

CAH5701: CLASSICAL CHINESE LITERATURE

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Classical Chinese Literature

Subject Code

CAH - Chinese and History

Course Number

5701

Academic Unit

Chinese and History (CAH)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

Chinese

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

CTL5701 Topics in Classical Chinese Literature

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The aims of this course are:

(a) to introduce to the students the core concepts and knowledge of classical Chinese literature.

(b) to call attention to certain critical topics, phenomena, trends or traits that bespeak the particularities and development of classical Chinese literature.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe the core concepts and knowledge of classical Chinese literature.	x	x	
2	Apply the concepts and knowledge to examine the topics related to the development of classical Chinese literature and explore new ways of explaining their mutual relation.	x	x	x
3	Explain aptness in arguing for or against with new evidence.	x	x	x
4	Analyse the major phenomena and discover key issues of classical Chinese literature.	x	x	x

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 real-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.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures	Students will engage in formal lectures to gain knowledge about the core concepts and knowledge of classical Chinese literature.	1, 2, 3, 4
2	Tutorials	Students will critically engage with the assigned readings in advance and then expand and consolidate their knowledge to give an oral presentation of their discovery of important issues related to the topics.	1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?	
1	Oral and written: presentations of assigned topics. Emphasis are placed on the depth of knowledge and the discovery of new issues.	1, 2, 3, 4	35	Formulation, organization and presentation of ideas and arguments of assigned topics.	Yes
2	Term paper: to assess students' knowledge and ability in describing, analyzing and reflecting on the subject and the related issues discovered during the course.	1, 2, 3, 4	45	Knowledge of the subject, creative views.	Yes
3	In-class discussion: motivate students' spirit in learning and enhance their awareness in discovering new points of discussion.	2, 3, 4	20	Initiating dialogues, exchange of ideas, degree of participation etc	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Oral and written presentations of assigned topics (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Show command of the knowledge provided in the assigned readings, as well as ability to discover new issues pertaining to the topics of discussion.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings.
2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings.

2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. Adequate command of the assigned topics and readings.
2. Fair linguistic competence to describe the arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Acceptable oral and written presentation skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Fair reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Marginal

(D)

1. Familiarity with the assigned topics and readings.
2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Failure

(F)

1. Unfamiliarity with the assigned topics and readings.
2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Assessment Task

Term paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

The students will be assessed on (1) application of the knowledge and topics discussed throughout the course; (2) their creative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content.
2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content.
2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. Adequate command of the course content.
2. Fair linguistic competence to describe the arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Acceptable oral and written presentation skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Fair reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Marginal

(D)

1. Familiarity with the subject matter.
2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Failure

(F)

1. Unfamiliarity with the subject matter.
 2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.
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Assessment Task

In-class discussion (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Active involvement in discussing the related topics.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Very active participation in discussion.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Active participation in discussion.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Passive participation in discussion.

Marginal

(D) Very passive in participating the discussion.

Failure

(F) Not participating the discussion.

Assessment Task

Oral and written presentations of assigned topics (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Show command of the knowledge provided in the assigned readings, as well as ability to discover new issues pertaining to the topics of discussion.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings.
2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Good

(B+, B)

1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings.
2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.

3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

1. Familiarity with the assigned topics and readings.
2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Failure

(F)

1. Unfamiliarity with the assigned topics and readings.
 2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.
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Assessment Task

Term Paper (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

The students will be assessed on (1) application of the knowledge and topics discussed throughout the course; (2) their creative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content.
2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Good

(B+, B)

1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content.
2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings.
3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject.
4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

1. Familiarity with the subject matter.
2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Failure

(F)

1. Unfamiliarity with the subject matter.
 2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings.
 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject.
 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.
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Assessment Task

In-class discussion (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Active involvement in discussing the related topics.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Very active participation in discussion.

Good

(B+, B) Active participation in discussion.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Very passive in participating the discussion.

Failure

(F) Not participating the discussion.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Genres and subgenres, city and rural, nature, banquet and boudoir, tetrasyllabic verse, pentasyllabic verse, Songs of Chu, Han rhapsody, Songs of the Music Bureau, Tang regulated verse, lyrics of Song and Yuan dynasties, prose (including guwen and pianwen) Ming and Qing drama and fiction; Scholars' commentaries and latest theories in classical Chinese literature. **Note:** Not all of the above keywords and concepts are necessarily covered in the semester. It depends on the teaching focuses of lecturers who take charge of the course.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	N/A

Additional Readings

Title	
1	N/A