CHN 3654G – HUC

Trauma, Memory and Narrative in Chinese Literature and Film

Distance / Online Studies (Please watch the orientation video on OWL)

Class Time: Learning activities are scheduled for Monday and Wednesday each week. Please see the schedule and deadlines of learning activities on OWL.

Zoom meeting: Monday 10:30-11:30 / Wednesday 9:30-11:30 (See "lessons" on OWL)

Instructor: Dr. Guoyuan Liu **Email address:** gliu23@uwo.ca

Office Hours: OWL Forums or Zoom meeting by appointment.

Course prerequisite: 1.0 Essay course from Category A or B.

Course description:

Trauma is "a crisis of representation" (Hirsch). Trauma is "socially mediated" (Alexander). To understand trauma, it is not enough just to examine the incident that has caused the wound. More importantly, we should explore the way stories of traumatic experience are told. This course examines the narratives of traumatic experience in contemporary Chinese literature and film. Our focus will be on the representation of traumatic experience in selected historical episodes in modern Chinese history. Drawing on various approaches to trauma in film studies, literary criticism and social theories, we will analyze the portrayal of trauma in selected films, literary texts and memoirs. We will also investigate how historical trauma in the collective memories of the Chinese people shaped and reshaped the Chinese national identity, through popular conceptions and imaginations.

Taught in English.

Course objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to

- 1. gain a general understanding of "trauma";
- 2. have a general knowledge of approaches to "trauma" in in film studies, literary criticism and social theories;
- 3. demonstrate basic skills for analyzing literature and film with reference to their historical, social and political contexts.

Literary texts:

Lu Xun: "Preface to Outcry"

Yu Hua: To Live. Trans. Michael Berry. New York: Anchor, 2003.

Eileen Chang: Lust, Caution. Trans. Julia Lovell. Lust, Caution: The Story, the Screenplay, and the Making of the Film. New York: Pantheon, 2007. 3-48.

Films:

Not all these films will be screened in class. Some will be discussed with images and clips.

A City of Sadness (1989, dir. Hou Xiaoxian)

Nanjing 1937 (1996, dir. Wu Ziniu)

The Blue Kite (1992, dir. Tian Zhuangzhuang)

To Live (1994, dir. Zhang Yimou)

Red Cherry (1995, dir. Ye Ying)

Devil on the Doorstep (2000, dir. Jiang Wen)

Lust Caution (2007, dir. Ang Lee)

Hollywood Hong Kong (2001, dir. Fruit Chan)

City of Life and Death (2009, dir. Lu Chuan)

Aftershock (2010, dir. Feng Xiaogang)

Home Coming (2016, dir. Zhang Yimou)

A Touch of Sin (2013 dir. Jia Zhangke)

Theoretical perspectives:

Theoretical perspectives in this course help you understand how trauma can be understood in different ways. The following works will be summarized in lectures, and short excerpts will be read and discussed in class.

Jeffery Alexander. Cultural Trauma and Collective Identity

Michael Berry. A History of Pain

Cathy Caruth. *Unclaimed Experience*

Sigmund Freud. Beyond the Pleasure Principle

Joshua Hirsch. Afterimage: Film, Trauma, and the Holocaust

Diana Lary. The Chinese People at War

Susan Sontag. Regarding the Pain of Others

Johnathan Spence: The Search for Modern China

Class Methods: Lecture, in-class discussion, written assignments

Method of evaluation and assessment:

Attendance (zoom meeting)	10%
Class participation/Forum discussion	10%
Lecture/Reading Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Essay	50%

Schedule of classes:

Jan. 11-13 Course orientation

How to study this course in the distance/online study mode

Reading: course outline

Jan. 18-20 Trauma, history and national narrative

Understanding trauma and national identity

Reading: Cultural Trauma and Collective Identity (selection, to be read in class)

Unclaimed experience (selection, to be read in class);

Beyond the Pleasure Principle (Selection, to be read in class).

