



THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL (JUNE SESSION)
4 JUNE – 24 JUNE 2016

Preliminary
May 2016

Course	UGEA1450 Chinese Culture and Its Religion
Class Time	09:30-12:15 Monday to Friday
Teacher	Dr. Shin-yi Chao Associate Professor, Department of Religion and Classics, University of Rochester Visiting Scholar, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Email	To be provided

Course Description

The aim of this course is to help students understand the basic religious characteristics of Chinese culture and the relationship between religions and the daily life of Chinese people. It also helps students to appreciate the richness and diversity of the Chinese traditions and acquiring essential preparation for more advanced courses in the area of Chinese culture and religions. The course is divided under the familiar categories of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and Popular religion. These traditions are, by no means, discrete and mutually exclusive. It will be demonstrated that they overlap and interact with each other through a variety of confluences and conflicts. Students will also be introduced to some primary source of the Chinese traditions including both textual and fieldwork data.

Note for CUHK students: Not for Cultural Studies, Religious Studies, Theology Majors and students who have taken CURE1122 or UGEC1450.

Required Textbook(s) (Core text for the course, to be included in the ISS booklist)

- Nadeau, Randall L. *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Chinese Religions*. New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. E-book available.
- Goossaert, Vincent, and David A. Palmer. *The Religious Question in Modern China* by Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 2011. E-book available.
- Wolf P. Arthur ed., *Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society*. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1974. E-book available.
- Wolf P. Arthur ed., *Studies in Chinese Society*. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1978. (Either of the two Wolf edited books will do.)
- Wu, Cheng'en, Anthony Yu trans. *The Journey to the West*. Chicago: U of Chicago Press, revised edition 2012. E-book available.

Note: Students are encouraged to use the electronic edition whenever available.

Reading(s)/Reference(s) (Additional readings recommended for the course, NOT to be included in the ISS booklist)

- Chang. K. C. *Art, Myth and Ritual: The Path to Political Authority in Ancient China*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1983. E-book available.
- Cole, Alan. *Mothers and Sons in Chinese Buddhism*. Stanford, CA: Stanford UP, 1998.
- Johnson, David, et al. eds. [*Popular culture in late imperial China*](#), Berkeley, CA: U. of California Press, 1985. (Available for online reading on the publisher's website.)
- Spence, Jonathan. *The Search for Modern China* by. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1999.

Course Requirements/Evaluation
<p>Regular attendance: Students who attend less than 10 class meetings automatically fail the class.</p> <p>Participation (in-class discussion, presentations, random open-book mini quizzes): 10%</p> <p>Two analytic papers on assigned topics (5-6 pages each) due on June 13th and June 20th respectively: 40%</p> <p>Final Examination: 50%</p>
Class Schedule
See below
Others
<p><u>Honesty in Academic Work</u></p> <p>Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.</p> <p>With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration (http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/Eng_htm_files_(2013-14)/p10.htm) that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. In the case of group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible should there be any plagiarized contents in the group project, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration.</p> <p>For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide (http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/veriguide), the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.</p>

Date	Topic	Readings
June 6	Introduction	<i>The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Chinese Religions</i> , pp.1-14 (Ch. 1 Introduction) E-book available.
June 7	Overview	“The Spirits of Chinese Religion,” by Stephen F. Teiser, in <i>Religions of China in Practice</i> ed. by Donald S. Lopez, Jr. (Princeton UP, 1999), pp. 1-33. Available online for free download. < http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/cosmos/main/spirits_of_chinese_religion.pdf >
June 8	Ontology of Spirits in Chinese Religion	<i>The Wiley-Blackwell Companion</i> , pp. 369-397 (Ch.17 Divinity).
June 9	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	<i>The Journey to the West</i> , chs. 9-12 (trans. by Anthony Yu, revised edition, University of Chicago Press, 2012). E-book available.
June 10	Production of culture/religion	“Vernacular Fiction and the Transmission of Gods’ Cults in Late Imperial China” by Meir Shahar, in <i>Unruly Gods: Divinity and Society in China</i> , edited by Robert Weller and Meir Shahar (Hawaii UP, 1996), pp. 184-211. E-book available.

		<p>Recommended readings: <i>Art, Myth and Ritual</i> by K. C. Chang, pp. 44-80. E-book available.</p>
June 13	Religion and Society	<p>“Village Alliance Temples in Hong Kong” by John A. Brim in <i>Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society</i> edited by Arthur Wolf (Stanford UP, 1974), pp. 93-103.</p>
June 14	Fate	<p>“The Concept of Fate in Chinese Folk Ideology” by Steven Harrell. <i>Modern China</i> 13.1 (1987): 90-109.</p>
June 15	Ethics	<p>“Yüan Huang (1533-1606) and The Ledgers of Merit and Demerit” by Cynthia Brokaw. <i>Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies</i> 47.1 (1987): 137-195.</p> <p>Recommended readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Mothers and Sons in Chinese Buddhism</i> by Alan Cole, chs. 2-7. 2. “Popularization of Stories and Parables on Filial Piety in China.” <i>JCBSSL</i> vol. VIII, pp. 129-137.
June 16	Alternatives	<p>“Alternatives: Popular Religious Sects in Chinese Society” by Daniel L. Overmyer. <i>Modern China</i>, vol. 7, No. 2 (Apr., 1981), pp. 153-190.</p> <p>Recommended readings:</p> <p>“Religion and Popular Culture: the Management of Moral Capital in <i>The Romance of the Three Teachings</i>” by Judith Berling, in Popular culture in late imperial China, eds. by David Johnson et al, pp. 188- 218. (Available on-line for reading but not downloading)</p>
June 17	Community (I)	<p>“Gods, Ghosts, and Ancestors” by Arthur Wolf in <i>Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society</i> edited by Arthur Wolf (Stanford UP, 1974), pp. 251-278.</p>
June 20	Community (II)	<p><i>The Religious Question in Modern China</i>, pp. 241-69 (Ch. 10 Revival of Communal Religion).</p> <p>Documentary: <i>Bored In Heaven</i> (Produced by Kenneth Dean)</p>
June 21	Modernity (I)	<p><i>The Religious Question in Modern China</i>, pp. 271-313 (Ch.11 The Evolution of Modern Religiosities).</p>
June 22	Modernity (II)	<p><i>The Religious Question in Modern China</i>, pp. 271-313 (Ch.11 The Evolution of Modern Religiosities).</p>
June 23	Conclusion and review	<p>“Chinese Popular Religion,” <i>The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Chinese Religions</i>, ch.10, pp.219-236.</p>
June 24	Final exam	