

**SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

**CHINESE PROGRAMME**  
**CHIN 313 CLASSICAL CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

**TRIMESTER 2 2010**  
12 July to 13 November 2010

Please read through this material very carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: Monday 12 July – Friday 15 October

Mid-trimester break: 23 August – 5 September

**Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

**Names and contact details**

Coordinator and Lecturer: Dr Limin Bai Room vZ 701  
Tel 463 6462 limin.bai@vuw.ac.nz  
Office hours: Mon: 11: 00am - 12:00pm; Tues: 4:00pm – 5:00pm  
and Thurs: 1:00 pm -2:00 pm

School Administrators: Nina Cuccurullo – ext. 5293 (nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz)  
Lancy Knott – ext. 5318 (lancy.knott@vuw.ac.nz)  
Tess Seemann – ext. 5635 (tessa.seemann@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office: vZ 610  
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Disability Liaison Person and  
Maori & Pacific Islands Dr Ross Woods  
Students liaison: Office: vZ 507  
Phone: 463-5098  
Email: ross.woods@vuw.ac.nz

**Class times and locations**

Lectures:

Monday 1:10 pm-3.00pm HU (Hunter) LT 220

Thursday 3:10pm -5.00pm vZ (von Zedlitz) 108

**Course delivery**

The course is delivered in four lectures per week.

## Communication of additional information

Students are encouraged to watch the Chinese Programme noticeboard (von Zedlitz Level 7) for information on courses, programme changes, as well as Chinese Cultural Club activities.

Additional information regarding the course, including information on changes, will be announced in lectures and posted on Blackboard. Students should check Blackboard regularly.

## Course content

For the two millennia prior to the early decades of the 20th century, Classical Chinese was the medium of most written communication in China (and to some extent throughout the rest of East Asia), from the inscriptions found on the oracle bones to memorials to the emperors, from the classics of Confucianism and Taoism to personal letters and colophons on paintings, from the great historical works of the Han dynasty to the poetry of the high Tang period and beyond. To study Classical Chinese is to acquire an invaluable tool for an understanding of the literary, artistic and philosophical traditions of one of the great civilisations of the world. All students intending to pursue advanced studies in any field of traditional Sinology (Chinese Studies) are required to have a good reading knowledge of the language. Mastery of Classical Chinese serves also to enhance a student's understanding of the contemporary form of the language.

Chin 313 is an introductory course in this classical language which assumes that by this stage in their study of Chinese, students will have a sound command of modern Chinese grammar, an active knowledge of approximately 1500 Chinese characters, and be well versed in the techniques of character memorisation and dictionary consultation.

## Learning objectives

By the conclusion of the course, students will be expected to:

- Be able to work with a range of primary Classical Chinese language materials, and to have developed the skills of literary translation, Chinese to English.
- Mastered the use of a range of basic Sinological bibliographical and reference tools.
- To have become familiar with a range of issues, both theoretical & methodological, pertaining to Chinese Studies.
- And to have applied these various skills and methodologies to a specific topic in the field of Chinese Studies.

## Expected workload

The Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Committee on Workloads and Assessment has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a 300-level one-trimester 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week including class contact hours (4), reading and doing assignments (11), to this paper for its duration in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

Course attendance should be at least 80% of all classes offered.

## Readings

### Essential texts:

Students should acquire from the Student Notes Office the following course materials:

- *CHIN 313: Introduction to Classical Chinese Language & Literature: Texts*
- *CHIN 313: Introduction to Classical Chinese Language & Literature: Reference Materials*  
Both are compiled by the School of Languages and Cultures, VUW.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours of VicBooks are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

### Background Reference Works:

- Pulleyblank, E.G. *Outline of Classical Chinese Grammar*  
(Vancouver, British Columbia: University of British Columbia Press, 1995)
- Loewe, M., ed. *Early Chinese Texts: A Bibliographical Guide*  
(Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993)
- Nienhauser, W.H., ed. *The Indiana Companion to Traditional Chinese Literature*, 2 vols. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1986 & 1998)

### Assessment requirements

This course is entirely internally assessed. Assessment is based on a combination of translation assignments, an essay and a final written test. This mixture is felt to be most appropriate to the nature of a paper that seeks both to teach the classical language and to introduce students to the traditional Chinese world of letters. Assessment is weighted in the following manner:

1. Translation Assignments: [40%]

Three translation assignments (Chinese to English), due:

- 5 August (10%)
- 19 August (15%)
- 30 September (15%)

Assignments will be marked and returned within two weeks of the due date.

2. Essay (in English): [25%]  
Due 16 September

Essay topics are given out in early August. In consultation with their lecturer, students may present an essay on a topic of their own devising. Word Limit: 1500-2000 words.

3. Final Written Test: [35%]  
14 October (50 minutes)

## Penalties

The late submission of assignments and essays must be negotiated with the lecturer concerned before the due date and, depending upon circumstances, may be penalised.

## Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit at least 2 out of 3 translation assignments by the specified dates;
- b) Submit the essay by the due date;
- c) Sit the final written test.

## Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

## Statement on legibility

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible',

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student still does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

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## Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching, and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

### **General University Policies and Statutes**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including academic grievances, student and staff conduct, meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcademic/Publications.aspx>