

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Chinese and History  
with effect from Semester A 2022/23**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Selected Readings in Sinology

**Course Code:** CAH5705

**Course Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P5

**Medium of Instruction:** English/Chinese

**Medium of Assessment:** English/Chinese

**Prerequisites:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Precursors:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) CTL5705 Selected Readings in Sinology

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims to introduce students to a critical examination of important works of Sinology from Europe, America, Japan and/or Korea. It seeks to provide an understanding of their fundamental viewpoint, methodological approach and contribution to the field. Through this study, students will be able to discover the ways in which Chinese scholarship was approached by overseas scholars, to critically evaluate such works, and to gain a comparative approach in their own studies of Chinese culture.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Demonstrate an overview of the major historical trends and periods in Sinology and China-related research in Europe, America, Japan and/or Korea, and an appreciation of the ways in which these have reflected or motivated broader cross-cultural contact between the societies in question.	40%	✓		
2.	Identify key trends, key issues, and key figures in the development of Sinology in different cultural contexts.	20%	✓	✓	
3.	Analyze, at an advanced level, issues in the research literature relating to Chinese language, literature, history and thought in each historical period.	20%		✓	✓
4.	Evaluate critically the strengths and weaknesses of certain key works and their contents in a comparative approach to foster students' self-discovery for their own cultural identity.	20%		✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

A2: Ability

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

A3: Accomplishments

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
Lecture	Lecture will introduce important works of Sinology from Europe, America, Japan and/or Korea. It will be conducted in a seminar-style in which active student participation will be required to encourage critical enquiry and communication.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Tutorial	Group discussion, presentations and debates will involve students in active learning through interaction and reflection.	✓	✓	✓	✓			

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4				
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
One individual term paper: to assess students' critical ability in understanding the importance and significant of the great works of sinology in Eastern and/or Western world.	✓	✓	✓	✓			45%	
Group presentation and written report: to assess students' understanding on the knowledge of Eastern and/or Western great works of sinology and the characteristics of the field.	✓	✓	✓	✓			30%	
Performance includes students' in-class discussions and questions in lectures and tutorials, and peer review of tutorial presentation.	✓	✓	✓				25%	
Examination: - (duration: -)							100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2022/23 and thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Individual term paper	<p>1. Ability to demonstrate a firm grasp of the subject matter.</p> <p>2. Ability to integrate ideas and opinions based on one's clear problematic concerns.</p> <p>3. Ability to analyze, criticize certain issues with critical and coherent arguments.</p>	<p>1. The written work shows a thorough understanding of the issues and their theoretical and practical implications, with strong evidence of substantial reading and research.</p> <p>2. The written work shows independent thought, presents informed and logical discussion as well as demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical evaluation.</p> <p>3. Strong evidence of original thinking.</p> <p>4. Evidence of superior grasp of the subject matter with extensive knowledge.</p> <p>5. Exact and accurate</p>	<p>1. The written work shows good understanding of the issues and their theoretical and practical implications, with clear evidence of considerable reading and research.</p> <p>2. The written work shows some independent thought and sensible discussion as well as demonstrates ability for critical evaluation.</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge concerning the subject matter.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability concerning the subject matter.</p> <p>3. Marginal application of theories concerning the subject.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Vague and devoid of content, weak ability to integrate limited resources.</p> <p>2. Very poor organization.</p> <p>3. Unsystematic ideas which cannot express the subject matter or relevant themes.</p> <p>4. Seriously insufficient or even no reference.</p> <p>5. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge concerning the subject.</p>

		expressions, ability to use various writing skills to make the paper convincing and coherent.			
2. Group presentation and written report	A tutorial group is responsible to lead the class for discussions in an innovative way on the relevant subject matters. An individual written report based on one's part in the group presentation will also be submitted after the presentation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Excellent command of knowledge concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>2. Excellent critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>3. Excellent application of theories concerning the subject.</li> <li>4. Excellent ability in knowledge application.</li> <li>5. Excellent collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good command of knowledge concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>2. Good critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>3. Good application of theories concerning the subject.</li> <li>4. Good ability in knowledge application.</li> <li>5. Good collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marginal command of knowledge concerning the subject.</li> <li>2. Marginal critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>3. Marginal application of theories concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</li> <li>5. Marginally acceptable collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge.</li> <li>2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>3. Unsatisfactory application of theories concerning the relevant subject.</li> <li>4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application.</li> <li>5. Unsatisfactory collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</li> </ol>
3. Performance includes students' in-class discussions	In-class discussions and questions in both	Strong evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in-class</li> </ul>	Some evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in-class</li> </ul>	Marginally satisfies the basic requirements of	Fail to meet minimum requirements of participation.

