

**Topics in Classical Chinese Poetry and Poetics (16:214:527):
Masters of Tang Dynasty Poetry
Course Guidelines and Syllabus**

Fall 2013

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Course Description: This course introduces the major genres and poets of the Tang dynasty, generally acknowledged to be the greatest age of *shi* poetry. It will focus primarily on the art of reading poetry, with attention to relevant historical, biographical and literary-historical contexts. Emphasis will thus be placed on 1) learning the conventions of particular genres and subgenres, 2) assessing the qualities of individual poets and poems through an examination of their manipulation of these conventions, and a comparison with other voices in the tradition, and 3) recognizing the larger stylistic shifts and literary concerns that demarcate the four literary periods (Early, High, Mid and Late Tang). Readings from a selection of modern criticism will be helpful for understanding individual poets, issues and themes. Primary texts and commentaries are in Chinese, so proficiency in reading both modern and classical Chinese is required.

Requirements and Grading:

1. **Participation** (10%): Participation in the translation and analysis of poems in class is mandatory. Students will need to come to class having read and translated all of the assigned poems and critical literature.
2. **Class presentation** (20%): Each week a student will be delegated to present on the weekly secondary readings (**highlighted in bold**). These brief presentations should summarize the main arguments of the readings and pose questions about them. All other students will read in advance the selected material and be ready to pose questions about the reading.
3. **Papers** (70%): Students are required to submit one midterm paper (30%) and one final research paper (40%).

Midterm Paper: 5-7 pages in length. Choose a theme, issue or author and construct an argument based on close reading of two or more texts. Try to be original and careful in your analysis. No research beyond course materials is required.

Final Research Paper: 10-15 pages for undergraduates; 18-20 pages for graduate students. Discuss a theme, issue or figure based primarily on textual analyses of works by a single author or by different authors. Some research beyond course readings is required. Please see me first to discuss your topic.

Course Materials:

Reader: A reader, consisting of commentaries on the poems, is required for this course. It can be accessed and printed out by students enrolled in the course. It can be found on Sakai, under "Resources."

You may download the texts of the poems from the following website:

<http://libnt.npm.gov.tw/s25/index.htm>

Secondary Readings: The following books are on reserve at Alexander Library.

- Chen Bohai 陳伯海, ed. *Tang shi huiping 唐詩彙評*. 3 vols. Hangzhou: Zhejiang jiaoyu chubanshe, 1995.
- Frodsham, J.D. *Goddesses, Ghosts, and Demons: The Collected Poems of Li He (790-816)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1970; reprint, London: Anvil Press Poetry Ltd, 1983.
- Hawkes, David. *A Little Primer of Tu Fu*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1967.
- Bi Shikui 畢士奎. *Wang Cangling: Shige yu shixue yanjiu 王昌齡：詩歌與詩學研究*. Nanchang: Jiangxi renmin chubanshe, 2008.
- Jiang Jianyun 姜劍雲. *Shenmei de youli: Lun Tang dai guaiqi shipai 審美的游離：論唐代怪奇詩派*. Beijing: Dongfang chubanshe, 2002.
- Jiang Yin 蔣寅. *Dali shiren yanjiu 大曆詩人研究*. Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1995.
- Kao, Yu-kung, "The Aesthetics of Regulated Verse," in *The Vitality of the Lyric Voice*, ed. Shuen-fu Lin and Stephen Owen, 332-385.
- Kroll, Paul. *Meng Hao-jan*. Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1981.
- Lewis, Mark Edward. *China's Cosmopolitan Empire: The Tang Dynasty*. Cambridge, Mass.: The Belknap Press of Harvard University, 2009.
- Liu, James J.Y. *The Poetry of Li Shang-yin*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969.
- Luo Zongqiang 羅宗強. *Tang shi xiao shi 唐詩小史*. Tianjin: Baihua wenyi chubanshe, 2007.
- Mei Tsu-lin and Kao Yu-kung. "Tu Fu's 'Autumn Meditations': An Exercise in Linguistic Criticism." *HJAS* 28 (1968), 44-80.
- Owen, Stephen. *The End of the Chinese 'Middle Ages': Essays in Mid-Tang Literary Culture*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996.
- . *The Great Age of Chinese Poetry: The High T'ang*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1981.
- . *The Late Tang: Chinese Poetry of the Mid-Ninth Century (827-860)*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center, 2006.
- . *The Poetry of Meng Chiao and Han Yu*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1975.
- . *The Poetry of the Early T'ang*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977.
- Shi Zhecun 施蟄存. *Tang shi baihua 唐詩百話*.
- Tang dai wenxueshi 唐代文學史*. 2 vols. Beijing: Renmin wenxue chubanshe, 1995.
- Twitchett, Denis and John K. Fairbank, *Cambridge History of China, vol. 3: Sui and T'ang China*. Wagner, Marsha. *Wang Wei*. Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1981.

