



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES
CHIN 112 INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE CIVILISATION
20 POINTS

TRIMESTER2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lecture

Tuesday 3.10pm-5.00pm HM (Hugh Mackenzie) LT001

Tutorials

Please note that tutorials start in the **second** week of the trimester. Students must choose one tutorial using the myAllocator system: <https://student-sa.victoria.ac.nz>

Detailed instructions are available on Blackboard. Students must remain in their allotted groups.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator

Duncan Campbell
Office: vZ702
Email: duncan.campbell@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Tuesdays 2-3pm; Wednesdays 1-2pm

Administrators:

Nina Cuccurullo
Office: vZ610
Phone: 463 5293
Email: nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz

Ida Li
Office: vZ610
Phone: 463 5318
Email: ida.li@vuw.ac.nz

School Office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Contact Person for Māori and Pasifika Students: Dr Nicola Gilmour
Office: vZ501
Phone: 463 5296
Email: nicola.gilmour@vuw.ac.nz

Contact Person for Students with Disabilities: Dr Andrea Hepworth
Office: vZ604
Phone: 463 5321
Email: andrea.hepworth@vuw.ac.nz

School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Communication of additional information

Information on any timetable changes will be announced in lectures and posted on Blackboard. You are advised to check Blackboard regularly.

Prescription

This is a survey course introducing some of the salient features of Chinese civilisation from prehistoric times to the present century. Topics include literature, thought and scholarship, religious beliefs, art, and the cultural and social achievements of the main dynasties.

Course content

The textbook and lectures will provide an overview of the main issues in the history and development of the Chinese civilisation, while the tutorials, assignments and the essay will allow students to explore particular topics in more depth. Topics addressed in lectures and tutorials include various genres of literature, art and architecture, religion and scholarship, as well as aspects of material culture, all of which will be discussed within the framework of China's pre-imperial and imperial history.

Apart from the range of factual material this course seeks to impart, students will also be encouraged to explore changing Chinese conceptions of culture and civilisation and form their views through critical assessments of historical evidence and scholarship.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

The aim of the course is to provide students with a basic knowledge of the history and development of Chinese civilisation. It will take students on a journey to discover how Chinese perceived themselves and how they interacted with the world. It will also introduce students to the basic skills in assessing historical materials critically. Furthermore, students will be taught how to effectively present their opinions and ideas orally and in written form, especially through tutorial discussion.

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Articulate a general understanding of aspects of the development of traditional Chinese civilisation;

2. Bring the perceptions gained from these understandings to bear on a number of specific topics in the field of traditional Chinese civilisation;
3. Demonstrate the ability to engage in critical thinking;
4. Demonstrate skills in formulating arguments and an enhanced ability to effectively present ideas both orally and in written form.

Teaching format

The course consists of ONE two-hour lecture and ONE tutorial per week.

Students are expected to have read the required readings before coming to lectures and tutorials. Lectures and tutorials may begin with questions about the content of the reading and students will be randomly selected in answering these questions orally.

Other members of staff involved in the study of China may be invited to deliver a number of the lectures associated with this course.

Workload

The University Assessment Handbook 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 one trimester 20-point course should devote 200 hours overall to the course, working on average 14 hours per week including class contact hours, in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Mid-trimester essay, 1200 words	35%	1, 2, 3, 4	Monday Week 7, 5 September
2 Final essay, 1200 words	40%	1, 2, 3, 4	Friday Week 11, 7 October
3 Class test, 50 minutes	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	Tuesday Week 12, 11 October

1. Essays: 1st essay topics will be posted on the Blackboard at the beginning of the trimester and 2nd essays topics in Week 6. In Week 3 we will discuss how to write academic essays in tutorials. Each essay may take 20 hours to complete in average.
2. Test: students are required to choose to answer in short essay form 5 questions out of the 15 given beforehand. The test questions will be posted on Blackboard in Week 10. Students may need an average of 20 hours to prepare for the Test.
3. Marking criteria will be available on Blackboard.

Submission and return of work

Essays: All essays should be submitted electronically through Blackboard and with a print-out copy to the Chinese Assignment slot located to the left of the SLC main office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz. You should also attach a coversheet available from the 6th floor of the von Zedlitz building and on Blackboard. Essays should follow academic conventions of formatting and referencing (see detailed instructions below). They should be double spaced in font size 12 and with decent margins on all sides (about 4cm). They can be printed on both sides of the paper.

Essays may be checked through Turnitin system. Please make sure that you acknowledge all sources of ideas presented in your essay and reference them properly.

Essays will be marked and returned within three weeks from the date of submission.

Students will be able to collect marked work from the SLC Office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm each day. A Student ID card will need to be shown to collect work.

Extensions and penalties

The late submission of essays must be negotiated with the Course Coordinator before the due date and, depending upon circumstances, may be penalised. The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day.

