

Winter 2023
CHINESE 3954G 550 Special Topics in Chinese Studies:
Concepts in Chinese Culture

Instructor: Professor Sean Macdonald

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Office A 13/ **Office Hours:— Tuesday & Thursday: 3- 4 (& by appointment)**

Class time: **Tues. 11: 30 -13:30 & Thurs.: 11:30-12:30**

Location: **HC W18**

Course Description: This course is taught in English and requires no previous knowledge of Chinese culture. This course looks at approaches and questions linked to the humanities, arts, and the social and natural sciences. Readings consist of a diversity of material from some of the fields that make up Chinese Studies. This course introduces Chinese culture through discussions of Sinology, philosophy, religion, science, gender, food, politics, literature, and mass media. Sinology was the first European academic field to study Chinese language and culture. Confucianism *and* Legalism are important to understanding modern and postmodern Chinese culture. Contemporary Chinese studies is a broad collection of fields and disciplines with their own trajectories, trajectories that affect the way we discuss China today. This course attempts to discover some of the narratives around Chinese studies as an academic discipline.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having completed Concepts in Chinese Culture, students will be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	Delivered through the Following Instructional Method(s):	Student Achievement Assessed with the Following Method(s)/Assignments:
1. Understand that Chinese studies is a multi-faceted discipline with a distinct history in the United States	Chinese studies is introduced in the context of Sinology and American area studies.	Students are asked to read and discuss some important scholars of Sinology and area studies.
2. Think critically and analytically using multiple discourses surrounding Chinese Culture	Chinese Culture is introduced through multiple types of articles, visual and audio material.	Students are invited to take notes, to discuss in pairs and small groups, and as a class.
3. Analyze disciplinary content to identify contexts, learn fresh perspectives, and debate and discuss problems in the field.	Students are asked to read multiple authors and online articles and explore internet resources on their own. Students are invited to participate in classroom	Students should print out and read the scheduled articles before class.

	discussion.	
4. Understand and apply the methods of close reading, note taking, analysis, and synthesis.	Students will first read the material individually, take notes, then compare their notes with a partner, and finally discuss the articles and visual material as a class. This presents <i>reading</i> as a process of analysis and understanding.	In class quizzes will be used to evaluate student work. Students will also be expected to discuss and formulate their responses to each article during class. Students will be asked to submit their notes at intervals during the semester.
5. Develop essential research and study skills.	Students will be taking notes regularly in and outside of class. Students will also be asked to acquire library skills including downloading from databases like Jstor. HW assignments include reading articles and watching video material in order to prepare for the following day's class.	Students will be asked to engage with research material from several domains of Chinese studies including social sciences, gender studies, sports studies, food studies, and philosophy and literature.
6. Understand the academic expectations pertaining to studentship at Huron at Western and to higher learning at a university.	The syllabus includes links to academic integrity policy and emphasizes the importance of research as a mode of evaluation for academic work.	Students are evaluated according to their abilities to articulate and synthesize concepts and their academic performance.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Articles are available through Huron/Western Libraries

(recommended): 1 duotang with loose-leaf paper

(recommended): 1 binder for holding printed articles

Course Requirements:

Attendance is mandatory. More than three unexcused absences will result in a two-point reduction of your final grade. All the readings on this syllabus are required readings. Articles will be provided by the instructor. Please see below for the required reading list. We will discuss how to download articles from the databases available through the Western Libraries home page.

Grading Policy:

Weighting	Assessment / Assignment
10%	Quiz 1 (Jan 31)

Weighting	Assessment / Assignment
10%	Response 1 (Feb. 18)
20%	Response 2 (March 28)
20%	Participation
40%	Final (open book)

Students are expected to attend class. After four unexcused absences three percent will be deducted from the final grade, and after the fifth absence one grade per absence will be deducted from the final grade. Justification (a medical note etc.) for any absence will be submitted *at the latest* the next class after said absence(s).

***Students may be called upon to submit notes for that day's lecture. This mini assignment means (a) you must be in class that day (b) you will receive 2 marks for this assignment.**

A+	90%-100%	A+
A	80%-89%	A
B	70%-79%	B
C	60%-69%	C
D	50%-59%	D
F	<50%	F

SCHEDULE: The schedule may change according to the needs of the class.

Week	Dates	Articles
1	Jan 10 & 12	Intro to course Williams 2015; Lee, 2018
2	Jan. 17 & 19	Sinology, Chinese Studies, & Images of Chinese Franke, 1995; Chua Beng Huat <i>et al</i> 2019
3	Jan. 24 & 26	Sinology ... (cont.) Lee, 2003
4	Jan. 31 & Feb. 2	Prescription, Production, Politics Keightley, 1990
5	Feb. 7 & 9	Prescription, Production, Politics Franklin, Berthrong, and Chan, 1985; Dean & Massumi, 1992
6	Feb. 14 & 16	Philosophy and Culture (cont.) Jullien 1995: Sunzi 1963 (Griffith trans., selections)
7	SPRING	BREAK

8	Feb. 28 & March 2	Social Relations & Gender Fei 1992; King, 1991
9	March 7 & 9	Social Relations & Gender (cont.) Ebrey 1990
10	March 14 & 16	Sports, Ghosts Brownell, 1995; Hubbert, 2013
11	March 21 & 23	Sports, Ghosts (cont.) Campany, 1991
12	March 28 & 30	Film
13	April 4 & 6	Modernity & postmodernity Lu Xun, 1985; Takeuchi 2005

Chronological Bibliography

Williams, Raymond; "Culture"; "Civilization" *Keywords: A vocabulary of culture and society*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2015, 49-54; 23-26.

