

Oakland University
College of Arts and Sciences
International Studies Program

IS 2100 "Perspectives on China," CRN: 41314 (4 Credits)
Fall 2018 (9/5/18-12/15/18)

Instructor: Helena Riha, Ph.D.
E-Mail: riha2@oakland.edu
Office: 1026 Human Health Building
Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an interdisciplinary study of the peoples of China and their traditional and modern civilization. It serves as an introduction to China, including its history, culture, sites, sounds, and issues. We will look at both the past and traditional aspects of China, as well as the present modern situation. We will consider cultural adaptations to China's environment that have created the unique Chinese culture and history that many people hold in awe. We will look at families, governments, religions, philosophies, and economic systems in China, as well as the arts and literature that are reflections of those systems.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT:

IS 2100 counts as a Global Perspective Course in General Education.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- * knowledge of the environments, political systems, economies, societies, and religions of one or more regions outside the United States and awareness of the transnational flow of goods, peoples, ideas and values
- * knowledge of the role that different cultural heritages, past and present, play in forming values in another part of the world, enabling the student to function within a more global context

CROSS-CUTTING CAPACITIES: Social Awareness, Critical Thinking

REQUIRED TEXT:

Patricia Buckley Ebrey. The Cambridge Illustrated History of China, 2nd edition. I will also provide additional materials on Moodle.

EXPECTATION OF CLASS MEMBERS:

-- **PARTICIPATION:** Full participation in all elements of this online course is required. All assignments must be submitted by the deadlines for credit.

-- INTERNET SERVICE/COMPUTER: You must have a reliable computer and Internet service to participate in this course. If for any reason your Internet service is not working properly, you will still be responsible for meeting assignment deadlines. I urge you to develop a backup plan at the start of the course in case your Internet service or computer stops working. You will need to figure out where you can go to make your postings by the deadlines (your office, your neighbor's house, the public library, OU campus, Kinko's, etc.).

-- COMPUTER REQUIREMENT: I STRONGLY URGE you to use a **laptop or desktop** rather than your cell phone to work on the module quizzes and the final paper. You need a full-size screen to read and answer quiz questions correctly and to formulate answers for short answer and essay questions. Students who use their phone to work on the quizzes miss points because their answers tend to be misspelled, incomplete, and overly brief.

-- PERSONAL TRIPS/EVENTS: Some students take trips or attend events during the time that classes are in session at OU. If you have a trip or event planned, you will still need to make your postings by the deadlines. Note that it is not possible to work ahead beyond the modules that I have opened, so please be aware that you need to make your postings within the time frame that I have set out for each module.

-- DUE DATES: Always check our Moodle page to find out what is due and when it is due. This is the key "survival mechanism" for online classes. Postings are always due in Moodle by 11:55 pm on the date indicated. You will receive no credit for late postings!

-- E-MAIL COMMUNICATION: I regularly contact the class by e-mail, and you are responsible for reading my messages and announcements. Since OU business is conducted through your OU e-mail account, I will contact you at that account. If you do not use your OU account, you ***must*** forward your e-mail to your usual e-mail address so that you do not miss out on communication from me.

-- CHEATING/COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STUDENTS: You must do all of the work in this course individually, without the assistance or input of others. Do not discuss your answers with others as you work on assignments. Any evidence of collaboration with other individuals will be treated as cheating and will be penalized accordingly. See the "Statement on Academic Honesty" at the end of the syllabus for more information about what constitutes cheating.

GRADE DETERMINATION:

1. MODULE 1-13 QUIZZES

There are 13 major modules in the course. (Module 14 is the final paper.) Each of the 13 modules will minimally consist of a reading and one or more quizzes on the reading and other materials in the module. Quizzes contain a variety of question types, including multiple choice, short answer, matching, essays, etc. Quizzes are worth from 10 to 50 points.

2. MODULE 14: FINAL PAPER: FILM AND SHORT STORY ANALYSIS OF "NEW YEAR SACRIFICE"/ZHU FU

This course has a final analytical paper in place of a final exam. The final paper is worth 100 points. You will watch a film and read a short story and article that reflect the themes we learn about in the course. There will be specific questions that I want you to answer for your paper that will be posted on Moodle in Module 14. The film can be purchased at Amazon.com -- see the document called "Film for the Final Paper -- Please Read!" posted under this syllabus. The film will also be on 3-hour reserve at the Kresge Library circulation desk. You will need to watch it in a Kresge Library viewing room -- it cannot be taken out of the building. The film is also available at certain public libraries under its Chinese name, *Zhu Fu*.

FINAL GRADE

Your final grade will be based on the total number of points you accumulate from both components of the course. I reserve the right to consider other factors in calculating your final grade, such as having a poor attitude in the course, missing assignments, collaborating with others, etc. Your final grade will be based on the grading scale below. For example, if your final course percentage in Moodle is 82%, you will receive a grade of B as your final grade for the course.