- Yeh, Chia-ying. *Du Fu "Qiuxing" ba shou jishuo* 杜甫《秋興》八首集說.
- Yu, Pauline. *The Poetry of Wang Wei: New Translations and Commentary*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1980.
- . *The Reading of Imagery in the Chinese Poetic Tradition*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987.
- Zhang Zongfu 張宗福. *Li He yanjiu* 李賀研究. Chengdu: Bashu shushe, 2009.
- Zhou Xunchu 周勛初, ed. *Li Bo yanjiu* 李白研究. Wuhan: Hubei jiaoyu chubanshe, 2002.
- Zhu Dongrun 朱東潤, *Du Fu xu lun* 杜甫敘論. Beijing: Renmin wenxue chubanshe, 1981.

Reference Books:

Zhongwen da cidian 中文大辭典

Hanyu da cidian 漢語大詞典

Wang Li guhanyu zidian 王力古漢語字典

Zhongguo renming da cidian 中國人名大辭典

Zhongguo gujin diming da cidian 中國古今地名大辭典

Zhongguo lishi ditu ji 中國歷史地圖集, vol. 5 (Sui, Tang, Wudai Shiguo qi)

Nienhauser, William. *The Indiana Companion to Traditional Chinese Literature*.

Hucker, Charles. *A Dictionary of Official Titles in Imperial China*.

Syllabus

Week 1: Introduction

Li Baiyao 李百藥: 奉和初春出遊應令 (Written to Princely Command: Matching “Early Spring Excursion”)

Week 2: Early Tang Court Poetry, I, and the New Voices of the Four Talents

Shangguan Yi: 早春桂林殿應詔

Li Qiao: 奉和初春幸太平公主南莊應制

Wang Bo: 杜少府之任蜀州
秋江送別二首

Yang Jiong: 途中

Lu Zhaolin: 春晚山莊率題二首

Luo Binwang: 在獄詠蟬
邊城落日

Secondary Readings: Owen, *Early Tang*, 1-13, 72-102, 123-150; Shi Zhecun, 7-12; Luo Zongqiang, 10-20. **Recommended Readings:** Lewis, *China's Cosmopolitan Empire*; *Cambridge History*, 150-241.

Week 3: Early Tang Court Poetry, II

- Du Shenyang: 和晉陵陸丞早春游望
夏日過鄭七山齋
春日京中有懷
渡湘江
- Shen Quanqi: 古意呈喬補闕知之 (一作獨不見)
興慶池侍宴應制
遙同杜員外審言過嶺
- Song Zhiwen: 題大庾嶺北驛
渡漢江
送杜審言

Secondary Readings: Owen, *Early Tang*, 325-380. **Recommended Readings:** *Cambridge History*, 242-332.

Week 4: Chen Zi'ang

- 感遇 (蘭若生春夏)
感遇 (蒼蒼丁零塞)
感遇 (聖人去已久)
感遇 (聖人不利己)
感遇 (玄天幽且默)
感遇 (丁亥歲雲暮)
登幽州臺歌
度荊門望楚

Secondary Readings: Owen, *Early Tang*, 157-223; Shi Zhecun, 57-59, 63-72. **Recommended readings:** *Tang dai wenxueshi*, 1:185-207

Week 5: Beginning of High Tang

- Cui Hao: 黃鶴樓
- Wang Changling: 出塞 (秦時明月漢時關)
長信秋詞 (金井梧桐秋葉黃)
長信秋詞 (奉帚平明金殿開)
- Meng Haoran: 宿建德江

歲暮歸南山
過故人莊
早寒江上有懷
與顏錢塘登障樓望潮作
彭蠡湖中望廬山
舟中曉望

Secondary Readings: Owen, *High Tang*, 71-90, 91-103; Bi Shikui, 116-126, 171-179. Recommended readings: Paul Kroll, *Meng Hao-jan; Cambridge History*, 333-409.

