

SYLLABUS

LIT 3382.001

Modern Chinese Literature and Society

Tu/Th 10:00-11:15pm Room CBW 1.105

Professor:

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Office Hours:

Tu/Th 11: 30-12: 30 or by appointment

Course Description

This course is intended as an introduction to modern Chinese culture, society, and politics through literature and intellectual thought. It has these major aims: 1) to acquaint students with major phases of modern Chinese literature and some masterpieces of representative writers in relation to political and social changes; 2) to provide opportunities to learn about modern Chinese society through readings of chosen works on Chinese intellectual thought; 3) to train students to read thoughtfully and critically so as to prepare them for future studies in other branches of learning. Part of the focus will be on the impact of Western culture and literature upon the making of modern Chinese literature and society. Course teaching will be conducted in an interdisciplinary approach of literary, cultural, semiotic, and psychoanalytic studies. All readings are in English. No prior knowledge of Chinese language, literature, and culture is required.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will examine a variety of works in Chinese intellectual thought and literature and find inherent relationships among them. Students are required not only to learn basic facts about Chinese literature and culture but also to develop skills to think critically, read thoughtfully, and write summaries, critical analysis, and scholarly essays.

Required Textbooks and Materials

- 1) Selected Stories of Lu Hsun by Lu Hsun, translated by Yang Hsien-yi and Gladys Yang (New York: Norton, 1977).
- 2) The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Literature, edited by Joseph S.M. Lau and Howard Goldblatt, 2nd Edition (New York: Columbia University Press, 2005).
- 3) Sources of Chinese Tradition, vol 2, edited by Wm. T De Bary and Richard Lufrano, 2nd Edition (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000).
- 4) Some reading materials on reserve.
- 5)

Suggested Course Materials (on reserve):

1. C. T. Hsia, A History of Modern Chinese Fiction, second edition (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1971)
2. William Lyell, *Lu Hsun's Vision of Reality* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978).
3. Ming Dong Gu, "A Chinese Oedipus in Exile," Literature and Psychology, 23. 1 and 2 (1993): 1-25.
4. _____. "The Filial Piety Complex: Variations of the Oedipus Theme in Chinese Literature and Culture," *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, vol. 75, no. 1 (2006): 163-195.

5. _____. "Lu Xun, Jameson, and Multiple Polysemia," *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature* 28, No. 4 (2001): 434-457.

Course Activities and Grading

The course will be conducted through a mixture of lectures, instructor-led discussions, and student-led discussions. Each student is required to lead the discussion of two chosen literary texts, write two story summaries, two critical analyses, and a final paper. Specific requirements for the summaries, critical analyses and final paper will be given. There will be no exams. The grading is based on the following:

1. Two summaries of designated stories (with word limit)	10%
2. A critical analysis of a poem (2 pages)	10%
3. A critical analysis of a story (2 pages)	10%
3. A term paper (8-10 pages)	50%
4. Attendance and Participation in discussion	10%
5. Leading the discussion of chosen texts	10%
Total:	100%

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Week 1 8/16 Introduction: "Social Revolution and Literary Revolution"

Week 2 HISTORICAL AND INTELLECTUAL BACKGROUND

8/21 **Sources:** "Western Intrusion Into China," pp. 198-212; "Moderate Reform and the Self-strengthening Movement," pp. 233-249; "Radical Reform at the End of the Qing," pp. 250-273; "Conservative Reactions," pp. 273-275

8/23 **Sources:** "Tan Sitong," pp. 280-287; "Liang Qichao," 287-302; "Zhang Binglin's Revolutionary Nationalism," pp. 308-309; "The Nationalist Revolution," pp. 314-330

Week 3 8/28 **Sources:** "Advocate of Script Reform," 302-307; "The New Cultural Movement," pp. 351-394

8/30 Fiction, 1918-1949 Lu Hsun: "Preface to Call to Arms," "A Madman's Diary," "Medicine," "Kung I-chi," "Tomorrow,"

Week 4 9/4 Lu Hsun: "An Incident," "Storm in a Teacup," "My Old Home," "Village Opera," "The True Story of Ah Q,"

9/6 Lu Hsun: "New Year's Sacrifice," "In the Wine Shop," "A Happy Family," "Soap,"

Week 5: 9/11 Lu Hsun: "The Misanthrope," "Regret for the Past," "Divorce,"

9/13 Lu Hsun: "The Flight to the Moon," "Forging the Sword,"

First summary due

Week 6 9/18 **Anthology** Ye Shaojun, "A Posthumous Son," Yu Dafu, "Sinking"

9/20 **Sources:** "Chiang Kai-shek: Nationalism and Traditionalism," pp. 337-347; "The Communist Revolution," pp. 396-416; "Chinese Communist Praxis, pp. 426-449

Week 7 9/25 **Anthology:** Mao Dun, "Spring Silkworms," Lao She, "An Old and Established Name," Shen Congwen, "Xiaoxiao," Lin Shuhua, "The Night of Midautumn Festival"

9/27 **Anthology:** Lai He, "The Steelyard," Ba Jin, "Dog," Shi Zhicun, "One Evening in the Rainy Season," Zhang Tianyi, "Midautumn Festival,"

Week 8 10/2 **Anthology:** Ding Ling, "When I Was in Xia Village," Wu Zuxiang, "Young Master Gets His Tonic," Xiao Hong, "Hands," Zhang Ailing, "Sealed Off," Wu Zhuoliu, "The Doctor's Mother"

