



Eastern Classics Reading List 2024-2025

St. John's Santa Fe Graduate Institute

Updated: 2025-01-25

Contents

Fall Seminar	2
Spring Seminar	4
Summer Seminar	7
Fall Preceptorial – Sima Qian, <i>Records of the Grand Historian (Shi Ji)</i>	8
Fall Preceptorial - Mahābhārata	9
Summer Preceptorial – The Tale of Genji	11
Booklist	12



Fall Seminar

Chinese names are given in two transliteration systems. The Pinyin system is the one in use today both for ordinary life and academic publications, but the older and obsolete Wade-Giles system can be found in some of our available editions, many of which were published more than fifty years ago. Both systems are attempts to render the same pronunciations. **Please use translations carried by the campus bookstore and/or those specifically mentioned.**

Session 1 - 2024-09-02

Confucius, *Analects*, #1-7. Skip commentary where present.

Session 2 - 2024-09-05

Confucius, *Analects*, #8-13. Skip commentary where present.

Session 3 - 2024-09-09

Confucius, *Analects*, #14-20. Skip commentary where present.

Session 4 - 2024-09-12

Mozi (Mo Tzu), Fascicles 11, 14-17, 19, 20, 26, 27, 31, 32, 35, 39, and 50.

Translations by Burton Watson (*Mo Tzu Basic Writings*), Ian Johnston (*The Book of Master Mo*) or Chris Fraser (*The Essential Mozi*) are acceptable.

Session 5 - 2024-09-16

Mengzi (*Meng Tzu*, *Mencius*), Books I – II (1A, 1B, 2A, 2B).

Session 6 - 2024-09-19

Mengzi (*Meng Tzu*, *Mencius*), Books III-IV (3A, 3B, 4A, 4B).

Session 7 - 2024-09-23

Mengzi (*Meng Tzu*, *Mencius*), Books V -VII (5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B).

Session 8 - 2024-09-26

Xunzi (Hsun Tzu), Sections 1, 2, 9, 17. Use translations by Burton Watson or Eric L. Hutton.

Session 9 - 2024-09-30

Xunzi (Hsun Tzu), Sections 19-23.

Session 10 - 2024-10-03

Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu), Chapters 1-3

Session 11 - 2024-10-07

Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu), Chapters 4-7

Session 12 - 2024-10-10

Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu), Chapters 17-19, 26

Session 13 - 2024-10-14

Laozi (Lao Tzu), *Dao De Jing* (*Tao Te Ching*), Chapters 1-37. Commentaries are not necessary.

Session 14 - 2024-10-17

Laozi (Lao Tzu), *Dao De Jing* (*Tao Te Ching*), Chapters 38-81. Commentaries are not necessary.

Session 15 - 2024-10-21

Han Feizi (Han Fei Tzu), Fascicles 20, 21. Available in EC Manual.

Session 16 - 2024-10-24

Han Feizi : Basic Writings, Translated by Burton Watson. Sections 5-10.

Session 17 - 2024-10-28

Han Feizi : Basic Writings, Translated by Burton Watson. Sections 12, 13, 17, 18, 49, 50.

Session 18 - 2024-10-31

The Rig Veda : An Anthology Translated by Wendy Doniger. Sections 10.129, 10.121, 10.90, 10.130, 10.190, 10.81-82, 10.72, 10.14, 10.16, 10.18, 10.154, 10.135, 10.58, 10.71, 10.125, 10.101, 10.151, 1.164, 1.163, 1.162, 10.56

Session 19 - 2024-11-04

The Rig Veda : An Anthology. Sections 1.1, 1.26, 5.2, 2.35, 10.51, 10.124, 10.5, 8.79, 9.74, 4.58, 8.48, 10.136, 4.18, 10.28, 1.32, 2.12, 5.83, 7.101, 1.50, 1.160, 1.185, 6.70; 10.10, 1.179, 10.95, 10.85.

Session 20 - 2024-11-07

Brhadāranyaka Upaniṣad,” Parts I & II

Session 21 - 2024-11-11

Brhadāranyaka Upaniṣad,” Parts III & IV

Session 22 - 2024-11-14

Brhadāranyaka Upaniṣad,” Parts V & VI

Session 23 - 2024-11-18

[ESSAYS DUE]

“Katha Upaniṣad”

Session 24 - 2024-11-21

“Kena Upaniṣad” and “Mundaka Upaniṣad”

Session 25 - 2024-11-25

“*The Nyāya Sūtra*,” in *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy*, edited by Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Charles A. Moore pp. 358 – 379.24.