To Live 3-38

Jan. 25-27 National humiliation and the beginning of modernity

Reading: A History of Pain (selection, available on OWL)

"Preface to Outcry" (available on OWL)

Feb. 1-3 Film discussion

Film: The City of Life and Death

Reading: To Live 74-110

Feb. 8-10 Witnessing and trauma narrative

Reading: *Afterimage* (selection, to be read in class)

Regarding the pain of others (selection, to be read in class)

To Live 38-74

Feb 15-19: Spring reading week.

No class meeting.

Feb. 22-24 Midterm Exam

The midterm exam is an online, open-book exam. Please see instructions in "Lessons"

Mar. 1-3 Social deformation and collective trauma

Reading: *The Chinese People at War* (Selection, available on OWL).

Eileen Chang: "Lust, Caution." (available on OWL)

Mar. 8-10 Film discussion

Film: *City of Sadness*

Reading: To Live 110-144.

Mar. 15-17 Trauma, identity and representation

Reading: *To Live* 144-179.

Mar. 22-24 Film discussion

Film: To Live

Reading: To Live 179-214.

Mar. 29 -31 Film discussion

Film: Home coming

Reading: To Live 214-232.

"Translator's afterword" To Live, 237-45

Apr. 5-7 Film discussion

Film: *Aftershock*

Apr. 12 Course conclusion

No reading.

Online learning

This course is delivered online. You will study all materials and do all assignments at home through the Internet. There will be no in-person meeting throughout this course. All learning activities will be done on OWL (owl.uwo.ca). Readings, lectures, assignments, quizzes and exams are organized with the "Lessons" tool on OWL.

Learning activities

This course is designed in a task-oriented manner. On each day from Monday to Thursday, you are expected to complete the study of a unit. Each unit consists of a series of guided learning tasks. The learning activities in each unit include assignments, quizzes, discussion, etc. The results will be graded and will be part of your final course grade. For the best outcome, please follow the instructions and complete the learning activities as guided.

Schedule and deadlines

You are expected to keep up with the schedule and complete your studies before the **deadlines on each day.** After the deadline, the quizzes, class discussion and other assignment for the unit will be **closed**. The grade for missed learning activities and assignment will be **zero**. Please read the instructions carefully and check the schedule from time to time to make sure you do not miss any deadline.

Communication

All questions about the subjects of the course or about the learning activities and quizzes in the course should be posted in Forums under the topic "Questions." Please view the posted questions and answers, because other people's questions might probably be your concern, too. Before posting your question, please check to see if a similar question was already posted and answered. Please DO NOT ask questions of this kind by email. Questions. Such emails might not be replied.

If you have any personal request, you are welcome to send me an email to gliu23@uwo.ca. I will do my best to reply emails of this kind promptly.

If you need to arrange a zoom meeting with me, please sent me an email to arrange an appointment.

All notices in this course will be sent to your uwo email addresses. Please check your uwo email regularly.

Course work:

Please be reminded that your final grade reflects your performance in this course. As the term begins, your grade is zero and will increase with the accumulation of your course work. Please read the following descriptions carefully and decided how to earn your grade.

Zoom meeting attendance (10%)

The zoom meeting attendance is calculated by hours attended divided by total zoom meeting hours. If you attend part of a zoom meeting (for example, half of a one-hour meeting), only the time of your attendance will be counted (for example, 0.5 instead of 1).

At the beginning of the term, your attendance grade is zero. It will grow with the accumulation of your attendance hours. Please note that if you miss a scheduled zoom meeting, there will be no penalty, but you will not earn the attendance for the hour.

The zoom meeting is a virtual classroom. In in-person classes, your presence in class means you are heard or at least seen by other students and the instructor. Likewise, you must show yourself in the zoom meeting. If your camera and mic is off throughout the zoom meeting, you will not be considered as present. In other words, to earn attendance grades, you, not just your name, should be in the zoom meeting.

