



SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

CHINESE PROGRAMME
CHIN 213 MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE

TRIMESTER 2 2009
13 July to 15 November 2009

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October
Study week: 19 to 23 October

Names and contact details

Coordinator: Dr LUO Hui Room vZ701
Tel 463 6461 Hui.Luo@vuw.ac.nz

Administrator: Shirley Pack Room vZ610
Tel 463 5635 Shirley.Pack@vuw.ac.nz
Hours 9:45am-4.30pm

The lecturer will be available for consultation during normal working hours. Office Hours for this course: Mondays and Fridays, 3-4 pm.

Contact Person for:

Students with Disabilities

Maori and Pacific Students

Dr Richard Millington vZ 613 Tel 463 5976 Richard.Millington@vuw.ac.nz

Class times and locations

Lectures Mon 4-5pm KK201
and Tue 4-5pm KK201
and Thur 4-5pm KK201
and Fri 4-5pm KK201

Course delivery

The course is devoted to the study of modern Chinese literary texts through close reading, translation, and discussion. Most of the lectures will be conducted in a workshop setting, and therefore in-class participation is essential.

Starting from the second week of the trimester, students are expected to finish their weekly reading BEFORE each class. Reading schedule will be announced in class and on Blackboard.

Study groups and on-line discussion groups, at the students' own initiative, are encouraged but entirely voluntary.

Communication of additional information

Timetable and programme changes and other course-related information will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. You are advised to check Blackboard regularly. For information on the Chinese programme and extra-curricular activities, check the Chinese Programme notice board (vZ Level 7).

Course content

The upheavals experienced by China over the course of the twentieth-century had a tremendous impact upon the literary traditions of this ancient civilisation, in terms of both language and the content of modern Chinese literature. Through the close reading of a selection of important literary texts in a variety of genres (poetic, dramatic and narrative), from the inception of New Literature in the 1910s to the writings of the post-Mao era, students will be introduced to the writings of some of the major Chinese writers of the twentieth-century and to the critical study of modern Chinese literature in its social and historical context. The thematic focus of the course will be on exploring the various articulations and representations of "the modern" and "modernity," and how modern Chinese literature has been shaped by aesthetic choices as well as cultural politics.

Learning objectives

This course involves the reading, both in the Chinese original and in English translation, of selected works of twentieth-century Chinese literature, studied in their social and historical context. Emphasis will be given to the craft of literary translation.

By the end of the course you should

- be able to read a range of modern Chinese literary texts, employing the skills (including dictionary work) developed in this course
- be able to critically analyse the selected works in their literary, social and historical context
- have developed an understanding of aspects of Chinese-English translation

Expected workload

a) Students are required to attend four lectures per week. Course attendance should be at least 80% of all classes offered.

b) Students are expected to read approximately 20 pages of Chinese and English text per week. The university workload guidelines suggest that students should devote a total of 15 hours a week, including class contact hours, to this course for its duration in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

Readings

Essential Texts:

Students should acquire the following student notes:

- *CHIN 213: Modern Chinese Literature*

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Recommended Reading:

- Chow, Rey. *Woman and Chinese Modernity: the Politics of Reading between West and East* (Minneapolis, MN : University of Minnesota Press, 1991)
- Dolezeliva-Velingerova, M. & Oldrich Kral, eds. *The Appropriation of Cultural Capital: China's May Fourth Project* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001)
- Denton, Kirk A., ed. *Modern Chinese Literary Thought, Writings on Literature, 1893-1945* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996)
- McDougall, Bonnie and Kam Louie, *The Literature of China in the 20th Century* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1997)
- Shih, Shu-mei Shih. *The Lure of the Modern* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000)
- Tang, Xiaobing. *Chinese Modern: the Heroic and Quotidian* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2000)

The above titles are placed on closed reserve at the VUW Library. Students are encouraged to use these books as background reading and as reference material for their essay writing.

A list of recommended dictionaries and online resources will be available on Blackboard.

Assessment requirements

1. Translation Assignments: [40%]

Four short equally weighted translation assignments, due:

- 31 July
- 14 August
- 14 September
- 5 October

Assignments to be submitted two weeks after being set and to be marked and returned within two weeks of the due date.

2. Essay: [30%]

- Draft Outline (5%) Due 28 September
- Final Essay (25%) Due 12 October

Essay topics will be given out by the middle of September. Students must submit a draft outline and have it approved by the lecturer before proceeding with the writing of the essay. Word Limit: 1500-2000 words.

3. Final Test: [30%]

- 16 October

The Final Test will be 50 minutes in duration and will be held during the usual lecture period. Students will be allowed to make use of dictionaries during the test.

Penalties

The late submission of assignments and/or essays must be negotiated with the lecturer concerned before the due date and, depending upon circumstances, may be penalised.

Mandatory course requirements

It is mandatory for a student to submit at least 3 out of 4 take-home assignments, submit one essay, and sit all tests.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>