10/4 Poetry, 1918-1949 **Anthology:** Xu Zhimu, "Second Farewell to Cambridge," "Love's Inspiration," "Chance"; Wen Yiduo, "Dead Water," "One Sentence," "Prayer"; Li Jinfa "Woman Abandoned," "Never to Return"; Feng Zhi, "Sonnet 2," "Sonnet 4," "Sonnet 27"; Dai Wangshu, "Rainy Alley," "Written on a Prison Wall," "With My Injured Hand"

First critical analysis due

Week 9 10/9 **Anthology:** Bian Zhilin, "A Buddhist Monk," "A Round Treasure Box," "Feverish Night"; Ai Qing, "Snow Falls on China's Land," "The North"; He Qifang, "Prophecy," "Thinking of a Friend at Year's End," "Autumn"; Zheng Min, "A Glance," "The Lotus Flower"

10/11 **Sources:** The Mao Regime, pp. 450-482

Anthology: Wang Ruowang, "A Visit to His Excellency: A Five-Minute Movie," Chen Yingzhen, "My Kid Brother Kangxiong,"

Week 10 10/16 Fiction, 1949-1976 **Anthology:** Bai Xianrong, "Winter Nights," Huang Chunming, "The Fish," Wang Zhenhe, "An Oxcart for a Dowry," Hua Tong, "Yan'an Seeds,"

10/18 **Sources:** "The Return to Stability and Tradition," pp. 483-523

Anthology: Li Ang, "Curvaceous Dolls,"

Week 11 10/23 Fiction since 1976 **Anthology:** Liu Yichang, "Wrong Number," Wang Zengqi, "A Tail," "Small-hands Chen," Wang Meng, "Tales of New Cathay," Chen Ruoxi, "The Tunnel,"

10/25 **Anthology:** Xi Xi, "A Woman Like Me," Yuan Qiongqiong, "Tales of Taipei," Li Rui, "Electing a Thief," Can Xue, "Hut on the Mountain,"

Week 12 10/30 **Anthology:** Gao Xingjian, "The Accident," Han Shaogong, "The Leader's Demise," Chen Cun, "A Story," Liu Heng, "Dogshit Food," Mo Yan, "Iron Child,"

Second critical analysis due

11/1 **Anthology:** Zhu Tianwen, "Fin de Siecle Splendor," Zhang Dachun, "Lucky Worries About His Country," Zheng Qingwen, "Redeeming a Painting," Tie Ning, "Octday," Yu Hua, "On the Road at Eighteen,"

Week 13 11/6 **Anthology:** Su Tong, "Escape," Qiu Miaojin, "Letters from Montmartre," Wang Anyi, "Granny," Alai, "Fish!" Chun Sue, "Born at the Wrong Time,"

11/8 **Anthology: Sources:** "Reopening the Debate on Chinese Tradition," pp. 545-581

Week 14 11/13 Poetry, 1949-1976 **Anthology:** Ji Xian, "Spring Dancing," "A Wolf," Mu Dan, "Self," "Song of Wisdom," Zhou Mengdie, "Kingdom of Solitude," "Under the Bodhi Tree," Yu Guangzhong, "If There's a War Raging Afar," "Nostalgia," "The White Jade Bitter Gourd," Luo Fu, "Beyond the Fog," "City: Saigon, 1967," "Following the Sound of Rain into the Mountains"

Brainstorming on How to formulate a thesis for the final paper

11/15 **Anthology:** Ya Xian, "Salt," "Paris," "The Colonel," Zheng Chouyu, "Pagoda," "Grenz-Taverne," "Clear and Bright: In the Grave," Bai Qiu, "Moth," "Vagabond," Ye Weilian,

“The River’s Fancy,” “The Pursuit,” Dai Tian, “The Story of the Stone,” “Debate on the Rugged Mountain,” Yang Mu, “Song of Grey Hair,” “After the Snow,” “Geometry: River Goddess,” Xiong Hong, “The Deluded Dream,” “Fire on the Sea Floor,”

Week 15 11/20 Poetry since 1976 **Anthology:** Zhang Cuo, “Autumn Meditation,” “A Willow Leaf Double Saber,” Huang Guobin, “A Night Prayer,” “When You Are Naked, You Have Everything,” Luo Qing, “Six Ways of Eating Watermelons,” Bei Dao, “Declaration,” “Resume,” “Another Legend,”

11/22 Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 16 11/26 **Anthology:** Shu Ting, “When You Walk Past My Window,” “A Roadside Encounter,” “Assembly Line,” Wang Xiaolong, “When We Finally Turn Fifth,” “Surgery Ward,” Yang Lian, “To a Nine-Year-Old Girl Killed in the Massacre,” “The Dead in Exile,” Gu Cheng, “An Ending,” “Curriculum Vitae,” Anonymous, “Mad Woman”

Discussion: How to **write the final paper?**

11/29 Final paper due at my office:

Course Policies

A student cannot pass this class without attending each session and completing all of the required work. Absences are excused ONLY with appropriate documentation from a doctor or other health professional, by an authorized UTD official for school events, or by official policy as disclosed below.

This course will be conducted according to strict codes of academic honesty. All cases of plagiarism will be investigated and the deliberate instances reported to the Dean of Students. Penalties for deliberate cheating may include failing the assignment in question, failing the course, or suspension and expulsion from the University. Students are expected to know the University’s policies and procedures on such matters, as well as those governing student services, conduct, and obligations.

All cell phones, game devices, and other electronic equipment MUST be turned off during class.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. Each student and student organization is responsible for knowing the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

UTD administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university’s *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents’ Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

UTD recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's UTD email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at UTD provides a method for students to have their UTD mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

UTD has set deadlines for withdrawal from any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per UTD policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688. Richardson, Texas 75083-0688. (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

UTD will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.