Scale as of Fall 2018	Corresponding Final Course Percentages	Old Scale
A	98%-100%	4.0
A-	92%-97%	3.7-3.9
B+	85%-91%	3.3-3.6
B	80%-84%	3.0-3.2
B-	77%-79%	2.7-2.9
C+	73%-76%	2.3-2.6
C	70%-72%	2.0-2.2
C-	67%-69%	1.7-1.9
D+	63%-66%	1.3-1.6
D	60%-62%	1.0-1.2
F	59% or less	0.0

SCHEDULE

Readings other than those listed below will be given, and they will be announced in the relevant module. The final paper will be due during the finals period on the date state below.

Week 1, Module 0, 9/5-9/9 Introduction to Course Mechanics, Reading: Ebrey Foreword & Preface

Week 2, Module 1, 9/10-9/16 Origins of Chinese Civilization, Reading: Ch. 1

Week 3, Module 2, 9/17-9/23 The Chinese Language, Readings Posted on Moodle

Week 4, Module 3, 9/24-9/30 Philosophical Foundations, Reading: Ch. 2

Week 5, Module 4, 10/1-10/7 Creation of the Bureaucratic Empire, Reading: Ch. 3

Week 6, Module 5, 10/8-10/14 Buddhism, Aristocracy, & Alien Rulers, Reading: Ch. 4

Week 7, Module 6, 10/15-10/21 A Cosmopolitan Empire, Reading: Ch. 5

Week 8, Module 7, 10/22-10/28 Shifting South, Reading: Ch. 6

Week 9, Module 8, 10/29-11/4 Alien Rule, Reading: Ch. 7

Week 10, Module 9, 11/5-11/11 Limits of Autocracy, Reading: Ch. 8

Week 11, Module 10, 11/12-11/18 Manchus & Imperialism, Reading: Ch. 9

Week 12, Module 11, 11/19-11/26 Taking Action (1900-49), Reading: Ch. 10 (Thursday, 11/22: Thanksgiving)

Week 13, Module 12, 11/27-12/2 Radical Reunification (1949-76), Reading: Ch. 11

Week 14, Module 13, 12/3-12/9 Opening to the World (post-1976), Reading: Ch. 12

Finals Week: Module 14: Final Paper: Film and Short Story Analysis due by 11:55 pm on Wednesday, 12/12

Please also note the Registrar's List of Important Dates: http://www.oakland.edu/important_dates

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to an environment of academic integrity and respect for the educational process and the safety and well being of all members of the community. Adherence to the Student Code of Conduct will be expected; violations of this code will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Below are examples of academic dishonesty in our class. Students, faculty or staff who know of possible academic violations are expected to report the alleged violation to the Dean of Students Office. The report will include a brief written statement and relevant evidence (original material when available). A copy of this report with supporting evidence is given to the accused student as the statement of the charge. When appropriate, the faculty member will issue a grade of Incomplete until the academic conduct matter has been resolved.

1. Cheating on assignments and examinations. This includes, but is not limited to, the following when not authorized by the instructor: the use of any assistance or materials such as books and/or notes, acquiring exams or any other academic materials, the use of any other sources in writing drafts, papers, preparing reports, solving problems, works completed for a past or concurrent course, completing homework or carrying out other assignments. No student shall copy from someone else's work or help someone else copy work or substitute another's work as one's own.

No student shall engage in any behavior specifically prohibited by an instructor in the course syllabus or class discussion.

2. Plagiarizing the work of others. Plagiarism is using someone else's work or ideas without giving that person credit. By doing this, a student is, in effect, claiming credit for someone else's thinking. This can occur in drafts, papers and oral presentations. Whether the student has read or heard the information used, the student must document the source of information. When dealing with written sources, a clear distinction should be made between quotations, which reproduce information from the source word-for-word within quotation marks, and paraphrases, which digest the source of information and produce it in the student's own words. Both direct quotations and paraphrases must be documented. Even if a student rephrases, condenses or selects from another person's work, the ideas are still the other person's and failure to give credit constitutes misrepresentation of the student's actual work and plagiarism of another's ideas. Buying a paper or using information from the Internet without attribution and handing it in as one's own work is plagiarism.

3. Unauthorized collaboration on assignments. This is unauthorized interaction with anyone in the fulfillment of academic requirements and applies to in-class or take-home coursework. Individual (unaided) work on exams, homework, computer assignments and documentation of sources is expected unless the instructor specifically states in the syllabus or verbally that it is not necessary. Collaboration can also include calculating homework problems with another person, having another help to rewrite a paper, sharing information/sources with others and checking coursework with others.

4. Completion of original work. When an instructor assigns coursework, the instructor intends that work to be completed for his/her course only. Work students may have completed for a course taken in the past, or may be completing for a concurrent course, must not be submitted in both courses unless they receive permission to do so from both faculty members.