



AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Renison University College
Affiliated with the University of Waterloo
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Renison University College Land Acknowledgement

With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

Fall 2017

Course Code: EASIA 202R

Course Title: Chinese Culture and Society

Class Times/Location: Mon. & Wed. 11:30 a.m.-12:50 p.m./ Rm. 2107, Renison Academic Building

Instructor

Instructor: Dr. Huaping Zhuang

Office: Room 0101G, Renison Academic Building

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 10:20-11:20 a.m. or by appointment

Email: cindy.zhuang@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description

This course aims at investigating diverse aspects of Chinese culture and society in the past and at present, and therefore allows students to gain in-depth knowledge of traditional and modern China. The course provides a wide range of lectures and seminar presentations on Chinese history, philosophy, religions, art, literature, politics, and economy, along with the impact of Western and international influences on China's history and national identity and vice versa. Topics are mainly drawn from the textbook as well as contemporary Chinese studies by Western or diasporic Chinese scholars to help students better approach and understand China through a comparative lens.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. develop a better understanding and knowledge of the most representative aspects in Chinese culture and society.
- B. critically analyze the texts relevant to the Chinese cultural study through an East-West comparative lens.
- C. examine processes of the modernization and globalization of China with new cultural dynamics as revealed in literature, popular culture and new media.
- D. explore the new cultural trends in contemporary Chinese society in official and unofficial spaces as revealed in literature, popular culture and new media.
- E. have a better understanding of the evolution of and interactions between Chinese culture and society.

Required Text

- Common Knowledge about Chinese Culture (《中国文化常识》). Beijing: Higher Education Press. 2007.

Course Requirements and Assessment

No prior experience of Chinese language is required.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
1. Attendance & Participation		20%
2. Presentation	See the schedule	20%
3. TED Talk Journal Entry	Oct 16, 2017	10%
4. Final Essay (Book Review)	Mid-term essay due on Oct 16, 2017	5%
	Final essay (Book review) due on Dec 4, 2017	15%
5. Final Exam	TBA	30%
Total		100%

Assessment 1

Students are expected to attend class every week. Attendance will be checked in the beginning and/or at the end of the class. (See Attendance Policy for details.)

Assessment 2

Students will choose a topic based on the topics that are covered during the whole term and prepare for an oral presentation. From Week 4 through Week 13, there will be a group of

students (with 3-4 students in each group) each week giving a 20-minute presentation in class followed by a 5-minute Q&A session.

Assessment 3

TED Talk Journal Entry: TED is a non-profit organization whose mission is to share “Ideas Worth Spreading” as a global community in the form of talks. You will be required to create one journal entry on the TED Talk that you pick up out of the fifteen talks listed. (See in-class handout for details.)

Assessment 4

After reading a book from the reading list provided at the beginning of the term, students are required to complete a book review/critique of the text following a provided rubric as the term paper, which should be between 3-5 double-spaced pages (Font size: 12) with a title page. You should finish reading at least half of the book and write an essay with 300 words to demonstrate your understanding of this book. The short mid-term essay (5%) is due before class on Oct 16. And the final essay or term paper (15%), which is a review of the whole book, is due on Dec 4 (which is the last day of the fall term). The term paper may deviate from standard APA format in that you may write in the first person pronoun. All citations, however, must be made using APA format (requiring cover page, in-text citations, and a works cited page.) You should follow Purdue OWL: APA Formatting and Style Guide. All submissions should include a title page with the student’s name, student number, date of submission and title along with numbered pages. You need to submit both a printed copy and an electronic copy of your final essay. (See in-class handout for details.)

Assessment 5

At the end of the term there will be an open-book examination which will cover all the topics we discuss in the whole term. You can only bring paper materials, including the textbook and handouts in class, to the exam. No electronic devices are allowed in the final exam.

