

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.

**CHN 3655G 550 - HUC
Chinese Theatre and Chinese Culture
Spring term 2022**

Class Time: Monday 2:30-3:30 PM, Wednesday 3:30-5:30 PM
Huron University College W106

Instructor: Dr. Guoyuan Liu
Office: A104
Email address: gliu23@uwo.ca
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:30 or by appointment

Course prerequisite: NONE

Course description:

Monks, bandits, lovers, prostitutes, ... the Chinese music-drama stage is teeming with fantastic characters. And they do fantastic things, too. A Buddhist monk might go wild and break all precepts; a fierce-looking bandit might be kind and gentle to the weak; a lover might die from love-sickness and come back to life three years later; a prostitute might save herself from powerful males with witty talking.

This course will offer an overview of the most popular types of characters in classical Chinese theatrical literature through the Yuan (1271-1368), Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties. Seeing traditional Chinese theater as a form of popular entertainment developed across ages in its changing historical, social, cultural and political contexts, we will discuss several themes prevalent in traditional Chinese theater, with special attention to their cultural backgrounds and ideological implications.

Taught in English.

Course objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to

1. illustrate the development of traditional Chinese theatre,
2. name major dramatists and their representative works,
3. explain conventions of traditional Chinese theatre,
4. identify fundamental concepts of traditional Chinese culture,
5. demonstrate basic skills for analyzing cultural phenomena with reference to their historical, social and political contexts.

Textbooks and required resources:

Course package available at UWO bookstore.

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

Method of evaluation and assessment:

Attendance	10%
Participation/Discussion	10%
Reading Quizzes	10%
Mid-term exam	20%
Essay	50%

Schedule of classes:

Week 1 Introduction: Chinese theater and Chinese culture

Mon. Jan 10 & Wed. Jan 12

No reading

Week 2 The Impartial Judge

Mon. Jan 17 & Wed. Jan 19

Reading: Guan Hanqing (c. 1214-c.1300): “Hudiemeng (The Butterfly Dream).”
(Text on reserve at Huron Library).

Week 3 The Devoted Hero

Mon. Jan 24 & Wed. Jan 26

Reading: Ji Junxiang(13th-14th Cent.): “Zhaoshiguer (The Orphan of Zhao)”

Week 4 The Righteous Bandit

Mon. Jan 31 & Wed. Feb 2

Reading: Kang Jinzhi(13th-14th Cent.): “LiKuifujing (Li Kui Carries Thorns).”

Week 5 The Undisciplined Monk

Mon. Feb 7 & Wed. Feb 9

Reading: Zheng Tingyu(13th Cent.): “Budaiheshangrenziji (Monk Pu-Tai and the Character for Patience).”

Week 6 Midterm Week

Mon. Feb 14: Essay workshop

Wed. Feb 16: Midterm exam

Feb 19-27: Reading Week.

No class meeting.

Week 7 The Love-sick Couple

Mon. Mar 1 & Wed. Mar 3

Reading: Wang Shifu (13th-14th Cent.): Part III Acts II& III, *Xixiangji (The Romance of the Western Chamber)*.

Week 8 China Day week

China Day event: Mar 9 11:30-1:30

"Writing In-Between: Cross-Cultural Stories by Chinese Canadian Writers."

Guest speakers: Zeng Xiaowen & Zhang Ling

Speeches will be given in English

All students of CHN3655 are required to participate in the China Day event.

Week 9 The Secret Garden

Mon. Mar 14 & Wed. Mar 16

Reading: Tang Xianzu (1550-1616): Scenes 7, 9, 10, *Mudan ting (The Peony Pavilion)*.

Week 10 The Self-Reflexive Portrait

Mon. Mar 21 & Wed. Mar 23

Reading: Tang Xianzu (1550-1616): Scenes 14& 26, *Mudan ting (The Peony Pavilion)*.

Week 11 The Dream Lover

Mon. Mar 28 & Wed. Mar 30

Reading: Tang Xianzu (1550-1616): Scene 28, from *Mudan ting (The Peony Pavilion)*.

Week 12 The Witty Prostitute

Mon. Apr 4 & Wed. Apr 6

Reading: Tang Ying (1682-1755): "Miengangxiao (Laughter in a Flour Barrel).

OWL

Students must consult OWL for this course regularly. All course materials and announcements will be conveyed by this and no other means.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices, including laptops, tablet computers, smart phones, etc., can be used in the classroom for pedagogical/academic purposes only (such as note taking, reading, research, etc.), and for no other purposes (such as gaming, social networking, etc.).

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.

Attendance (10%)

Attendance is calculated by hours attended divided by total lecture hours. An attendance sheet will be passed around during the lecture. It is the student's responsibility to sign the attendance sheet before the end of the lecture. The attendance sheet cannot be signed on a different day. Signing the attendance sheet in place of anyone but oneself is considered cheating and will be penalized.

Participation / Discussion (10%)

The participation/discussion grade reflects how active you are in class discussion. In your participation in class discussion, you should not only demonstrate your familiarity with the subject discussed, but also your critical consideration of it. You are encouraged to ask questions. Good questions make great contribution to class discussion.

To earn good participation grade, you need to be active in class discussion and well prepared before class.

Please see the rubrics for assessing participation on the course website.

Reading quizzes (10%)

Reading is the major part of your course work. To help you keep up with the reading schedule, there will be 5 pop quizzes. Each quiz (2%) is a question about the day's reading that you will have no difficulty answering if you have finished the reading. **There will be no make-up for missed reading quizzes.**

To earn good grades from the reading quizzes, you need to study the assigned reading before class.

Midterm Exam (20%)

In this exam you are expected to show your knowledge and analytic skills gained in the first half of the term. To succeed in the exam, you need to be attentive and take notes in the lectures and be well prepared before the exam.

Details will be explained in class and will be posted on OWL.

Essay (50%)

The written assignment 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.

To get a D and above, your written assignment must meet the following basic requirements:

- 1) The essay must consist of an introduction, a body text and a conclusion.
- 2) A thesis statement (one sentence) must be presented in the introduction.

To get a C and above, your written assignment must meet the following requirements:

- 1) The essay must address the main issues discussed in this course.
- 2) The thesis statement must be clear and specific.
- 3) The arguments should be based on analyses of the literary texts you choose to discuss.

To get a B and above, your written assignment must meet the following requirements:

- 1) The thesis must be organized in an argument-driven manner.
- 2) The essay must analyze **details** of the literary texts you choose to discuss.
- 3) The essay must show a good understanding of the main issues discussed in this course.

To get an A and above, your written assignment must meet the following requirements:

- 1) The essay must show a perceptive reading of the literary texts you choose to discuss.
- 2) The writing must be clear and efficient.

Please see the rubrics for assessing the written assignment on the course website.

To do well in the written assignment, you need to

- 1) understand the requirements of the assignment;
- 2) study the assigned readings critically;
- 3) be familiar with the main issues discussed in this course.

The instructor is more than happy to provide help with the assignment. Yet please understand: 1) The instructor will only give advice and make suggestions; it is the student's responsibility to finish the assignment independently; 2) the instructor's advice and suggestions do not guarantee a higher grade.

The written assignment is to be submitted on the course website. **It is the student's responsibility to confirm that the assignment is successfully submitted.**

Extension is only granted for academic reasons, and must be requested at least one week before the due date. For medical or non-medical academic accommodation, see relative section in the appendix.

Plagiarism is not tolerated in any situation.

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://academicssupport.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/>.