No Classes from 2024-11-27 – 2024-12-01

Session 26 - 2024-12-02

“*The Vaiśeṣika Sūtra*” and “*The Padārthadharmasaṅgraha*,” in *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy*, pp. 387 – 423.

Session 27 - 2024-12-05

Tattva-Kaumudī, karikas 1 – 29. Including commentary by Vacaspati Misra. Available in EC Manual.

Session 28 - 2024-12-09

Tattva-Kaumudī, karikas 30 – End.

Session 29 - 2024-12-12

“The Yoga Philosophy of Patañjali” in *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy*, pp. 454 - 485

Session 30 - 2024-12-16

The Bhagavadgītā in the Mahābhārata translated by J.A.B. van Buitenen. Pp. 39-107

Session 31 - 2024-12-19

The Bhagavadgītā in the Mahābhārata translated by J.A.B. van Buitenen. Pp. 107 - 157



Spring Seminar

Session 1 - 2025-01-20

Kālidāsa, *Kumārasambhava*, in *The Origin of the Young God*, translated by Hank Hifetz. Available in EC Manual.

Session 2 - 2025-01-23

Kālidāsa, *The Recognition of Śhakuntalā*, translated by W.J. Johnson.

Session 3 - 2025-01-27

“The *Dhvanyāloka* of Ānandavardhana with the *Locana* of Abhinavagupta” selections with supplemental material by Keith and Perry. Through pp. 119. Available in EC Manual.

Session 4 - 2025-01-30

“The *Dhvanyāloka* of Ānandavardhana with the *Locana* of Abhinavagupta” selections with supplemental material by Keith and Perry. Sections through pp. 696. Available in EC Manual.

Session 5 - 2025-02-03

“Pūrva Mīmāṃsā” in *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy* edited by Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Charles A. Moore. Pp. 486 – 505.

Session 6 - 2025-02-06

“Cārvāka” in *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy*. Pp. 227 – 249.

Session 7 - 2025-02-10

“Discourses on the Nobel Quest,” “Discourse to Kālāmas,” and “The Greater Discourse on Cause” from *Early Buddhist Discourses* by John Holder.

Session 8 - 2025-02-13

“The Greater Discourse on the Foundations of Mindfulness,” “The Greater Discourse on the Destruction of Craving,” “Discourse of the Honeyball” from *Early Buddhist Discourses*.

Session 9 - 2025-02-17

“Short Discourses from the Saṃyutta Nikāya,” “The Shorter Discourse to Mālun̄kyaputta,” “Discourse on the Parable of the Water Snake,” “Discourse to Vacchagotta on Fire,” from *Early Buddhist Discourses*.

Session 10 - 2025-02-20

“Discourse to Prince Abhaya,” “Discourse to Poṭṭhapāda,” “Discourse on the Threefold Knowledge,” from *Early Buddhist Discourses*.

Session 11 - 2025-02-24

“Discourse to Assalāyana,” “Discourse to the Layman Sigāla,” from *Early Buddhist Discourses. Samanaphala Sutta* (“Fruits of the Homeless Life”), available in EC Manual.

Session 12 - 2025-02-27

The Lotus Sutra, Translated by Burton Watson. Chapters 1 (prose portion), 2-7 (only the parable in the last nine paragraphs of the final prose section, beginning with “Monks, you must understand this.”), and 8.

Session 13 - 2025-03-03

The Lotus Sutra, Translated by Burton Watson. Chapters 10 (prose portion), 11 (verse only), 12-14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28 (all prose portion).

Session 14 - 2025-03-06

Nāgārjuna, Chapters 1, 2, 7.

Translation options:

(A) *Mūlamadhyamakakārikā of Nāgārjuna: The Fundamental Wisdom of the Middle Way*, translated by Jay L. Garfield OR

(B) *The Philosophy of the Middle Way* translation by David J. Kalupahana.

Session 15 - 2025-03-10

Nāgārjuna, Chapters 10, 12, 17, 18



Session 16 - 2025-03-13

Nāgārjuna, Chapters 24, 25, 27

No Classes from 2025-03-15 – 2025-03-30

Session 17 - 2025-03-31

Vimalakīrti Sūtra, *The Holy Teaching of Vimalakīrti*, translated by Thurman. Sections 1 – 6.

Session 18 - 2025-04-03

Vimalakīrti Sūtra, *The Holy Teaching of Vimalakīrti*, translated by Thurman. Sections 7 – End.