Reading/Lecture quizzes (10%)

The quizzes will be posted in the subpage of the relevant unit in "Lessons." Each quiz must be finished before the indicated deadline. After the deadline the quiz will be closed and there will be no make-up for missed quizzes.

Class participation /Forum discussion (5% + 5%)

You can participate in class discussion with the "Forums" tool on OWL. In each unit, you can follow the link in the subpage in Lessons to find the relevant topic in Forums. Like the quizzes, the discussion has a deadline, after which the topic will be closed.

Your posts should not only demonstrate your familiarity with the subject discussed, but also your critical consideration of it. In class discussion, you are expected to not only post your own opinions, but also interact with the opinions of others.

Please see the rubrics for assessing participation on OWL.

Midterm Exam (20%)

The midterm exam is an online, open-book exam. You can find the instructions and rubrics on the subpage for the exam in Lessons on OWL.

Essay (50%)

The essay of this course is a **university essay**. In a university essay, you are expected to present an **argument**. That is, you are expected to state an **opinion** about a theme or a literary text and support your opinion with sound reasoning and sufficient evidence. It is assumed that you already understand the basic concepts of a university essay. If you are not familiar with the requirements for the essay structure, the thesis statement, etc., you might find the links for writing assistance helpful.

You can find the instructions and rubrics on the subpage for the essay in Lessons on OWL.

Plagiarism and any other misconduct will not be tolerated.



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2020 - 2021

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 enrol in it without them, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. If you enrol in this course despite having already taken an antirequisite you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. Removals for these reasons 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 or for having already taken the antirequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

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. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

While in the physical classroom or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: enter and leave quietly. Please see the Code of Student Conduct at: www.huronuc.on.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/Code%20of%20Student%20Conduct.pdf.

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (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.

Adding / Dropping Courses

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 Huron website, https://huronatwestern.ca/academic-advising or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: http://www.western.ca/academic-advising or review the list of official Sessional Dates.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.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post all relevant information on the OWL class site and on the Huron website at, https://huronatwestern.ca/about/accessibility.

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.

Please see the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Academic Student 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/academic-advising.

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/contact-directory.

Copyright Regarding Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member is interested in posting a student's answers or papers on the course website he/she should ask for the student's written permission.

Statement on Academic Integrity

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;

- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars, it is also an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction, to failure in the course, to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

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, as per the Academic Calendar:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading 189.

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 (https://www.turnitin.com/).

Computer-Marked Tests/Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

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 Accommodation for Students With Disabilities

Students who require **special** accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/.

Please review the full policy at,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

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/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.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.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

Please note the following conditions that are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- Any absences in excess of the number designated in clause a above, regardless of
 duration, will require students to present a <u>Student Medical Certificate (SMC)</u>, signed by
 a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, detailing the duration and severity of
 illness, or appropriate documentation supporting extenuating circumstances to the
 Academic Counselling unit in their Faculty of registration no later than two business days
 after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.

- Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term.
- Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.
- Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Please review the full policy at,

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

Policy on "Academic" Accommodation - Medical / Non-Medical Grounds

(a) <u>Medical Grounds</u> for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go directly to Huron Support Services/ Academic Advising, or email <u>huronsss@uwo.ca</u>.

University Senate policy, which can be found at,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf , 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.

(b) Accommodation on <u>Medical Grounds</u> for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly

When seeking accommodation 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. The instructor may <u>not</u> 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.

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) Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/ Academic Advising

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, bereavement) the student should contact an academic advisor directly. All accommodation requests must include a completed <u>Accommodation Request Form</u>. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student's request is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student's ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Dean.

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: 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, www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/.

Important Dates & Directory

For a current and up-to-date list of important dates and campus directories, please visit:

- Huron Important Dates: https://huronuc.ca/important-dates-and-deadlines
- Academic Calendar & Sessional Dates: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm
- Huron Directory Faculty, Staff and Administration: https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory
- Western Directory Faculty, Staff and Administration: https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html