

### **Requirements for Book Review (Term Paper)**

After reading a book from the reading list provided, you are asked to create a 3-5 page ( Double-spaced, Font Size 12) review/critique of the text following the rubric provided. The three parts that must be included in the review are as follows:

- Summarize the main points of the book and critique them.
- Demonstrate your understanding of this book by exhibiting connections between the Chinese and North American culture and society.
- Reflect on and describe what you have learned from reading the book.

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 (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.

#### **Important dates:**

**1. Due date for the 300-word mid-term essay: Oct 16, 2017.**

**2. Due date for the final essay (book review): Dec 4, 2017**

### Reading List

1. Buck, Pearl S. (1931) *The Good Earth*
2. Chang, Eileen. (2005) *Written on Water*
3. Chang, Leslie. (2009) *Factory Girls: From Village to City in a Changing China*
4. Deborah Fallows. (2011) *Dreaming in Chinese: Mandarin Lessons in Life, Love, and Language*
5. Gifford, Rob. (2008) *China Road: A Journey into the Future of a Rising Power*
6. Huang, Yasheng (2008) *Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: Entrepreneurship and the State*
7. Hessler, Peter. (2013) *Strange Stones: Dispatches from East and West*
8. Hessler, Peter. (2010) *Country Driving: A Journey through China from Farm to Factory*
9. Hessler, Peter. (2007) *Oracle Bones: A Journey through Time in China*
10. Hessler, Peter. (2006) *River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze*
11. Li, Yan. (1998) *Daughters of the Red Land*
12. Lin, Yutang. (1935) *My Country and My People*
13. Lu, Xun. (2009) *The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China*
14. Maugham, William. (1922) *On a Chinese Screen*
15. Osnos, Evan. (2015) *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China*
16. Shen, Congwen. (2009) *Border Town*
17. Starr, John Bryan. (2010) *Understanding China*
18. Tan, Amy. (2006) *The Joy Luck Club: A Novel*
19. Yu, Hua. (2011) *China in Ten Words*
20. Zhang, Jung. (1991) *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China*

**Book Report Rubric (15 points in total)**

| <b>CATEGORY</b>  | <b>Excellent 15</b>  | <b>Proficient 12</b>   | <b>Adequate 10</b>   | <b>Unsatisfactory 8</b>  | <b>Score</b> |
|--|--|--|--|--|--------------|
| 1. Summary<br>(2 points)                                 | Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters. It combines ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words.  | Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters. It combines ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words.  | Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters providing at least 1 excerpt from the work. It combines ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words. | Summary is mostly an outline of the book and does not discuss themes or major ideas of the work. There may be one or two direct quote "thrown in" for effect.  |              |
| 2. Quotes<br>(3 points)                                  | Explanation of 3 excerpts from the work with detailed insights into why you chose them.  | Explanation of 3 excerpts from the work with insights into why you chose them.   | Explanation of 3 excerpts from the work. Lacks detail or analysis into why you chose them.   | Less than 3 excerpts from the work without explanation. No insight as to why you chose them.   |              |
| 3. Connections<br>(3 points)                             | Provides detailed, insightful discussion of personal or cultural connections between the work and your life.   | Provides limited discussion of personal or cultural connections between the work and your life.  | Discussion of connections is limited and does not cite strong evidence for the connections made.   | The discussion of connections is vague or missing, and lacks detail.   |              |
| 4. Reflections and Reactions<br>(4 points)               | Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the book. The student reviewer reacts to the themes, the author's aims or intent, the subject of the book, how well it is written and overall success or failure of the book. | Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the book. The student reviewer may discuss only limited aspects, for example, themes and writer's style. There is not a thorough review of various aspects. | Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the book. The student reviewer may discuss only one aspect of the book, for example the themes. The review lacks a critical eye.    | Critique consists of a basic opinion based on personal feeling of "I liked it" or "I hated it" and is not considered a critique because it does not focus on themes, author's intent, or writer's style. |              |
| 5. APA Format<br>(1.5 points)                            | 0-3 errors in APA formatting.  | 4-6 errors in APA formatting.  | 7-9 errors in APA formatting.  | 10 or more errors in APA formatting.   |              |
| 6. Grammar, structure, and word accuracy<br>(1.5 points) | Writer makes 0-3 errors in grammar or character accuracy that distracts the reader from the content. All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.   | Writer makes 4-6 errors in grammar or character accuracy that distracts the reader from the content. Most sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.  | Writer makes 7-9 errors in grammar or character accuracy that distracts the reader from the content. Most sentences are well-constructed but have a similar structure.                       | Writer makes 10 or more errors in grammar or character accuracy that distracts the reader from the content. Sentences lack structure and appear incomplete or rambling.                                  |              |