Course Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	Sept 7-8*	Lecture begins.	
2	Sept 11-15	Orientation and Introduction to the Course Lecture 1: Quick Facts about China	Handout of <i>Chinese History and Ancient Civilization</i> in class.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
		Lecture 2: Chinese History and Ancient Civilization	
3	Sept 18-22	Lecture 2: Chinese History and Ancient Civilization Lecture 3: The Evolution of Chinese Language	* Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Chinese Characters pp.118-119 2. Calligraphy pp.120-121 3. Seal Cutting pp. 122-123
4	Sept 25-29	Lecture 3: The Evolution of Chinese Language Lecture 4: Chinese Traditional Thoughts: Taoism, Confucianism and Buddhism	* Group 1 gives presentation on Sept 27. * Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Confucius pp. 4-7 2. “Four Books and Five Classics” and Confucianism pp. 8-9 3. Laozi, Zhuangzi and Taoism pp. 10-11
5	Oct 2-6	Lecture 4: Chinese Traditional Thoughts: Taoism, Confucianism and Buddhism Lecture 5: Religions in China and Their Influence on Chinese Culture and Society	* Group 2 gives presentation on Oct 4. * Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Buddhism pp. 12-13
6	Oct 11-13	Lecture 5: Religions in China and Their Influence on Chinese Culture and Society – Alternate schedule (see below)	Group 3 gives presentation on Oct 13.
	Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day – University closed	
	Oct 10-11	Study Days – No classes	
	Oct 12	Make-up Day for Oct 10 – Tuesday Schedule**	
	Oct 13	Make-up Day for Oct 12 – Wednesday Schedule***	
7	Oct 16-20	Lecture 6: Ethnic Identity and Population Pressure of China Lecture 7: Education of China in the Past and at Present	* Group 4 gives presentation on Oct 18. * Reading references: (Textbook) 1. To Respect Teachers and Value Education pp. 26-27 * TED Talk Journal Entry is due

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
			on Oct 16. * Mid-term essay is due on Oct 16.
8	Oct 23-27	Lecture 7: Education of China in the Past and at Present Lecture 8: Beijing Opera and Other Traditional Chinese Art Forms	* Group 5 gives presentation on Oct 25. * Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Folk Music pp. 102-103 2. Beijing Opera pp. 104-107 3. Local Opera pp. 108-111 4. Quyi (Folk Art) pp. 112-113
9	Oct 30- Nov 3	Lecture 8: Beijing Opera and Other Traditional Chinese Art Forms Lecture 9: Chinese Classical Literature	* Group 6 gives presentation on Nov 1. * Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Ancient Mythology pp. 32-35 2. The Book of Songs pp. 36-39 3. Chu Ci pp. 40-43 4. Yuefu Songs of the Han Dynasty pp. 44-45 5. Folk Songs of the Northern and Southern Dynasties pp. 46-47
10	Nov 6-10	Lecture 9: Chinese Classical Literature Lecture 10: Marriage and Family Life in China: Today and the Past	* Group 7 gives presentation on Nov 8. Reading references: (Textbook) 1. Filial Virtue pp. 16-17 2. To Respect the Aged and Love the Young pp. 18-19
11	Nov 13-17	Lecture 10: Marriage and Family Life in China: Today and the Past Lecture 11: China's Economic Reform and Opening Up to the Outside World	* Group 8 gives presentation on Nov 15.
12	Nov 20-24	Lecture 11: China's Economic Reform and Opening Up to the Outside World	* Group 9 gives presentation on Nov 22. * Reading references: (Textbook)

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
		Lecture 12: Cultural Characteristics of Traditional Chinese Architecture	Ancient Chinese Architecture pp. 166-183
13	Nov 27- Dec. 1	Lecture 12: Cultural Characteristics of Traditional Chinese Architecture Movie Watch 1 (<i>To Live</i>)	Group 10 gives presentation on Nov 29.
	Dec 4	Movie Watch 1 (<i>To Live</i>)	Final essay (book review) is due on Dec 4.

