01:098/214: 241 East Asian Civilizations: Traditional Era
Professor Xin Ning

Rutgers University
Fall 2012

TTh 4:30-5:50pm
Hardenbergh Hall A7

Syllabus

Instructor: Professor Xin Ning

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Office Hours: Thursday 3-4 pm, and by appointment

Course Description
The course is designed for students interested in learning about East Asian Civilizations in the traditional era, focusing on China, Korea, and Japan. If you are just beginning your study of East Asia, you may want to explore the region broadly in this class before deciding on a more specific course of study; or, if you have already done substantial study of one East Asian country or language, this class will give you the chance to situate it within the larger context of traditional East Asia.

The course consists of three units: Unit 1 "Health and Healing" introduces traditional Eastern medicine and its theory and practice; Unit 2 "Material Culture" focuses on ideas and technologies in traditional East Asia that created a distinctive world of objects; and Unit 3 "Language and Script" compares spoken languages and written scripts in their historical setting.

Each unit is followed by a unit essay test, and students are required to prepare a 4-page analytical response paper on a topic related to each unit, due on the date of the unit test. These response papers together with student reflections on their own work will be collected in individual student portfolios that serve to document students evolving insights into the subject matter of the course.
as well as their ability to convey their thoughts, both orally and in written form, in a mode appropriate to the field of East Asian or Asian area studies.

Learning Outcome Goals

This course meets the following permanent core curriculum goals:

II. Areas of Inquiry

B: Social Science and History

h. Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.

B1. Historical Analysis (3 credits)

k. Explain the development of some aspect of a society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history of science.

B2. Social Analysis (3 credits)

m. Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization.

III. Cognitive Skills and Processes

A. Writing and Communication

s. (s1) Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience.

(s2) Respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts and revision.

t. Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry.

u. Evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly.

v. Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.
Grading
Students will be evaluated on the basis of three 4-page Analytical Response Papers (10% each, total of 30%), three Unit Tests (20% each, total of 60%), and a group report (10%). Careful reading of all assigned materials is extremely important to success in the course.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to observe the highest standards of academic honesty at all times. For more information on the definition and policies regarding academic integrity at Rutgers see the website with the same title: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

Required Texts (available at Rutgers Bookstore, Ferren Mall)

All other required material will be available in electronic format on the sakai site for this course (https://sakai.rutgers.edu).

Reading Schedule

UNIT 1: HEALTH AND HEALING

Week 9/4 Course Introduction
1

Conceptualizing the Body
9/6 Kaptchuk The Web That Has No Weaver, chap. 1 "Medicine East and West" 1-39.
9/11 Kaptchuk *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chap. 2
Week "Fundamental Textures" 41-74.
2 Kaptchuk *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chap. 3 "Organs of the Body" 75-104.
9/13 Kaptchuk *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chap. 4 "Meridians" 105-141.

**Disease and Diagnosis**
Week 9/18 Kaptchuk *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chap. 5 "Origins of Disharmony" 143-170.
3 9/20 Kaptchuk *The Web That Has No Weaver*, chap. 6 "The Four Examinations" 171-213.

**Alternative Approaches to Healing**
Week 9/25 Kendall *Shamans, Housewives, and Other Restless Spirits* chap. 4 "Divine Connections: the Mansin and Her Clients" 54-85.
4 9/27 Unit 1 Test; 5-page analytical response paper due.

**UNIT 2: MATERIAL CULTURE**

**Observing Chinese Infrastructure**
Week 10/2 Cotterell, *The Imperial Capitals of China*, chap. 5 "Reunification and Tang Chang’an" 111-129.
5 10/4 Cotterell, *The Imperial Capitals of China*, chap. 6 "Dynastic Decline: Late Tang Chang’an" 133-152.
Week 10/9 Reischauer *Ennin’s Travels to T’ang China* "Preface" 7-9 & chap. 3 "The Embassy to China" 39-99.
6 10/11 Meskill, tr. *Ch'oe Pu’s Diary* "Introduction" 1-25.

**Objects and Ways of Life**
Week 10/16 Choo *Papers of the British Association for Korean Studies* vol. 5 "Objects, sinkers, nets, behaviour and subsistence" 131-186.
7 10/18 Wood *Papers of the British Association for Korean Studies* vol. 5 "Technological parallels between Chinese Yue wares and Korean celadons" 39-63.

Week 9 10/30 Unit 2 Test; 5-page analytical response paper due.

UNIT 3: LANGUAGE and SCRIPT

Chinese
11/1 Lyovin Introduction to the Languages of the World, chap. 2 "Classification of Writing Systems" 29-43.


Korean

Japanese
11/20 Waley, tr. The Tale of Genji chap. 1 "Kiritsubo" 7-12
11/22 No Class. Thanksgiving Recess.
11/27 Nō Play "Yōkihi" from Donald Keene, ed. Twenty Plays of the Nō Theatre 208-217.
Week 14

**Translation and Adaptation of Foreign Literature**


12/4 Miller, *Adaptations of Western Literature in Meiji Japan*, chap. 2 “More Romance than Reality: Ulysses S. Grant as Japanese Warrior” (23-75)

12/6 Hu, *Tales of Translation: Composing the New Woman in China 1899-1918*, chap. 2 “Transplanting the Lady of Camellias” (67-105)

12/11 Conclusion

**Final 12/19 12noon-3pm Unit 3 Test; 4-page analytical response Exam paper due.**