

# 165:412: Chinese Poetry      Fall 2006

## Course Syllabus

Monday 6,7; Scott Hall 102  
College Avenue Campus

Instructor: Ching-I Tu  
Scott Hall 326  
732 932-7605  
citu@rci.rutgers.edu

Office Hour:  
M. 1.30-2.30 p.m.  
W. 1.30-2.30 p.m.

### I. Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the development, periods, and classification of Chinese poetry as well as the major poets and their representative writings
2. To help students develop the ability to understand, appreciate, and analyze Chinese poetry
3. To discuss the position of Chinese poetry in Chinese literature and its contributions to world literature and comparative literature
4. To pay special attention in this course to two of the major poetic forms in Chinese poetry: "*shih*" (poetry) of the T'ang Dynasty and "*tz'u*" (lyrical poetry) of the Sung Dynasty

### II. Textbooks and Reference Material:

1. *Readings in Classical Chinese Literature (RCCL)*, Rutgers Chinese Program, New Brunswick, N. J., revised edition, 1999
2. *Shih Hsuan* (Selected Poems), ed. by Tai Chun-jen, Taipei, 1972
3. *Sung Tz'u Hsuan* (Selected Lyrics of the Sung Dynasty), ed. by Hu Yun-yi, Shanghai, 1962
4. James J. Y. Liu, *The Art of Chinese Poetry*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1962. (A Chinese translation of the book is available.)
5. Burton Watson, Chinese Lyricism: Shih Poetry, New York: Columbia University Press, 1971.

\* Item 1 can be purchased in the department office (Scott 330).

\*\* All other books are available in the East Asian Library of the Alexander Library on the College Avenue Campus.

### III: Course Requirements:

1. Two or three short reports (2 to 5 pages) on readings and topics discussed in the course
2. Quiz
3. Attendance and participation in class discussion
4. Final examination including translation, identification, multiple choice, and essay questions; final examination date: Friday, December 22, 2006, 8:00-11:00 a.m. (according to the Fall 2006 Undergraduate Schedule of Classes)

\*\*\* Percentage of each item will be announced in the class.

#### IV. Organization and Content of the Course:

1. The Origin of Chinese Poetry:

*Shih Ching (The Book of Poetry)*  
*Ch'u Tz'u (The Songs of the South)*  
*RCCL*, p. 2, 5; supplementary readings

2. Poetry of the Han, Wei, Chin, and Northern and Southern Dynasties:

*Yueh Fu* (the Music Bureau Poetry of the Han)  
The origin and development of the five-word poetry  
The origin and development of the seven-word poetry  
*RCCL*, pp. 32-33; pp.46-47; p. 48; supplementary readings

3. The Modern Style Poetry of the T'ang:

The early T'ang period: Wang P'o, Chen Tzu-ang  
The golden T'ang period: Wang Wei, Li Po, Tu Fu, Po Chu-yi  
The late T'ang period: Li Ho, Li Shang-yin  
*RCCL*, pp. 51-55; pp. 56-58; supplementary readings

4. From “*shih*” to “*tz'u*”:

*Tz'u* of the late T'ang and the Five Dynasties: Wei Chuang, Li Yu  
*Tz'u* of the Northern Sung: Su Shih, Chou Pang-yen  
*Tz'u* of the Southern Sung: Li Ch'ing-chao, Lu Yu  
*RCCL*, p. 69-70; pp. 73-75; supplementary readings

5. From “*tz'u*” to “*ch'ü*” (musical lyrics):

The beginning of musical lyrics  
Lyrics in the Yuan drama  
*RCCL*, pp. 82-83; supplementary readings

6. The Beginning and Development of Modern Chinese Poetry:

The experiment of poetry in the vernacular language  
Modern Chinese poetry in the 20<sup>th</sup> century  
A synthesis of classical and modern Chinese poetry  
Supplementary readings

\*\*\*\* Students are required to read all the assigned poems and materials and be prepared for class discussion every week.