HUMN 4390/WS 3390: China Culture and Humanities

Instructor: Pamela Herron
Semester: Fall 2014
Day & Time: MW 6:00 – 7:20 p.m. Aug 25, 2014 - Dec 04, 2014
CRN: HUMN 16661/WS17243
Classroom: UGLC 208
Credits: 3
Office: Worrell 107 (Office may change – watch for announcement)
Office Hrs: By appointment.
Phone: 747-6267(main office)
E-Mail: pgstover@utep.edu Please note that contact by UTEP email is the best way to reach me.

Texts: Cambridge Illustrated History of China (2nd edition) by Patricia Buckley Ebrey; The Arts of China (5th edition) by Michael Sullivan. Additional texts and/or articles may be required reading. Assigned films/clips shown in class are considered part of required material.

Purpose: A survey of culture and humanities in China through a multidisciplinary approach. This course examines Chinese culture through literature, the arts, folk customs and festivals, philosophy, and gender issues. The interrelationships of these and other aspects will be considered in chronological order with specific attention to their influence on society and culture of their times. Students will examine the interrelated influences of China culture and humanities within China and upon the world and consider future developments and impact. Course is designed to help the student understand and appreciate Chinese culture through various texts, critical analysis, discussion and research. Students will research a specific topic on Chinese culture and present as final project.

Procedure: The course will focus on the assigned texts and may include additional assigned articles, films or other resources. These will serve as the springboard for individual, small group, and whole class discussion and analysis. Students are also expected to read and analyze current events and other resources for presentation to the class. Please read all assignments thoroughly and carefully, so that others can learn from your interpretations and you can learn from the interpretations of others through class discourse.

Grading Scale: A = 450-500 points; B = 374-449 points; C = 273-373 points, D = 172=272 points; F = 171 points and below

Assignments:

- Your notes and short reflective papers on each of the texts due the same evening the text is to be discussed in class. (10 papers approx. 900 – 1000 words at 25 pts. each for total of 250 pts.) Your notes, word count and bibliography must be included with each paper. Papers are not a summary of the readings! Use your critical thinking to explore a concept or idea and expand. If students are not completing readings unannounced quizzes may be instituted. If Blackboard discussions are assigned instead of papers, students must follow BB requirements and deadlines.
- Students will have additional papers or group projects. (75 points)
- Research, Paper and Final Presentation. Students will individually research, analyze and present a topic on Chinese culture or civilization, choice approved by instructor. Students must sign up for their topic by mid-semester. (150 pts.)
- Class Participation/Class Discussion (considered with every assignment and class discussion) Discussions may also be posted on Blackboard. Portfolio - Please keep all notes, graded work and journals until the end of the semester. Your portfolio is part of your final grade. All work including notes from class lectures and readings, notes from presentations and journals will be kept in a 3-prong folder. You are encouraged to maintain a personal reading log of any other books or publications which will be considered for added credit. Of particular merit in the portfolio,
any readings, notes or material related to your personal research and not previously graded by
the instructor. (25 pts)

**Attendance and Participation:** Active participation is essential. Lack of participation in class discussion
or failure to read/analyze the assigned texts will result in a reduction of points from your papers. Cell
phones, computers and all electronic devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. This includes no
text messaging. If you must eat in class, please limit your food to a small, quietly consumed snack.
Because learning rarely happens in isolation, but from a sharing of ideas and experiences, **attendance at
every class is mandatory.** Since emergencies do arise, two absences will be allowed without penalty;
after two absences, you will lose 10 points for each class you miss, regardless of the reason. Students
who miss a portion of the class will lose a commensurate number of points. These points will be
deducted from the total accumulation of points you have earned by the end of the semester. If you miss a
class, it is YOUR responsibility to contact a CLASSMATE, not the instructor, to get information on what
was covered that day and copies of any papers that were passed out. It is assumed that since you
signed up for this time slot, you are able to make the class in a timely manner. If you come to class late,
points will be deducted from your assigned paper. Make-up papers will be allowed only with a
documented excuse (i.e. medical emergency or military duty). Attendance will be taken at the beginning
of class; those students entering class after roll call are counted tardy; each tardy counts as half an
absence. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor at the end of class if you are tardy. Do not assume
that I have noted your appearance after roll call is taken. You **do not need to contact me if you are going
to be absent.** Students missing more than 20% of classes (6 classes) will be dropped.

**Plagiarism and theft of intellectual property:** If you use work from someone else and submit it as your
own; if you use work from another source in your assignments and do not give direct credit to your
source; or if someone with whom you are working writes/creates any part of the work for you, you are
plagiarizing. Acts of plagiarism are acts of theft, and will be dealt with swiftly according to UTEP’s
established policy.

