitted via email to your college registrar for verification, with a request for them to send a notice to me via email requesting consideration.

If you require accommodations for accessibility issues, visit [Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible to register with them so that they can communicate your needs to me.

It is natural to feel stress at university during the best of times, but especially so in our current circumstances. Many forms of counseling for a wide variety of situations, from coping with stress to dealing with harassment or assault, are available to you through the Health & Wellness section of the [Student Life](#) website (see the *Mental Health*, and *Emergencies tabs* in particular).