



## CHN 3651F The Chinese Novel Section 550 Fall 2022

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**Class:** 11:30-12:30 Monday, 11:30-13:30 Wednesday  
Classroom HC-W108, Huron University College

**Office Hour:** 12:30-13:30 Monday or by appointment

### **Course Description:**

This course is a survey of the major developments in the history and art of the Chinese novel from its beginning in the 14th century to its maturation in the late 18th century. The core of the course will be devoted to the study of four masterworks in order to elucidate particular characteristics of the Chinese novel, such as its didacticism, its generating ideology, its compositional features and its language and narrative methods. The approach employed to investigate the selected works is the intrinsic or literary approach that focuses on the plot construction, characterization, narrative stance, and techniques and strategies of meaning formation in the texts. Texts will be further explored from a comparative perspective in relation to earlier versions and later literary or film adaptations in evolving social discourses and contexts. The course is taught in English.

**Pre-requisites:** 1.0 essay course from Category A or B.

### **Learning Objectives:**

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

- Outline the major developments in the history of the Chinese novel;
- Identify the main generic features of the Chinese novel;
- Describe the common and unique narrative methods and techniques used in narrating the story;
- Identify some important works, major authors and critics and their contribution to the development of the Chinese novel;
- Develop analytical skills and critical thinking abilities in studying Chinese novels.

**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 Active Participation:	10%
Presentation:	10%
Midterm Test:	25%
Final Examination:	25%
Term paper:	30% (Due Dec. 7)

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.

Tests

The mid-term test will take place in class on **Oct. 26**. It is two hours in length and covers lectures and readings in the first six sessions. The final exam will be scheduled during the exam period. It is two hours and covers lectures and readings after the mid-term test. No use of reference materials or electronic devices is permitted for both tests. Exam format will be given in class prior to the exam.

Presentation and Term 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 one or two questions for discussion. You are required to submit an outline of your presentation as well as discussion questions and your thoughts (including a hard copy and an electronic copy) one week after your presentation.

Students will write a research paper of at least 2000 words based on the presentation (major changes to the topic must be consulted with and approved by the instructor by Nov. 16). Please provide a word count at the end of your paper. You must consult scholarly books and articles and not limit your research to Internet sources. All the primary and secondary sources must be appropriately cited in the paper and listed in your bibliography in MLA format. No form of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be tolerated. The hard copy of the essay must be submitted at the beginning of the last class. Essays submitted after 1:30 pm on **Dec. 7** will be

counted one day late. The electronic copy of the essay must be uploaded to OWL on **Dec. 7** as well.

Specific instructions for the presentation and term paper will be provided in class.

### **Special Instructions:**

1. Once you sign up your presentation, you cannot change your topic without the permission of the instructor. There will be no grade given in the case of no-show without prior notice.
2. There is a penalty for late submission of the hard copy and electronic copy of presentation outline and term paper. Penalty is **10%** for **each calendar day** to a total of **three** days. Assignments more than three days late will not be accepted except in the case of documented medical or compassionate circumstances. Late assignments should be submitted to the drop box located outside the Administrative Assistants' Office (A116).

### **Schedule of Classes**

#### **Week 1. Sept. 12 & 14 Introduction**

#### **Week 2. Sept. 19&21 *Romance of the Three Kingdoms: Brotherhood and Righteousness***

Reading: Lo Kuan-Chung. *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.

Volume 1, Chapters 1, 25-28, pages 1-10, 259-301.

Volume 2, Chapters 77, 81, pages 176-185, 213-221.

#### **Week 3. Sept. 26&28 *Romance of the Three Kingdoms: Conquering the Barbarians***

Reading: Luo Guanzhong. *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. Chapter 87-90, pages 473-496.

#### **Week 4. Oct. 3&5 *The Marshes of Mount Liang: From Hero to Outlaw***

Reading: Luo Guanzhong and Shi Nai'an. *The Marshes of Mount Liang*. Volume 2. Chapter 24-26 (Chapter 26 is posted on OWL)

#### **Week 5. Oct. 10&12 *The Marshes of Mount Liang: Amnesty and Legitimacy***

##### **Oct. 10 Happy Thanksgiving! No Class**

**Oct. 12** Reading: Luo Guanzhong and Shi Nai'an. *The Marshes of Mount Liang*.

Volume 4, Chapter 71, pages 143-163.

Volume 5, Chapter 119-120, pages 423-468.

#### **Week 6. Oct. 17&19 *Rewriting The Marshes of Mount Liang***

Reading: Hsiao-hsiao-sheng. *The Plum in the Golden Vase*.

Volume 1, Chapter 9-10, pages 170-196.

Volume 5, Chapter 87, pages 113-130.

#### **Week 7.**

**Oct. 24 Q & A Session**

**Oct. 26 Mid-term test**

**Oct. 31 & Nov. 2 Reading Week**

**Week 8. Nov. 7&9 *The Journey to the West: The Clash of Religions***

Reading: Wu Cheng-en. *The Journey to the West*, Volume 2, Chapter 44-46, pages 300-352.

**Week 9. Nov. 14&16 *The Journey to the West: Rewriting Sex and Gender***

Reading: Wu Cheng-en. *The Journey to the West*. Volume 3. Chapter 54, pages 52-68.

**Week 10. Nov. 21&23 *The Women's Kingdom in Flowers in the Mirror***

Reading: Li Ju-chen. "The Women's Kingdom" in *Chinese Literature: Popular Fiction and Drama*, pages 421-466.

**Week 11 and 12. Nov. 28&30; Dec. 5 & 7**

***The Story of the Stone: The Development of the Chinese Novel***

Reading: Cao Xueqin. *The Story of the Stone*. Volume 1. Chapters 1, 2, 5, pages 47-83, 124-148. Volume 5. Chapters 120, pages 357-376.

**Term paper is due on Dec. 7.**

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022**

### **Pandemic Contingency**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further 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 \(uwo.ca\)](#). 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](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](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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto: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 \(uwo.ca\)](#)