**Assignments:** All class assignments **MUST be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font (10 pt. Arial),** unless
otherwise stated. Do not email assignments unless requested by the instructor. Save a copy of your
assignments before you hand them in, as well as keep returned assignments until the end of the
semester so you can keep abreast of your grade. Please ensure that you understand the requirements
for the assignments before you begin, and give yourself ample time to complete them so that you can turn
in your best work. Assignments are due at the **beginning of class;** those turned in to me after class will
be counted as late. If you know you are going to be absent, give it to a classmate to turn in or turn it in early. **Please note:** Assignments that do not follow the given directions will not be given a passing grade.
There are no “redo’s.” Late assignments will lose 5 points per day. Assignments may be required to be
posted on Blackboard through SafeAssign or Blackboard discussions may be required instead papers by
instructor.

**Liberal Arts Honors Program** - This class has been designated as a Liberal Arts Honors Program [LAHP] course. It
has received this designation because it features at least five of the Honors course criteria, which include student
leadership, advanced readings and/or reviews, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research,
opportunities to utilize technology, opportunities to make extensive use of campus resources, community-based
experiences, pre-professional opportunities, and development of critical thinking. In broader terms, this course is
honors-designated because of its creativity and/or intellectual rigor, both of which are integral components of the
Liberal Arts Honors Program. No additional coursework is necessary for this course to count towards the LAHP
Honors minor. If you are not a member of the LAHP, and are interested in the program, please visit the LAHP
website at [http://academics.utep.edu/lahp](http://academics.utep.edu/lahp).

**UTEF Resources**

**CASS (Center for Accommodations and Support Services)** – If you have a disability and need classroom
accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by
e-mail to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in the UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information,
please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).

**Military Student Success Center** – If you are active military, a veteran, or a family member of military personnel,
please visit the Military Student Success Center in the UTEP University Library Room 205 for help with benefits,
registration, and tips for being successful at UTEP. You can also call them at 747-5342, or visit their website at
[http://www.military.us.utep.edu](http://www.military.us.utep.edu).
University Counseling Center – If you are having a difficult time with personal relationships or with college life, please visit the University Counseling Center at the UTEP Union West, Room 202, or contact them at 747-5302, or visit their website http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/. They provide one on one counseling as well as many helpful workshops.

PLEASE REALIZE AT ALL TIMES THAT YOU ARE PREPARING TO ENTER A PROFESSIONAL CAREER. IN THIS CLASS, YOU ARE EXPECTED TO LEARN, BEHAVE, AND DRESS IN THE COURTEOUS, CONSCIENTIOUS, AND GENERALLY BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER CALLED FOR IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION.

Extra Help: Students may see me by appointment. Help is also available at the UTEP Library Tutoring and Learning Center, Room 30, 747-5366.

Class Contact:                Class Contact:
Phone Number:                Phone Number:
E-mail:                      E-mail:

Class Contact:                Class Contact:
Phone Number:                Phone Number:
E-mail:                      E-mail:
This syllabus is subject to change at my discretion to meet instructional needs and/or to accommodate time constraints. Bring this syllabus and your assigned texts to class daily. Remember: readings are a springboard for your ideas and exploration. Feel free to explore other resources to better understand a topic or issue. Reading assignments are organized chronologically by dynasties focusing on the Ebrey text. Although I have not given specific page numbers for the Sullivan and Mair texts, they should be used to supplement the Ebrey for more in depth material on specific works within the dynasties. The Mair is not organized chronologically so the contents and index will be helpful.

Assignments: The assignments/discussions organized weekly. Written assignments are due on the first class meeting of that week unless specified otherwise; the reflection paper/notes are due at the beginning of class on the day we discuss those readings.

Wk 1 Introduction to class and review of syllabus and policies. A look at China geographically and culturally and a primer on how to use your texts. By Wed. read Chapters 1-2 Ebrey.

Wk 2 #1 Prehistory through Zhou Dynasty – Ebrey Ch. 1-2; Sullivan Ch. 1-3.
Wk 3 #2 Qin and Han Ebrey Ch. 3, Sullivan Ch. 4

Sept 19 Last day to select P/F option.

Wk 4 #3 Buddhist Influence, Silk Road, Foreign Rulers – Ebrey Ch. 4, Sullivan Ch. 5
Choose a topic for Final Presentation by next week.

Wk 5 #4 Tang Ebrey Ch. 5, Sullivan Ch. 6
Wk 6 #5 Song Ebrey Ch. 6 and 7, Sullivan Ch.7
Wk 7 #6 Ming Ebrey Ch. 8, Sullivan Ch. 8-9
Wk 8 #7 Qing Ebrey Ch. 9, Sullivan Ch. 10

Oct 31 Course Drop Deadline

Wk 9 #8 Nationalism and Revolution – Early 20th Century Ebrey Ch. 10, Sullivan Ch.11

Wk 10 # 9 Mao Era Ebrey Ch. 11

Wk 11 # 10 Modern China Ebrey Ch. 12

Wk 12 Work on projects

Wk 13 Presentations

Wk 14 Presentations/ Portfolios due

Wk 15 Presentations

*Wed - Dec 3 Portfolios returned. * This will be our last class meeting. Your final project counts as your final. There will be no final exam during exam week.