

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

**HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
CHN 2650G 550 Fiction and Traditional Chinese Society
Winter 2022
Course Outline**

Instructor: Dr. Yuanfang Zhang
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Class: 6:30PM-9:30PM Thursday
Classroom HC-W108, Huron University College

Office Hour: 12:30PM-1:30PM Thursday or by appointment

Course Description:

This course examines various aspects of traditional Chinese society through the lens of fiction. It introduces students to the major genres of Chinese fiction (tales, short stories, and novels) from the early period to late Qing. Through reading these selected works of traditional Chinese literature, we will examine some of the major features of traditional Chinese society: religious and philosophical beliefs, the imperial system and dynastic change, gender relations, political economy, daily lives of people of different genders and classes, and sexuality. Literary narratives of Chinese fiction enhance students' understanding of the development of premodern Chinese society and its gradual transition to the modern period. The course is taught in English. All works are read in translation.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Understand the origins and developments in the history of Chinese fiction;
- Identify major narrative forms in traditional Chinese fiction and their generic features;
- Develop analytical skills and critical thinking abilities in studying traditional Chinese fiction;
- Elaborate the political, social, economic, and cultural characteristics of premodern Chinese society.

Textbooks and Other Required Resources:

Course package available at Custom Course Books, The Book Store, UCC.

Class Methods:

Classes are usually composed of a lecture and a discussion session led by students. Discussion will be based on the assigned readings. Students are required to participate actively in the discussion.

Methods of Evaluation:

Attendance and Participation:	15%
Presentation and Discussion:	10%
Presentation Follow-up Paper:	15%
In-class Mid-term Test:	25%
Final Examination:	35%

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation do not simply mean that you attend all classes, coming to class on time and staying until the end. It is most important that you read the texts and come to class prepared. You must actively participate in the discussion and interact with the instructor and your fellow students.

Online posting is a mandatory component of your participation. Instructions on online posting will be provided in the first week. By the end of a week, a discussion question will be posted on the forum based on the course materials you have learned in that week. You will have one week to write a post by addressing the question as specified. The limit for one post should be 50-100 words.

You will only get a full mark in this component (15%) on the conditions that you have: 1 participated actively in the class discussion; 2 met the requirement of online posting.

Presentation and Follow-up Paper

Students will sign up for the session that they plan to do their presentation. The presentation topics will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. You should prepare a short oral presentation for 10 minutes and at least three questions for discussion. You are required to submit a follow-up paper one week after your presentation, which includes your presentation and a report of the discussion session. Specific instructions for the presentation and follow-up paper will be provided in class.

Tests

The mid-term test will take place in class on Feb. 17. It is two hours in length and covers lectures and readings in the first five weeks until Feb 10, inclusively. The final exam is scheduled during the exam period. It is three hours and will be based on all lectures and readings covered this semester. No use of reference materials or electronic devices is permitted for both tests. Exam format will be given in class prior to the exam.

Special Instructions:

1. Once you sign up your presentation, you cannot change your topic without the permission of the instructor. Presentation and discussion are done in class and there is **no make-up** except in the case of documented medical or compassionate circumstances. In these exceptional

circumstances, you must notify the instructor in advance. There will be no grade given in the case of no-show without prior notice.

2. **No make-ups** will be given for tests, except in the case of documented medical or compassionate circumstances. If this documentation is accepted as a valid reason, you may write essays on special topics approved by the professor, having the same weight as the missed test (s).
3. All the primary and secondary sources must be appropriately cited. No form of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be tolerated.

Schedule of Classes

Week 1 Jan. 13 Introduction

Week 2 Jan. 20 The Origin of Chinese Fiction: Mythology and Historiography

Reading: "P'an-ku" in *Myth and Meaning in Early Taoism*, 193-194;

"Nü Kua" in *Huai-nan Tzu*, 155-163;

"The Biography of Jing Ke" in *Records of the Grand Historian*, 167-178.

Week 3 Jan. 27 The Chih-kuai Tales: The Traditional Society and Its Discontents

Reading: "Kan Chiang and Mo Yeh" in *Classical Chinese Tales*, 73-75;

"The Free and Unrestrained" in *Shih-shuo Hsin-yü*, 399-422.

Week 4 Feb. 3 The Chuang-ch'i Tales: Literary Men and Courtesans

Reading: "The Courtesan Li Wa" in *Traditional Chinese Stories*, 163-171.

Week 5 Feb. 10 The Ch'uan-ch'i Tales: The Lady Knight-Errant

Reading: "Nieh Yin-niang" in *Classical Chinese Tales*, 357-362.

Film: *The Assassin*

Week 6 Feb. 17 Mid-term Test

Discussion Session: "Nieh Yin-niang" and *The Assassin*

Week 7 Reading Week

Week 8 Mar. 3 The Hua-pen Stories: Marriage and Seduction

Reading: "The Pearl Shirt Reencountered" in *Traditional Chinese Stories*, 264-292.

Week 9 Mar. 10 Class Cancelled & China Day

Week 10 Mar. 17 The Hua-pen Stories: Transgression and Punishment

Reading: "The Jest That Leads to Disaster" in *Traditional Chinese Stories*, 467-478.

Week 11 Mar. 24 The Ming Novel: Money and the Changing Social Order

Reading: *The Plum in the Golden Vase*, Volume 1, Chapter 19, 376-400.

Week 12 Mar. 31 Qing Short Stories: Sex and Gender

Reading: “Miss Ying-ning, or The Laughing Girl” in *Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio*, 65-76.

Week 13 Apr. 7 The Qing Novel: Utopia or Dystopia/ The Lure of the Modern

Reading: *Flowers in the Mirror*, 58-66, 107-123.

The Travels of Lao Ts'an, Chapter 1, 3-11.



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Mandatory Use of Masks in Classrooms

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Huron policy and public health directives. Students are now permitted to drink water in class by lifting and replacing the mask each time a drink is taken. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Huron policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean's Office, and such actions will be considered a violation of the Huron Student Code of Conduct.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others

and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website,

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official

Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.