Session 19 - 2025-04-07

Gauḍapāda, “Māndukya Upanishad with the Kārikā of Gauḍapāda” in Vol. II of *The Upanishads* translated by Swami Nikhilananda (Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Center), pp. 223 – 368. Read both the Māndukya Upanishad and Gauḍapāda commentary. Ignore other commentaries. In Chapter 1, after the Hari Om paragraph, read the paragraph following each heading numeral, following the woven threads of Upanishad and Karika (Gaudapada’s commentary). For example, “Now the Upanishad is resumed,” or “Now the Karika is resumed.” From Chapter 2 on, the paragraph following the number is Gaudapada.

Session 20 - 2025-04-10

Saṅkarākārya’s commentary on the Vedānta Sūtras. pp. 2 – 67, *Sacred Books of the East, Vol. 34*, translated by George Thibaut. Available as a photocopy in the bookstore. In reading Sankara and Rāmānujā pay close attention to whether you are hearing their own (Siddhanta) positions or their opponents’ (Purvapaksha) arguments. The latter can be lengthy and detailed (and plausible).

Session 21 - 2025-04-14

Saṅkara, pp. 183 – 191, 199 – 216, 283 – 289, 299 – 308, 312 – 320, 355 – 362.

Session 22 - 2025-04-17

Rāmānujā’s commentary on the Vedānta Sūtras, pp. 3 – 73, *Sacred Books of the East, Vol. 48*, translated by George Thibaut. Available in EC Manual

Session 23 - 2025-04-21

[ESSAYS DUE]

Rāmānujā’s commentary on the Vedānta Sūtras, pp. 102 -119, 129 – 138, 255- 273, 296- 308.

Session 24 - 2025-04-24

Jayadeva’s “The *Gītāgovinda*” in *Love Song of the Dark Lord*, edited and translated by Barbara Stoler Miller, pp. 69 – 125.

Session 25 - 2025-04-28

“The *Diamond Sūtra*” in *The Diamond Sūtra & the Sūtra of Hui-Neng*, translated by A.F. Price and Wong Mou-lam (Shambhala).

“The *Heart Sūtra*” pp. 17 – 53. Available in EC Manual.

Session 26 - 2025-05-01

Hui-Neng, “Commentary on the Diamond Sūtra,” in *The Sutra of Hui-neng, Grand Master of Zen: With Hui-neng's Commentary on the Diamond Sutra*, translated by Thomas Cleary (Shambhala), pp. 85-144.

Session 27 - 2025-05-05

Hui-Neng, *The Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch*, translated by Philip Yampolsky (Columbia University Press), paragraphs 1 – 30.

Session 28 - 2025-05-08

Hui-Neng, *The Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch*, 31 – 57.

Session 29 - 2025-05-12

“The *Great Learning*” and “The *Doctrine of the Mean*,” in *A Sourcebook in Chinese Philosophy*, translated and edited by Wing-tsit Chan, pp. 84 – 114.



Session 30 - 2025-05-15

Zhu Xi (Chu Hsi), "The Complete Works of Chu Hsi" in *A Sourcebook in Chinese Philosophy*, pp. 605 – 632 (stop at *Jen*).

Session 31 - 2025-05-19

Zhu Xi (Chu Hsi), "The Complete Works of Chu Hsi" in *A Sourcebook in Chinese Philosophy*, pp. 632-653, 693-604.

Session 32 - 2025-05-22

Wang Yang-Ming, "Inquiry on the Great Learning" and selections from "Instructions for Practical Living," in *A Sourcebook in Chinese Philosophy*, pp. 659 – 691.



Summer Seminar

Session 1 - 2025-06-16

The Tale of the Heike, translated by Helen Craig McCullough. Chapters 1 – 8.

Session 2 - 2025-06-19

The Tale of the Heike, Chapters 9 – 10.

Session 3 - 2025-06-23

The Tale of the Heike, Chapters 11 – end.

Session 4 - 2025-06-26

Kūkai *Major Works* translated by Yoshito S. Hakeda (Columbia University Press), “The Difference Between Exoteric and Esoteric Buddhism”, “Attaining Enlightenment in This Very Existence”, “The Meanings of Sound, Word, and Reality.” Available in EC Manual.

