



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

CHINESE PROGRAMME

CHIN 407 SPECIAL TOPIC 2: CHINESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY
30 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: 6 June 2014

Note: There is no examination for this course.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats

Names and contact details

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School Office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Māori
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School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Class times and locations

Wednesday 12noon – 1.50pm vZ (von Zedlitz) 104

Communication of additional information

Information on any timetable changes will be announced in lectures and posted on the Chinese Programme Notice Board on Level 7 of the von Zedlitz Building and Blackboard. You are advised to check Blackboard and the notice board regularly.

Prescription

This course will comprise independent, supervised research projects on aspects of Chinese culture and society, with a focus on young people in contemporary Chinese society. It is designed to extend students' translation, analytical, and academic writing skills.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate a detailed knowledge of this specific field of Chinese Studies;
2. demonstrate the ability to define, develop and carry to completion extended pieces of research;
3. demonstrate advanced research and analytical skills.

Teaching format

Weekly meetings during term time. Students are expected to submit their written work-in-progress by Monday in preparation for discussion during the meeting on Wednesday.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit all 3 written assignments (short essay, research proposal, and final research essay)
2. Give one oral presentation
3. Attend 80% of the weekly meetings

Workload

The University Assessment Handbook guidelines suggest that students should devote around 20 hours per week, including contact hours, for this single-trimester 30-point course. In line with the University regulations, students are expected to work about 300 hours in total for this course.

Assessment

This course will be internally assessed, in the following manner:

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due Date
1 A short essay that identifies and defines an issue in Chinese youth culture (1,000 words); 40 hours to complete	15%	1, 2, 3	26 March
2 A research proposal with annotated bibliography (1,500 words); 40 hours to complete	15%	1, 2, 3	7 May

3	A 20-minute oral presentation based on the draft research essay; 30 hours to prepare	10%	1, 2, 3	28 May
4	Final version of the research essay (6,000 – 8,000 words); 120 hours to complete	60%	1, 2, 3	6 June

Submission and return of work

Assignments must be submitted to the course coordinator on or before the due date, and will be marked and returned to the students within two weeks of the hand-in date.

Students will be able to collect marked work from the SLC Office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm each day. A Student ID card will need to be shown to collect work.

Extensions and penalties

Students should discuss with the lecturer prior to the due date of assessment tasks, should they have difficulties of submitting the work on time. Late assignments without previous approval or certificated reasons will be penalised at the rate of 5% per day (of the total mark of the assignment concerned). There is no word-length penalty, although if your essay is significantly below the lower limit of the suggested word-length, it may prevent you from exploring your subject or expressing your ideas fully.

Set texts

A list of reading materials will be compiled in consultation with the students based on their area of interest within the larger topic of Chinese society and youth culture.

A recommended reading list will be provided according to the students' area of interest within the larger topic of Chinese society and youth culture.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is the University's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting language learning.

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

- Find materials to support your language studies, including dictionaries, textbooks and graded readers.
- Study independently using language learning software, audio material and DVDs.
- Find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages
- Become a Language Buddy or find a conversation group.

Visit the LLC on Level 0, von Zedlitz Building and take a look at our website www.victoria.ac.nz/llc

Student feedback

Response to feedback for this course will be discussed in class or delivered via Blackboard.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Upon completion of the BA Honours programme in Chinese, graduates will:

1. Have advanced level mastery of written and spoken Chinese;
2. Have advanced level skills in translation from Chinese into English and be able to use a range of Sinological reference tools and dictionaries, both Chinese and Western, modern and traditional;
3. Have acquired the skills of topic definition, information gathering, analysis and interpretation in the Sinological context and have developed an understanding of the traditional and contemporary methodologies in this field of studies;
4. Have applied these various skills and methodologies to one or more specific aspects of Sinology.