Lee, Gregory B. *China Imagined: From European Fantasy to Spectacular Power*, 2018, 13-32.

Herbert Franke, "In Search of China." *Europe Studies China*. London, Han Shan Books, 1995, 11-25.

Chua Beng Huat, Ken Dean, Ho Engseeng, Ho Kong Chong, Jonathan Rigg & Brenda Yeoh Area Studies and the crisis of legitimacy: a view from South East Asia, *South East Asia Research*, 27: 1 (2019): 31-48.

Lee, Gregory B. "Addicted Demented and Taken to the Cleaners: the White Invention and Representation of the 'Chinaman,'" in *China's Unlimited: Making the Imaginaries of China and Chineseness*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2003, 24-54.

Keightley, David N. "Early Civilization in China: Reflections on How It Became Chinese." *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization*. Ed. Paul S. Ropp. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990, 15-54.

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Franklin, Ursula, and John Berthrong, and Alan Chan, "Metallurgy, Cosmology, Knowledge: the Chinese Experience." *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 12 (1985) 333-369.

Dean, Kenneth, and Brian Massumi, *First and Last Emperors: the Absolute State and the Body of the Despot*. N.Y.: Autonomedia, 1992, 11-45.

Jullien, François. *The Propensity of Things Toward a History of Efficacy in China*. New York: Urzone, 1995: pages 11-18; 25-38; 38-57.

Sun Tzu [Sunzi], *Sun Tzu: The Art of War*, trans. Samuel B. Griffith. Oxford: Clarendon, 1963.

Fei Xiaotong, *From the Soil, the Foundations of Chinese Society: a translation of Fei Xiaotong's Xiangtu Zhongguo*, by Gary G. Hamilton and Wang Zheng. Berkeley : University of California Press, 1992, 60-93.

King, Ambrose Yeo-chi, "Kuan-hsi and Network Building: A Sociological Interpretation." *Daedalus* 120. 2 (Spring 1991), pp. 63-84.

Ebrey, Patricia, "Women, Marriage, and the Family in Chinese History." *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization*. Ed. Paul S. Ropp. Berkeley : University of California Press, 1990, 197-223.

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Yan Fusun, "The Bridal Palanquin." Trans. Timothy C. Wong. *Stories for Saturday: Twentieth-Century Chinese Popular Fiction*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2003, 49-60.

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Susan Brownell, *Training the Body for China: Sports in the Moral Order of the People's Republic*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995, 34-64; 197-223.

Hubbert, Jennifer, "Of Menace and Mimicry: The 2008 Beijing Olympics," *Modern China*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (July 2013): 408-437.

Robert F. Campany, "Ghost Matter: The Culture of Ghosts in the Six Dynasties Zhiguai," *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews (CLEAR)*. Vol. 13 (Dec. 1991): 15-34.

Yeh, Yueh-yu and Darrell William Davis, "Japan Hongscreen: Pan-Asian cinemas and flexible accumulation," in *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, Vol. 22, No. 1, 2002: 61-82.

Lu Xun, "The Wise man, the Fool, and the Slave" in *Wild Grass*, trans. Yang Hsien-I and Gladys Yang, Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1985: 69-71.

Takeuchi Yoshimi, *What is modernity? : Writings of Takeuchi Yoshimi*, trans. Richard Calichman. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

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Mao Tse-tung (Mao Zedong), "On Practice." online at

< https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-1/mswv1_16.htm>

Evans, Harriet. "The Language of Liberation: Gender and *jiefang* in Early Communist Party Discourse," *Twentieth-century China: New Approaches*, ed. Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom. London: Routledge, 2003, 193-220.

Anthony D. King, and Abidin Kusno, "On Be(ij)ing in the World: 'Postmodernism,' 'Globalization,' and the Making of Transnational Space in China," in Arif Dirlik and Xudong Zhang (eds.), *Postmodernism & China*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2000, 41-67

Szablewicz, Marcella, "A Realm of Mere Representation? 'Live' E-Sports Spectacles and the Crafting of China's Digital Gaming Image," *Games and Culture*, Prepublished July 22, 2015, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1555412015595298>

Moskowitz, Marc L. "From Mao Zedong to Michael Jackson: Revisualizing culture and history in the YouTube age," in *China Information*, Vol. 29 (3) 2015: 309–332. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0920203X15598132>



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022-2023

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

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: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar) . 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, tablets, 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

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, 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) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. 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. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

c) 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. 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: [accommodation_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). 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>

Wellness and Health Supports 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. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. 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

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

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)