and questions in lectures and tutorials, and peer review of tutorial presentation.	lecture and tutorial classes, and peer review of tutorial presentation as well.	participation, positive listening, ability to stimulate class discussions and comments; • Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.	participation, positive listening, ability to initiate class discussions and comments; • Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.	the participation.	
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Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Individual term paper	<p>1. Ability to demonstrate a firm grasp of the subject matter.</p> <p>2. Ability to integrate ideas and opinions based on one's clear problematic concerns.</p> <p>3. Ability to analyze, criticize certain issues with critical and coherent arguments.</p>	<p>1. The written work shows a thorough understanding of the issues and their theoretical and practical implications, with strong evidence of substantial reading and research.</p> <p>2. The written work shows independent thought, presents informed and logical discussion as well as demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical evaluation.</p>	<p>1. The written work shows good understanding of the issues and their theoretical and practical implications, with clear evidence of considerable reading and research.</p> <p>2. The written work shows some independent thought and sensible discussion as well as demonstrates ability for critical evaluation.</p>	<p>1. The written work shows adequate understanding of the issues and their theoretical and practical implications, with some evidence of a fair amount of reading and research.</p> <p>2. The written work is not analytical or critical enough, but able to present a sensible discussion.</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge concerning the subject matter.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability concerning the subject matter.</p> <p>3. Marginal application of theories concerning the subject.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Vague and devoid of content, weak ability to integrate limited resources.</p> <p>2. Very poor organization.</p> <p>3. Unsystematic ideas which cannot express the subject matter or relevant themes.</p> <p>4. Seriously insufficient or even no reference.</p> <p>5. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge concerning the subject.</p>

		<p>3. Strong evidence of original thinking.</p> <p>4. Evidence of superior grasp of the subject matter with extensive knowledge.</p> <p>5. Exact and accurate expressions, ability to use various writing skills to make the paper convincing and coherent.</p>				
2. Group presentation and written report	A tutorial group is responsible to lead the class for discussions in an innovative way on the relevant subject matters. An individual written report based on one's part in the group presentation will also be submitted after the presentation.	<p>1. Excellent command of knowledge concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>2. Excellent critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>3. Excellent application of theories concerning the subject.</p> <p>4. Excellent ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Excellent collaborative skills</p>	<p>1. Good command of knowledge concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>2. Good critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>3. Good application of theories concerning the subject.</p> <p>4. Good ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Good collaborative skills and interactions</p>	<p>1. Fair command of knowledge concerning the subject.</p> <p>2. Fair critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>3. Fair application of theories concerning the subject.</p> <p>4. Fair ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Fair collaboration with teammates and</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge concerning the subject.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>3. Marginal application of theories concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge.</p> <p>2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>3. Unsatisfactory application of theories concerning the relevant subject.</p> <p>4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Unsatisfactory collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>

		and interactions with the fellow classmates.	with the fellow classmates.	interactions with the fellow classmates.	5. Marginally acceptable collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.	
3. Performance includes students' in-class discussions and questions in lectures and tutorials, and peer review of tutorial presentation.	In-class discussions and questions in both lecture and tutorial classes, and peer review of tutorial presentation as well.	Strong evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in-class participation, positive listening, ability to stimulate class discussions and comments;</li> <li>• Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.</li> </ul>	Some evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in-class participation, positive listening, ability to initiate class discussions and comments;</li> <li>• Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.</li> </ul>	Limited evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in-class participation, positive listening, ability to initiate class discussions and comments;</li> <li>• Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.</li> </ul>	Marginally satisfies the basic requirements of the participation.	Fail to meet minimum requirements of participation.



**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

European Sinology; American Sinology; Japanese Sinology; Korean Sinology; East Asian Confucianism; Chinese literature; Chinese thought; Chinese history; world history; history of historiography; historical studies in relation to intellectual history; historical philosophy.

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

N/A

**2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

N/A