

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Concepts in Chinese Culture

Course Number and Section:

CHINESE

2652F 550

Instructor Name(s): Sean Macdonald

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

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.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand that Chinese studies is a multi-faceted discipline with a distinct history in Canada
2. Think critically and analytically using multiple discourses surrounding Chinese Culture
3. Analyze disciplinary content to identify contexts, learn fresh perspectives, and debate and discuss problems in the field.
1. Understand and apply the methods of close reading, note taking, analysis, and synthesis.
6. Understand the academic expectations pertaining to studentship at Huron at Western and to higher learning at a university.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Articles available through the libraries.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation	Throughout semester	25

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Quiz	Sept. 16	15
Quiz	Sept. 30	10
Quiz	Oct. 28	20
Open book final	Exam period	30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Thursday, August 14, 2025