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

Fall 2013      Instructor: Professor Wendy Swartz
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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:


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


Shi Zhecun 施蟄存. Tang shi baihua 唐詩百話.


Yeh, Chia-ying. *Du Fu “Qiuxing” ba shou jishuo* 杜甫《秋興》八首集說.


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)


**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**

Shanggan Yu: 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

Yang Jiong: 秋江送別二首

Lu Zhaolin: 途中

Luo Binwang: 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 Shenyan:
和晉陵陸丞早春遊望
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


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


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
週暮歸南山
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


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


Week 7: Wang Wei, II
送元二使安西
送別
使至塞上
輜川聞閨贈裴秀才迪
輜川集竹里館
輜川集鹿柴
輜川集欒家瀨
輜川集斤竹嶺

Li Bo, I
玉階怨
送友人
山中問答


Week 8: Li Bo, II
古風 No. 1
宣州謝眺樓饯別校書叔雲
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)


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
戯為六絕句, Nos. 2, 5
自京赴奉先縣詠懷五百字(read only)


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

Week 11: Dali Era Poets

Wei Yingwu: 寄全椒山中道士
覲田家
遊溪
滁州西澱
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, 衔魚翠鳥, 戲鷗, 遠山鐘)
裴迪南門秋夜對月


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 Yu, 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
寄揚州韓絳判官
贈別二首 No. 2