Week 6: Wang Wei, I

過始皇墓
送綦毋潛落第還鄉
酬張少府
終南別業
渭川田家
終南山
漢江臨眺
過香積寺
山居即事
歸嵩山作

Secondary Readings: Owen, *High Tang*, 27-51; Yu, *Wang Wei*, 155-169. Recommended readings: Marsha Wagner, *Wang Wei*.

Week 7: Wang Wei, II

送元二使安西
送別
使至塞上
輞川閒居贈裴秀才迪
輞川集竹里館
輞川集鹿柴
輞川集欒家瀨
輞川集斤竹嶺

Li Bo, I

玉階怨

送友人
山中問答

Secondary Readings: Owen, *High Tang*, 109-143; Yu, *Reading of Imagery*, 187-193.

Week 8: Li Bo, II

古風 No. 1
宣州謝朓樓餞別校書叔雲
登金陵鳳凰臺
將進酒
月下獨酌 (花間一壺酒)
黃鶴樓送孟浩然之廣陵
蜀道難 (read only)

Secondary Readings: Zhou Xunchu, *Li Bo yanjiu*, 198-218; 241-254; 395-410.

Week 9: Du Fu, I

月夜
春望
羌村 (其一, 三)
春宿左省
石壕吏
哀江頭
夢李白, No. 1
戲為六絕句, Nos. 2, 5
自京赴奉先縣詠懷五百字 (read only)

Secondary Readings: Chou, *Tu Fu*, 61-106; Owen, *High Tang*, 183-224. **Recommended readings:** *Cambridge History*, 409-463, 468-48; Zhu Dongrun, *Du Fu xu lun*.

Week 10: Du Fu, II

客至
江上值水如海勢聊短述
旅夜書懷
登高
秋興八首

Secondary Readings: Mei Tsu-lin and Kao Yu-kung, "Tu Fu's 'Autumn Meditations,'" 44-80. **Recommended readings:** Yeh, *Qiuxing ba shou*.

Week 11: Dali Era Poets

- Wei Yingwu: 寄全椒山中道士
觀田家
遊溪
滁州西澗
秋夜寄丘二十二員外
- Liu Changqing: 送靈澈上人
- Qian Qi: 藍田溪雜詠 (登臺, 銜魚翠鳥, 戲鷗, 遠山鐘)
裴迪南門秋夜對月

Secondary Readings: Owen, High Tang, 303-316; Jiang Yin, 49-51, 176-194. Recommended readings: *Cambridge History*, 486-514, 561-586.

Week 12: Mid-Tang Styles, I

- Bo Juyi: 秦中吟十首 (輕肥)
贖雞
山中獨吟
自吟拙什因有所懷
詠拙
錢唐湖春行
- Li He: 金銅仙人辭漢歌
秋來
蘇小小墓

Secondary Readings: Owen, *End of the Chinese Middle Ages*, 1-33; 83-106; Owen, *Late Tang*, 156-182. Recommended readings: *Cambridge History*, 586-681; Frodsham, Introduction to *Goddesses, Ghosts, and Demons*; Zhang Zongfu, *Li He yanjiu*.

Week 13 (December 1): Mid-Tang Styles, II

- Han Yu: 秋懷詩十一首 (其一, 八)
江漢一首答孟郊
送無本師歸范陽
- Meng Jiao: 秋懷 (其二, 四)
寒溪 (其三, 四)

Secondary Readings: Owen, Meng Chiao and Han Yü, 137-153, 161-184, 254-269.

Week 14: Late Tang

- Li Shangyin: 錦瑟

無題 (相見時難別亦難)

隋宮

寓目

落花

Du Mu:

獨酌

過華清宮絕句 No. 1

題揚州禪智寺

寄揚州韓綽判官

贈別二首 No. 2

Secondary Readings:Owen, *Late Tang*, 255-314; 335-411. **Recommended readings:** Liu, *Li Shang-yin*, 3-47.