Session 5 - 2025-06-30

Sei Shōnagon, *The Pillow Book*, translated by Meredith McKinney (Penguin Classics), sections 1-100, pp. 3-113

Session 6 - 2025-07-03

The Pillow Book, sections 101-206, 243, 258, 273, pp. 113-190

Session 7 - 2025-07-07

Kamo no Chōmei, “Hōjōki or the Record of the Ten-Foot Square Hut”

Kenkō and Chōmei: Essays in Idleness and Hōjōki, translated by Meredith McKinney (Penguin) OR

Four Huts: Asian Writings on the Simple Life, translated by Burton Watson (Shambhala)

Session 8 - 2025-07-10

Dōgen, “Bendōwa,” in *The Heart of Dōgen’s Shōbōgenzō*, translated by Waddell and Abe (SUNY Press).

Session 9 - 2025-07-14

Dōgen, “Busshō,” in *The Heart of Dōgen’s Shōbōgenzō*, pp. 59 – bottom of 84.

Session 10 - 2025-07-17

Dōgen, “Busshō,” in *The Heart of Dōgen’s Shōbōgenzō*, pp. 84 – 98.

Session 11 - 2025-07-21

Dōgen, “Genjōkōan,” in *The Heart of Dōgen’s Shōbōgenzō*

Session 12 - 2025-07-24

Dōgen, “Uji,” in *The Heart of Dōgen’s Shōbōgenzō*

Session 13 - 2025-07-28

Kenkō, sections 1 – 38, 43 – 49, 52, 53, 58 – 60, 66. In *Kenkō and Chōmei: Essays in Idleness and Hōjōki*, translated by Meredith McKinney (Penguin)

OR

Essays in Idleness, translated by Donald Keene (Columbia University Press)

Session 14 - 2025-07-31

Kenkō, sections 69 – 75, 81 – 85, 89, 92, 97 – 98, 104 – 122, 127 – 130, 133, 137, 154, 162, 166, 184, 188, 190, 191, 235 – 237.

Session 15 - 2025-08-04

Bashō, “Journey of Bleached Bones in a Field,” “Kashima Journal,” “Knapsack Notebook,” “Sarashina Journal” in *Bashō’s Journey: The Literary Prose of Matsuo Bashō*, translated by David Landis Barnhill (SUNY Press)

Session 16 - 2025-08-07

Bashō, “The Narrow Road to the Deep North.” in *Bashō’s Journey: The Literary Prose of Matsuo Bashō*, translated by David Landis Barnhill (SUNY Press)



Fall Preceptorial – Sima Qian, *Records of the Grand Historian (Shi Ji)*

(First Eight Weeks)

Required Texts:

- (In EC Manual): “The Grand Scribes Records” Vol 1, translated by Neinhauser, Jr. (pp 1-86)
- *Records of the Grand Historian*, translated by Burton Watson (Columbia University Press), Volumes:
 - *Quin Dynasty* (ISBN: 0231081693)
 - *Han Dynasty I* (ISBN: 0231081650)
 - *Han Dynasty II* (ISBN: 0231081677)

Session 1 - 2024-09-03

Shi Ji Ch 1 – 2 (Nienhauser, Vol 1)

Session 2 - 2024-09-05

Shi Ji Ch 3 - 4 (Nienhauser, Vol 1)

Session 3 - 2024-09-10

Shi Ji Ch 6 (Quin Dynasty, pp. 35-83)

Session 4 - 2024-09-12

Shi Ji Ch 15, 61, 68, 79 (Quin Dynasty, pp. 85-99, 131-157, photocopy of section 61)

Session 5 - 2024-09-17

Shi Ji Ch 85-88, 126 (Quin Dynasty, pp. 159-216, plus Sima Qian's Letter to Ren An)

Session 6 - 2024-09-19

Shi Ji Ch 48, 7 (Han Dynasty I, pp. 1-38)

Session 7 - 2024-09-24

Shi Ji Ch 8, 16 (Han Dynasty I, pp. 51-88)

Session 8 - 2024-09-26

Shi Ji Ch 53, 55, 56 (Han Dynasty I, pp 91-128)

Session 9 - 2024-10-01

Shi Ji Ch 89-91 (Han Dynasty I, pp 131-162)

Session 10 - 2024-10-03

Shi Ji Ch 92-94 (Han Dynasty I, pp 163-202)

Session 11 - 2024-10-08

Shi Ji Ch 9-12, 106 (Han Dynasty I, 267-319, 403-422)

Session 12 - 2024-10-10

Shi Ji Ch 28 (Han Dynasty II, 3-52)

Session 13 - 2024-10-15

Shi Ji Ch 110 (Han Dynasty II, 129-162)

Session 14 - 2024-10-17

Shi Ji Ch 117 (Han Dynasty II, 259-306)

Session 15 - 2024-10-22

Shi Ji Ch 121, 119, 122 (Han Dynasty II, 355-407)