**The first week of classes begins on a Thursday and includes only Thursday and Friday September 7 and 8. Regular Thursday and Friday schedules are followed on both these days.*

***The loss of a Tuesday class on October 10 (study day) is made up by following a Tuesday schedule on Thursday, October 12.*

****The loss of a Wednesday class on October 11 (study day) is made up by following a Wednesday schedule on Friday, October 13.*

Late Work

No late assignments will be accepted unless verification documentation (doctor's note, etc.) is provided within one week.

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Students and faculty at the University of Waterloo share an important responsibility to maintain the integrity of the teaching and learning relationship. This relationship is characterized by honesty, fairness, and mutual respect for the aim and principles of the pursuit of education. Academic misconduct impedes the activities of the university community and is punishable by appropriate disciplinary action. I, as instructor of EASIA202R, reserve the right to use electronic means to detect and help prevent plagiarism. Students agree that by taking this course all assignments are subject to submission for textual similarity review by software (e.g., Turnitin.com or Grammarly). Assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will be included as source documents in Turnitin.com's restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents for five academic years. The instructor may require students to submit their assignments electronically to Turnitin.com or the instructor may submit questionable text on behalf of a student.

Electronic Device Policy

Electronic devices are allowed in class, provided they do not disturb teaching or learning.

1. Cell phones or similar communication devices should be turned off or put into silent mode during class.
2. The use of personal electronic devices in the classroom must be restricted to activities that further the educational mission of the class in session (e.g., taking notes, etc.).
3. Use of electronic resources for other purposes (e.g., playing games, reading and sending emails, watching DVDs, etc.) is forbidden.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class every week. Attendance will be checked in the beginning and/or at the end of the class. You must contact the instructor by e-mail if an emergency precludes your attending class. Absences and lateness will incur deduction of marks. Doctor's note from the campus clinic is needed for any absence due to medical emergency. NO late assignment will be accepted, unless verification documentation (doctor's note, etc.) is provided within one week.

Writing and Communication Centre

The Writing and Communication Centre (WCC) works with students as they develop their ideas, draft, and revise. Writing and Communication specialists offer one-on-one support in planning assignments, synthesizing and citing research, organizing papers and reports, designing presentations and e-portfolios, and revising for clarity and coherence.

You can make multiple appointments throughout the term, or you can drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit www.uwaterloo.ca/wcc. Group appointments for team-based projects, presentations, and papers are also available.

Please note that communication specialists guide you to see your work as readers would. They can teach you revising skills and strategies, but will not change or correct your work for you.

Final Examination Policy

For **Fall 2017**, the established examination period is **December 7-21, 2017**. The schedule will be available after mid-October. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: <https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations>

Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams. See <http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accommodation/illness.html>

Academic Integrity:

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage \(https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage \(https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

Discipline: Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration,

should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties\)](#).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo's policy on Fair Dealing is available here: [https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory](#) Violation of Canada's Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4 ([https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70](#)). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant, who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there are grounds. Students who believe they have grounds for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72\)](#).

Academic Integrity website (Arts):

http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for Students with Disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities, without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AAS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Intellectual Property. Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:

- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)

- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor’s intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.

A respectful living and learning environment for all

1. It is expected that everyone living, learning or working on the premises of Renison University College will contribute to an environment of tolerance and respect by treating others with sensitivity and civility.
2. Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of jokes, insults, gestures, gossip, or other behaviours that are meant to intimidate. Some instances of harassment are against the law in addition to Renison University College policy.
3. Discrimination is treating people differently because of their race, disability, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, colour, age, creed, marital status, or other personal characteristics. The Ontario Human Rights Code considers actions and behaviours rather than intentions.
4. If you experience or witness either harassment or discrimination, you may contact the Renison University College Interim Harassment and Discrimination Officer at megan.collings-moore@uwaterloo.ca (519-884-4404, ext. 28604).