

CHIN 3402: Readings in Chinese Culture

Spring 2019

I. Course Objectives:

This course introduces various topics in Chinese culture through readings of thematic chapters in Chinese. The topics to be covered include Chinese calligraphy, painting, idioms, holidays, poems, among others. Upon completion of the course, the students are expected not only to improve their reading comprehension of Chinese language, but also gain a good understanding of Chinese culture.

II. Instructor:

Lan Zhang, PhD. Associate Professor of Chinese

Office: 215 Jones Hall, 678-3146, lzhang3@memphis.edu

Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:30 (or by appointment)

III. Meeting time:

MWF 10:20-11:15 Jones 243

IV. Textbook:

- Zu-yan Chen and Hong Zhang, 2012. *Cultural Chinese: Readings in Art, Literature, and History*. Georgetown University Press.

V. Grading:

- ✚ Class participation and performance: 10%
- ✚ Homework: 10%
- ✚ Presentations & Summaries: 25%
- ✚ Mid-term written exam: 25%
- ✚ Final written exam: 30%

A+ (96 ~ 100%) A (93 ~ 95%) A- (90 ~ 92%) B+ (86 ~ 89%) B (83 ~ 85%) B- (80 ~ 82%)

C+ (76 ~ 79%) C (73 ~ 75%) C- (70 ~ 72%) D+ (66 ~ 69%) D (60 ~ 65%) F (0 ~ 59%)

Class participation and performance: Students are expected to participate in the discussions on the assigned topics in class.

Homework: Homework mainly includes assigned reading which will prepare the students for in-class discussion. It also includes some exercises for reviewing.

Presentations: The students are required to present on their assigned topics approximately every two weeks. For presentation topics, please see schedule. The presentations can be done in English. However, if it is in English, I would expect more content. Each presentation should be a minimum of 7 minutes.

Summaries of the presentations: Students need to turn in a written outline of their presentation which includes all the key points (with complete sentences) after the presentation. It can be done in either English or Chinese.

Written exams: The exams will include major cultural and language knowledge.

Extra credits: Extra credits will be awarded to the students who choose to present on the other group's topics in addition to their own. Two points will be added to the final presentation grade for each extra presentation and outline. Please notify the instructor prior to the day of the presentation.

VI. Course Schedule (subject to change to accommodate our needs)

Dates	Readings	Important Dates
1/14-1/25	Lesson 1: Chinese Calligraphy	1/28 Presentation on a piece of famous Chinese calligraphy work (1)
1/28-2/6	Lesson 2: Chinese Painting	2/8 Presentation on a famous Chinese artist (2)
2/8-2/18	Lesson 3: Tang Poetry	2/20 Presentation on a Tang poet and one of his/her poems (1)
2/20-3/1	Lesson 4: Chinese instrumental music	3/11 Presentation on a Chinese instrument and piece of music (2)
3/4-3/10	Spring Break	
3/11	Presentation, Review	
3/13	Mid-term exam	
3/15-3/25	Lesson 5: Beijing Opera	3/27 Presentation on a story of Beijing Opera (1)
3/27-4/8	Lesson 6: Idioms	4/10 Presentation on the origin of a Chinese idiom (2)
4/10-4/19	Lesson 7: Holidays	4/22: Presentation on a Chinese traditional festival(1, 2)
4/22, 4/24	Review	
M, April 29th, 8:00a - 10:00a	Final Exam	

(1) Evan, Crescent, Cheyenne

(2) Steven, Abigail, Everest, Star

Title IX:

The University is committed to ensuring equality in education and eliminating any and all acts of sexual misconduct from its campus. Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can make a report to the Office for Institutional Equity at oiie@memphis.edu or 901.678.2713. Please note that if you make a report to me I am required to report it. If you want to make a confidential report you can contact the University Counseling Center, 214 Wilder Tower, 901.678.2068.