



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2464 Chinese Ideas of Beauty and Erotica: Ancient to Modern - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2464

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course is designed to explore the experiences and representations of beauty in Chinese

culture. We will examine the intersections where philosophical ideas (Daoism, Buddhism as well as Confucianism) and literary conventions influence Chinese concepts of beauty, including China's long history of erotica, as reflected in both written and visual texts. We will examine different spheres of beauty in Chinese culture, including the human body, family life, society and nature. We will consider questions such as: What underpins the notion of beauty in pre-modern China? Who/What are considered beautiful, and why? Have aesthetic values changed over time? How? What accounts for the rich repertoire of poetic/artistic images and motifs that tap into thousand of years of Chinese history? What is the desired balance between *yin & yang*, and between feminine beauty and masculine attractiveness? Such questions and more will be investigated in the light of Chinese cosmos and aesthetics. We will critically analyze and appreciate both written and visual texts as cultural artifacts and symbolic expressions of aesthetic values.

Course Aims

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Articulate a specific body of knowledge about core aspects of Chinese ideas of beauty and erotica.
CLO2 : Analyze and critique primary and secondary sources concerning Chinese literature and art.
CLO3 : Formulate and defend interpretations and appreciation for both the written and visual texts as a cultural artifact and symbolic expression of aesthetic values.
CLO4 : Synthesize theories and approaches to Chinese aesthetics in current academic discourse.
CLO5 : Identify core differences between Chinese and Western concepts of beauty and erotica in cross-cultural contexts.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Articulate a specific body of knowledge about core aspects of Chinese ideas of beauty and erotica.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Essay• Presentation and Discussion
CLO2 : Analyze and critique primary and secondary sources concerning Chinese literature and art.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Exam• Research Essay• Presentation and Discussion
CLO3 : Formulate and defend interpretations and appreciation for both the written and visual texts as a cultural artifact and symbolic expression of aesthetic values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Exam• Research Essay• Presentation and Discussion
CLO4 : Synthesize theories and approaches to Chinese aesthetics in current academic discourse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Essay
CLO5 : Identify core differences between Chinese and Western concepts of beauty and erotica in cross-cultural contexts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Exam• Presentation and Discussion• Research Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Essay Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: various
Presentation and Discussion Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: various
Final Exam Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: 19/04/2024 01:00 PM Due Date: 19/04/2024 03:00 PM

Assessment Details

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Students each write a research essay (3000-3500 words) on their selected topic to be submitted on-line.

Feedback via rubric as well as individual and in-class comments

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Articulate a specific body of knowledge about core aspects of Chinese ideas of beauty and erotica.
- CLO2 : Analyze and critique primary and secondary sources concerning Chinese literature and art.
- CLO3 : Formulate and defend interpretations and appreciation for both the written and visual texts as a cultural artifact and symbolic expression of aesthetic values.
- CLO4 : Synthesize theories and approaches to Chinese aesthetics in current academic discourse.
- CLO5 : Identify core differences between Chinese and Western concepts of beauty and erotica in cross-cultural contexts.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please refer to Moodle for more details.

Assessment Length

3000 words

Assessment information

Detailed information about this assessment will be provided on the Course Moodle as well as in class.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Presentation and Discussion

Assessment Overview

Each group of students choose two articles from the course reading material, and present their summaries and analysis / reflections (approx. 5 minutes per person) in tutorials (30%). Feedback via rubric and in-class comments.

Participation in weekly class discussions will also be taken into consideration (10%)

Students will receive an individual mark for both presentation and discussion.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Articulate a specific body of knowledge about core aspects of Chinese ideas of beauty and erotica.
- CLO2 : Analyze and critique primary and secondary sources concerning Chinese literature and art.
- CLO3 : Formulate and defend interpretations and appreciation for both the written and visual texts as a cultural artifact and symbolic expression of aesthetic values.
- CLO5 : Identify core differences between Chinese and Western concepts of beauty and erotica in cross-cultural contexts.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please refer to Moodle for more details.

Assessment information

The group presentations (30%) will be based on the teaching schedule, so the presentation time for each group may vary (Week 5 through to Week 9), depending on the reading materials each group chooses.

The other 10% goes to weekly class discussions,

Final Exam

Assessment Overview

An in-class test consisting of two types of questions that require either short answers or some analysis (1.5 hours).

Feedback upon request.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Analyze and critique primary and secondary sources concerning Chinese literature and art.
- CLO3 : Formulate and defend interpretations and appreciation for both the written and visual texts as a cultural artifact and symbolic expression of aesthetic values.
- CLO5 : Identify core differences between Chinese and Western concepts of beauty and erotica in cross-cultural contexts.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please refer to Moodle for more details.

Assessment Length

2 hours

Assessment information

The Final Test will be done in class in Week 10. Detailed information will be provided on the Course Moodle as well as in class well in advance..

General Assessment Information

All details of relevant information of course assessment will be provided on the Course Moodle as well as in class.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Topic	Introduction
	Lecture	Introduction: What is "beautiful"?
	Tutorial	Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Topic	Aesthetics & Chinese Ideas of Beauty and Erotica
	Lecture	Overview on Aesthetics & Chinese Ideas of Beauty and Erotica
	Tutorial	Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Topic	Beauty of Earth and Nature & Beauty of bodies and people
	Lecture	Introduction to Beauty of Earth and Man
	Tutorial	Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Topic	Early Reflections on Beauty 1: Confucian Perspective
	Lecture	Early Reflections on Beauty: Confucian Aesthetics
	Tutorial	Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Topic	Early Reflections on Beauty 2: Daoist and Buddhist Perspectives
	Lecture	Early Reflections on Beauty: Daoist and Buddhist Aesthetics
	Tutorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material • Group presentation starts
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Topic	Flexibility Week, No Lecture; No Tutorial.
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Topic	Public Holiday (Good Friday). No Lecture, No Tutorial, but Course Reading for the week and the Tutorial discussion materials will be provided on the Moodle.
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Topic	The Beauty of Chinese Literature and Art 1
	Lecture	The Beauty of Chinese Poetry & Painting
	Tutorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material • Group presentation completes
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Topic	The Beauty of Chinese Literature and Art 2
	Lecture	Beauty of Chinese Music, Architecture & Fashion
	Tutorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the topic of the week and the course reading material • Group presentation completes
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beauty of Society & Humanity • Revision and Final Test
	Lecture	Summary & Revision
	Tutorial	Final Test

Attendance Requirements

Clashes with lectures are allowed on the condition that you'll attend all the in-class assessments, but you should inform your lecturer at the beginning of the term, and listen to the recording every week to catch up. Please note: you MUST attend the lecture if there is an assessment during a particular lecture. Attendance of Tutorials is mandatory. Unexcused absence from more than 20% will result in the award of a fail grade. A roll will be taken each week. In both Lectures and Tutorials you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLOs 1-5.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All the expected reading material will be provided on the Course Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Recommended resources will also be provided on the Course Moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

This course will be formally evaluated through MyExperience, as well as informally during the teaching process. Any issues raised in students' feedback will be addressed, and strategies to further enhance students' learning experience will be discussed in class.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	A/Prof. Ping WANG		MB236	9065 5386	By appointment	No	Yes
Lecturer	A/Prof. Ping WANG		MB236	9065 5386	By appointment	No	No
Tutor	Yan Qian				By appointment	No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;

- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your

study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on

Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm