

Spring 2006

165:419: Readings in Classical Chinese Literature

Course Syllabus

Monday 6, 7; Scott Hall 106, College Ave. Campus

Instructor: Ching-I Tu

Office Hour: Scott Hall 326

M. 1.30-2.30 p.m.

W. 1.30-2.30 p.m.

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I. Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the development of classical Chinese literature, its historical background, and its relation with the development of Chinese thought, primarily Confucianism, Taoism, and Chinese Buddhism. The focus of this semester will be on the philosophical and historical prose of the Zhou-Qin period, Western and Eastern Han, and the period of Wei, Jin, and Northern and Southern Dynasties.
2. To study the works of the major writers of those periods, analyzing their content, ideas, and structures.
3. Through analysis and comparison to achieve a better understanding and appreciation of classical Chinese literature in general and Chinese prose in particular.

II. Course Materials:

1. Selected Readings in Classical Chinese Literature, Volume One, Rutgers Chinese Program, New Brunswick, N.J., revised edition, 1999.
2. Liu Da-jie, A History of the Development of Chinese Literature, Hong Kong: Gu-wen Book Co., 1974.
3. Liu Wu-chi, An Introduction to Chinese Literature, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1966.
4. Supplemental material will be provided as needed.

III. Course Requirements:

1. Two short reports (2 to 5 pages) on readings and topics discussed in the class.
2. Quiz (1 or 2)
3. Attendance and participation in class discussion
4. Final examination including translation, identification, multiple choice, explanation, and essay questions.
(Percentage of each item will be announced later in the class.)

IV. Topics and Readings for the Semester:

1. The Beginnings of Chinese Prose and Its Relation with the Chinese Language
2. Mencius:-----pp. 12-13
3. Xun-zi: ----- pp. 18-20
4. Analects:-----pp. 7-9
5. Zhuang-zi: -----pp. 15-17
6. Han-Fei-zi: -----pp. 20-21
7. Zhan-guo-ce: ----- pp. 23-24
8. Lie-zi: ----- pp. 24-25
9. Shiji:----- pp. 27-30
10. Gu-shi shi-jiu-shou----- p. 32
11. Kong-que dong-nan fei:-----pp. 33-36
12. Zhu-ge Liang: -----pp. 38-39
13. Shi-shuo xin-yu: -----pp. 44-45
14. Tao Qian:-----pp. 43-47
15. Mu-lan shi: -----p. 48

(The page numbers refer to that of the Selected Readings in Classical Chinese Literature.)