Session 16 - 2024-10-24

Shi Ji Ch 124, 125, 127, 129 (Han Dynasty II, 409-454)



Fall Preceptorial - Mahābhārata

(Second Eight Weeks of Semester)

Required Texts:

- *Mahābhārata* translated by J.A.B. van Buitenen (University of Chicago Press)
 - Volume 1, *The Book of the Beginning* (ISBN: 9780226846637)
 - Volume 2, *The Book of the Assembly Hall, The Book of the Forest* (ISBN: 9780226846644)
 - Volume 3, *The Book of the Virata, The Book of the Effort* (ISBN: 9780226846651)
- *The Sauptikaparvan of the Mahabharata* translated by W.J. Johnson (Oxford World's Classics) (ISBN: 978-0192823618)
 - Out of print, but photocopies are available in the EC Manual sold in the bookstore

Session 1 - 2024-10-29

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 19-63
(Lists – Puloman)

Session 2 - 2024-10-31

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 63-123
(Astika)

Session 3 - 2024-11-05

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 123-210
(The Descent – Latter Days of Yayati)
(pp 145-154 may be skimmed)

Session 4 - 2024-11-07

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 210-273
(Latter Days of Yayati – The Origins)

Session 5 - 2024-11-12

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 274-344
(The Fire in the Lacquer House - Citraratha)

Session 6 - 2024-11-14

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 344-405
(Draupadi's Bridegroom Choice – Arjuna's Sojourn in the Forest)

Session 7 - 2024-11-19

The Book of the Beginning, pp. 405-431
(Abduction of Subhadra – Burning of the Khandava Forest). Discussion of whole of Book 1

Session 8 - 2024-11-21

The Book of the Assembly Hall: Read italicized summaries pp.33-106, then read whole pp.106-69 (The Dicing – The Sequel to the Dicing).

At this point note that the *Sauptikaparvan* volume has narrative summaries in the back: read summary for Book 4, *The Book of Virata*.

Session 9 - 2024-11-26

The Book of the Effort, pp 187-254
(Embassy of Samjaya)

No Classes from 2024-11-27 – 2024-12-01

Session 10 - 2024-12-03

The Book of the Effort, pp 254-294
(Dhrtarastra's Vigil – Sanatsujata)

Session 11 - 2024-12-05

The Book of the Effort, pp 294-339
(The Suing for Peace)



Session 12 - 2024-12-10

The Book of the Effort pp 344-382

(The Coming of the Lord);

The Book of the Effort pp 415-442

(The Coming of the Lord, continued)

Session 13 - 2024-12-12

In Volume 3, *The Book of the Forest*, pp. 780-795

(The Robbing of the Earrings), then

The Book of the Effort, pp. 442-461

(The Temptation of Karna)

Session 14 - 2024-12-17

The Book of the Effort, pp.461-532

(The Marching Out – Amba)

Session 15 - 2024-12-19

The Sautikaparvan, read Summaries in Appendix, then
main text pp 5 – 86



Summer Preceptorial – The Tale of Genji

Required Text:

The Tale of Genji by Murasaki Shikibu, translated by Edward G. Seidensticker (ISBN: 978-0679417385)

Session 1 - 2025-06-16

Chapters 1-4 (80 pages)

Session 2 - 2025-06-17

Chapters 5-6 (47 pages)

Session 3 - 2025-06-19

Chapters 7-10 (82 pages)

Session 4 - 2025-06-24

Chapters 11-13 (55 pages)

Session 5 - 2025-06-26

Chapters 14-19 (76 pages)

Session 6 - 2025-07-01

Chapters 20-22 (60 pages)

Session 7 - 2025-07-03

Chapters 23-29 (72 pages)

Session 8 - 2025-07-08

Chapters 30-33 (54 pages)

Session 9 - 2025-07-10

Chapters 34-35 (98 pages)

Session 10 - 2025-07-15

Chapters 36-38 (39 pages)

Session 11 - 2025-07-17

Chapters 39-43 (74 pages)

Session 12 - 2025-07-22

Chapters 44-46 (69 pages)

Session 13 - 2025-07-24

Chapters 47-48 (63 pages)

Session 14 - 2025-07-29

Chapters 49-50 (87 pages)

Session 15 - 2025-07-31

Chapters 51-52 (70 pages)

Session 16 - 2025-08-05

Chapters 53-54 (47 pages)

Note: During the spring term students will be provided with a list of options for preceptorials.



Booklist

Books for Seminar are listed in order they are encountered in class.
TODO...?