

PHIL5070-7070: Philosophy of Early and Medieval Chinese Poetry
Term 1, 2024
Course Outline

Time: Thurs 14:30-17:00

Location: UCC 102

Course Overview

This course examines the philosophical content of early and medieval China poetry. In doing so, we will reveal how the themes of Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism shaped Chinese poetics and the ways in which Chinese poets can be considered philosophers in their own right.

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the philosophical issues covered in early Chinese poetry.
2. Read and interpret the texts in their original and translated editions.
3. Reflect on the aesthetic nature of early Chinese poetry.
4. Be able to engage in critical discussions on ancient Chinese philosophy.

Topics

See course schedule below.

Learning Activities

The course consists of lectures and written assignments.

Assessment Scheme

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Research Paper Outline	Two-page outline of paper topic	10%
Research Paper Draft	Rough draft of paper	25%
Final Research Paper	8,000 words, due early Dec.	50%
Class Discussion	See below	15%

Remarks on Assessment Scheme

Research Paper Outline

You will give a 20 mins presentation on your paper topic and respond to questions from classmates. The outline should be two pages in length and detail your thesis, the subsections of your paper, and some of the scholarly arguments you will respond to (in favor of or against). The due date is October 3.

Research Paper Draft

As with the outline, you will give a 20 mins presentation on your draft paper. Since classmates will share their views and offer suggestions for improvement one week later, you must try and write as much of the paper as possible. You will email your draft to me on Nov. 21 and I will share it with everyone the same day to ensure you have enough time to read all of drafts before the presentations on Nov. 28.

Final Research Paper

The final version of your research paper will be due in early December. The goal is to produce a paper worthy of publication in an academic journal. The topic is open but you must write on a poet or theme from the Tang dynasty and earlier. The length of the paper is 8,000 words, not including footnotes and

bibliography.

Grade Descriptor

See: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Course Textbook

Fuller, Michael. *An Introduction to Chinese Poetry: From the Canon of Poetry to the Lyrics of the Song Dynasty*. Harvard University Press, 2017.

Course Schedule

<i>Lectures</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Readings</i>
1. Sept 5	Classic Poetry	p. 55-70
2. Sept 12	Songs of Chu	p. 71-92
3. Sept 19	Han dynasty	p. 93-121
4. Sept 26	Wei-Jin dynasties	p. 122-141
5. Oct 3	<i>Presentation and Discussion of Paper Outline</i>	
6. Oct 10	Ten Kingdoms: Northern dynasty	p. 145-165
7. Oct 17	Ten Kingdoms: Southern dynasty	p. 166-175
8. Oct 24	Tang dynasty	p. 178-203
9. Oct 31	Tang dynasty	p. 204-219
10. Nov 7	Tang dynasty	p. 220-268
11. Nov 14	Tang dynasty	p. 269-322
12. Nov 21	Tang dynasty	p. 323-350 <i>*submission of paper draft*</i>
13. Nov 28	<i>Presentation and Discussion of Paper Draft</i>	

Details of Course Website

Course reading will be posted on Blackboard.

Professor's Contact Details

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Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to the 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/>. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via 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 receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.