

CAH2104: SELECTED AUTHORS OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY CHINESE LITERATURE

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Selected Authors of Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature

Subject Code

CAH - Chinese and History

Course Number

2104

Academic Unit

Chinese and History (CAH)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

Chinese

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

CTL2104 Selected Authors of Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course is designed to involve students in the process of canonization by reading and analysing the major works of some key authors of modern and contemporary China. Students will be trained to survey the themes, styles and contexts of the works, with which they proceed to debate how and why they are qualified for canonization. In our discussion, interpretation and reinterpretation force all the selected texts to undergo a cycle of constructing and deconstructing meanings, providing space for rethinking their legitimacy and durability.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify the themes, styles and contexts of the selected works.	30	x		
2	Examine the established interpretations and generate new findings.	35	x	x	x
3	Organize debate on issues pertaining to interpretation of the works of the authors studied.	35	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	The lectures discuss the salient features of the canonized works of key writers and their received interpretations.	1, 2	
2	Tutorials	Students are required to study and present a critical review of the assigned passages. The lecturer will assess and comment on their ideas and performance.	1, 2, 3	
3	Term paper	To submit a well researched term paper on a topic related to the course.	1, 2, 3	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Tutorial presentation, paying special attention to initiating critical thinking and honing debate skills.	1, 2, 3	40	-	No
2	1 term paper (max 4000 words with in-depth discussion on the assigned topic, good footnoting and bibliography).	1, 2, 3	40	-	No
3	Participation and involvement in class discussions.	1, 2	20	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Tutorial presentation

Criterion

Clear understanding of the assigned readings. Structure of presentation. Logic of argument. Ability to discover new issues.

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.

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. Fail to organise a presentation.
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Assessment Task

1 term paper

Criterion

1. Ability to find and compile research materials.
2. Clear understanding of the assigned topic.
3. Structure of presentation.
4. Logic of argument.
5. Ability to discover new issues.

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 written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of 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. Fail to submit the paper or do not follow the instructions given to writing the paper.
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Assessment Task

Participation and involvement in class discussions.

Criterion

Diligent Initiative

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Participated all classes and involve actively in discussions.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Participated more than two third of the classes and involve actively in discussions.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Participated half of the classes and involve in discussions.

Marginal (D)

Participated less than half but more than one third of the classes and involve in discussions.

Failure (F)

Participated less than one third of the classes and does not involve in discussions.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Modern and contemporary Chinese writers, Lu Xun, Zhou Zuoren, Mao Dun, Lao She, Shen Congwen, Zhang Ailing, Lin Yutang, Qian Zhongshu, Liang Shiqiu, Wang Meng, Mo Yan, Zhang Jie, Jia Pingwa, A Cheng, Yu Hua, Wang Anyi, canonization, tradition, iconoclasm, interpretation and reinterpretation.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	錢理群等編:《中國現代文學三十年》(北京:北京大學出版社,1998年)
2	陳思和主編:《當代大陸文學史教程:1949-1999》(台北:聯合文學,2001年)
3	劉俐俐:《中國現代經典短篇小說文本分析》(北京:北京大學出版社,2006年)
4	李歐梵:《鐵屋中的吶喊》(石家莊:河北教育出版社,2001年)
5	陳靜宜:《張愛玲長篇小說的女性書寫》(台北:文津出版社,2005年)
6	孟悅、戴錦華:《浮出歷史地表:中國現代女性文學研究》(台北:時報文化,1993年)
7	魯迅:《魯迅全集》(北京:人民文學出版社,2005年)
8	費秉勛:《賈平凹論》(臺北:水牛出版社,1992年)
9	張志忠:《莫言論》(北京:北京聯合出版公司,2012年)
10	付艷霞:《莫言的小說世界》(北京:中國文史出版社,2012年)

Additional Readings

Title	
1	汪暉:《反抗絕望 – 魯迅及其文學世界》(河北教育出版社,2000年)
2	王潤華:《魯迅小說新論》(臺北:東大圖書公司,1992年)
3	林幸謙:《張愛玲論述:女性主題與去勢模擬書寫》(台北:洪葉文化,1996年)
4	曾令存:《賈平凹散文研究》(北京:中國社會科學出版社,2003年)
5	韓魯華:《精神的映像:賈平凹文學創作論》(北京:中國社會科學出版社,2003年)