

CAH5713: ESSENTIAL CONCEPTS IN CHINESE CULTURE

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Essential Concepts in Chinese Culture

Subject Code

CAH - Chinese and History

Course Number

5713

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

CTL5713 Essential Concepts in Chinese Culture

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The aim of this course is two-fold:

- (a) to develop students' ability to analyze, discover and evaluate the main contents, features of Chinese culture; and
 (b) to enable students to develop a critical interest in exploring the relationship between Chinese culture and some important sectors like religion, philosophy, intellectual, language, politics, society, clan and commerce with a creative and innovative mind.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Discover and interpret the main contents, features of Chinese culture	20	x	x	x
2	Analyze the formation and development of ritual culture with an innovative eye	20	x	x	x
3	Analyze the relationship between Chinese culture and language with an innovative eye	10	x	x	x
4	Analyze the cognitive approaches of Chinese culture from the literati with an innovative eye	10	x	x	x
5	Analyze the relationship between Chinese culture and Confucianism/Taoism/Buddhism with an innovative eye	20	x	x	x
6	Analyze the relationship between Chinese culture and politics/society/clan/commerce with an innovative eye	20	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	Readings	Students will engage with one paper or chapter per week before each lecture.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

2	Lectures	Students will engage in lectures on the main contents, features of Chinese culture the formation and development of ritual culture the cognitive approaches of Chinese culture from the literati, the relationship between Chinese culture and Confucianism/ Taoism/Buddhism the relationship between Chinese culture and language, the relationship between Chinese culture and politics/society/clan/ commerce. Students will actively participate in classroom and / or online discussions.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	In-class and/or online discussion and comment on assigned topics and other points.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	15	-	Yes
2	Final Test	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	40	-	No
3	Final paper	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	45	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

In-class and/or online discussion and comment on assigned topics and other points (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

- Ability to identify and analyze the topics critically with excellent grasp of the materials and in-depth knowledge of the subject matter;
- Ability to interpret independent opinions effectively and efficiently.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of:

- Positive listening, ability to stimulate class discussion and comment on other points;
- Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Some evidence of:

- Positive listening, ability to initiate class discussion and comment on other points;
- Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Limited evidence of:

- Positive listening, ability to initiate class discussion and comment on other points;
- Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.

Marginal

(D) Marginally satisfies the basic requirements of the discussion and comment on other points.

Failure

(F) Fail to meet minimum requirements of discussion and comment on other points.

Assessment Task

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

Criterion

Shows ability in integrating ideas and opinions which are relevant to the point and evidence of providing innovative ideas, criticism and analysis with convincing statement and creative comment.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent understanding of the major development of the subject matter.
2. Excellent understanding of the features of the subject matter.
3. Excellent understanding of the relationships between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
4. Excellent innovative and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Good understanding of the major development of the subject matter.
2. Good understanding of the features of the subject matter.
3. Good understanding of the relationships between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
4. Good innovative and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. A certain degree of understanding of the major development of the subject matter.
2. A certain degree of understanding of the features of the subject matter.
3. A certain degree of understanding of the relationships between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
4. Acceptable reflective and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Marginal

(D)

1. Marginal command of course materials, with fair understanding of the subject matter's major development and features as well as its relationship between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
2. Marginal reflective and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Failure

(F)

1. Incapable command of course materials, with fair understanding of the major development of the subject matter and the relationship between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
 2. Insufficient reflective and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.
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Assessment Task

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

Criterion

Shows ability in integrating ideas and opinions which are relevant to the point and evidence of providing innovative ideas, criticism and analysis with convincing statement and creative comment.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and show some critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and show some critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) A certain degree of the understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and show few critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Marginal

(D) Marginal command of the understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and fail to show critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Failure

(F) Incapable command of the understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and fail to show any critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Assessment Task

In-class and/or online discussion and comment on assigned topics and other points (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

- Ability to identify and analyze the topics critically with excellent grasp of the materials and in-depth knowledge of the subject matter;
- Ability to interpret independent opinions effectively and efficiently.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of:

- Positive listening, ability to stimulate class discussion and comment on other points;
- Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.

Good

(B+, B) Some evidence of:

- Positive listening, ability to initiate class discussion and comment on other points;
- Sufficient pre-class preparation and familiarity with peer reports and other materials.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Marginally satisfies the basic requirements of the discussion and comment on other points.

Failure

(F) Fail to meet minimum requirements of discussion and comment on other points.

Assessment Task

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

Criterion

Shows ability in integrating ideas and opinions which are relevant to the point and evidence of providing innovative ideas, criticism and analysis with convincing statement and creative comment.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Excellent understanding of the major development of the subject matter.
2. Excellent understanding of the features of the subject matter.
3. Excellent understanding of the relationship between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society, clan, politics and Confucianism.
4. Excellent innovative and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Good

(B+, B)

1. Good understanding of the major development of the subject matter.
2. Good understanding of the features of the subject matter.
3. Good understanding of the relationships between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
4. Good innovative and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

1. Marginal command of course materials, with fair understanding of the subject matter's major development and features as well as its relationship between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
2. Marginal reflective and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.

Failure

(F)

1. Incapable command of course materials, with fair understanding of the major development of the subject matter and the relationship between Chinese culture and other related areas such as society clan politics and Confucianism.
 2. Insufficient reflective and discovery ability on topics related to the subject matter.
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Assessment Task

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

Criterion

Shows ability in integrating ideas and opinions which are relevant to the point and evidence of providing innovative ideas, criticism and analysis with convincing statement and creative comment.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and show some critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Good

(B+, B) Good understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and show some critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Marginal command of the understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and fail to show critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Failure

(F) Incapable command of the understanding of the factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course and fail to show any critical and innovative opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Chinese culture, ritual culture, Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, religion, literati, language, politics, society, clan, commerce

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	N/A

Additional Readings

Title	
1	錢穆：《從中國歷史來看中國民族性及中國文化》，臺北：聯經出版事業公司，1998
2	錢穆：《民族與文化》，台北：蘭臺出版社，民國 90 [2001]
3	牟宗三等著；東海大學哲學系主編：《中國文化論文集》，臺北：幼獅文化事業公司，民國 68 [1979]
4	柳詒徵：《中國文化史》，臺北：正中書局，民國 43 [1954]
5	牟鍾鑑：《中國宗教與文化》，成都：巴蜀書社，1989
6	張曼濤：《佛教與中國文化》，臺北：大乘文化出版社，民國 67 [1978]
7	葛兆光：《禪宗與中國文化》，上海：上海人民出版社，1986
8	葛兆光：《道教與中國文化》，上海：上海人民出版社，1987
9	吳雷用：《基督教與中國文化》，上海：青年協會書局，民國 25 [1936]
10	顧希佳：《禮儀與中國文化》，北京：人民出版社，2001
11	申小龍：《漢語與中國文化》，上海：復旦大學出版社，2003
12	余英時：《士與中國文化》，上海：上海人民出版社，2003
13	金耀基：《中國政治與文化》，香港：牛津大學出版社，1997
14	李亦園、喬健合編：《中國的民族，社會與文化》，臺北：食貨出版社，民國 70 [1981]
15	林語堂：《林語堂評說中國文化》，北京：中共中央黨校出版社，2001
16	陶希聖：《婚姻與家族》，臺北：臺灣商務印書館，1966
17	[日]谷田孝之：《中國古代家族制度論考》，東京：東海大學出版會，1989
18	唐力行：《商人與文化的雙重變奏：徽商與宗族社會的歷史考察》，武漢：華中理工大學出版社，1997