Students must make every effort to sit for the tests. Those who miss a test for medical or other humanitarian reasons with sufficient documentation can write an essay of 1000 words on a topic selected from the list of essay topics other than the topics the student has worked on for essay assignments previously.

The last day to hand in an assignment is 14 October. Beyond this date no more assignment will be accepted and assessed.

Set texts

Hansen, Valerie. *The Open Empire: A History of China to 1800*. New York & London: W.W. Norton, 2nd edition, 2015.

Recommended Background Reading:

Ebrey, Patricia Buckley. *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996.

Hartman, Charles. *History of Chinese Civilisation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982.

Bary, W.M. de and Irene Bloom, eds. *Sources of Chinese Tradition: Volume 1: from the earliest Times to 1600* and *Sources of Chinese Tradition: Volume 2: from 1600 Through the Twentieth Century*, 2nd Edition, New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.

Ropp, Paul S., ed. *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, Oxford: University of California Press, 1990.

Students will be introduced to other relevant material during the course.

Set texts can be purchased from Vic Books, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. They can also be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz. Orders and enquiries can be emailed to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Recommended reading can be found in library.

Referencing for essays

To avoid charges of plagiarism, and conform to the general standards of academic writing, your essay must include footnotes to give the source of:

- All direct quotes
- All ideas that you have taken from another author (even if you have not used their words)
- All key facts and information (unless they are common knowledge)

Use of footnotes in the format of the following models is preferred (though students who use a different system of referencing will not be penalized, as long as it is an established system within an academic discipline):

References to a book in footnotes:

Grant Hardy, *Worlds of Bronze and Bamboo*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999, p. 14.

References to a journal article:

Stevan Harrell, "The History of the Yi," *Modern China* 29, no. 3, 2003: pp. 562-2270.

References to a chapter in a book written by more than one author:

Hong Lijian, "Sichuan: Disadvantage and Mismanagement in the Heavenly Kingdom," in David SG Goodman ed., *China's Provinces in Reform: Class, Community and Political Culture*. London and New York: Routledge, 1997, p. 12.

You must also include a bibliography listing all the sources you have used at the end of your essay. Essays without references will not receive a pass mark.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, 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. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz.

Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Response to feedback for this course will be discussed in class or delivered via Blackboard.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support

- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Timetable

WEEK ONE

Lecture Tuesday 12 July

Topic 1 *Orientations*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 3-15

Topic 2 *Ideas of Civilisation*

Reading: "The Great Learning", Wm. Theodore de Bary & Irene Bloom, eds., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999, Vol. 1, pp. 330-333 (on Blackboard)

No tutorials this week.

WEEK TWO

Lecture Tuesday 19 July

Topic 1 *The Sacred Character: Cang Jie & the Oracle Bones*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 19-55

Topic 2 *The Past: Myths of Creation & The Creation of Myths*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 57-89

Tutorial 1 in Week Two: *a. Why study China?*
 b. How to Write Academic Essays in Chinese Studies?

This tutorial will focus on helping students with the construction and development of your essay. You should give some thought to which topic you may write about. You are encouraged to ask questions about the topic you have in mind. You should start working on your essay from this week.

WEEK THREE

Lecture Tuesday 26 July

Topic 1 *The Past: The Beginnings of "Chineseness"*

Reading: David Keightley, "Early Chinese Civilization in China: Reflections on How it Became Chinese", in Ropp, Paul S., ed. *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Oxford: University of California Press, 1990, pp. 15-54 (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *The Printed Character: Books & Reading*

Reading: Joseph p. McDermott, *A Social History of the Chinese Book: Books and Literati Culture in Late Imperial China* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2006), pp. 9-42 (on Blackboard)

Tutorial 2 in Week Three: *The Origins of Chinese Civilisation*

Tutorial questions:

- Where and how did the Chinese civilisation begin?
- What were the characteristics of earlier Chinese civilisation?
- How does it compare with other civilisations?
- How was civilisation, once achieved, to be maintained?

WEEK FOUR

Lecture Tuesday 2 August

Topic 1 *The Past: Sima Qian & History*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 91-137

Topic 2 *The Past China under "Foreign" Rule (Yuan Dynasty, 1279-1368)*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 309-343

Tutorial 3 in Week Four: *The Chinese Attitude to the Past*

Tutorial questions:

- How central a role does history play in Chinese understandings of themselves?
- Why such a role?

WEEK FIVE

Lecture Tuesday 9 August

Topic 1 *The Book: The Confucian Canon*

Reading: "Chapter 1", *The Analects of Confucius*. New York and London: W.W. Norton, 1997, Simon Leys, trans. pp. 3-5, 105-112 (notes) (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *The Book: Mencius*

Reading: "The Mencius", Daniel K. Gardner, trans., *The Four Books: The Basic Teachings of the Later Confucian Tradition*. Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett Publishing, 2007, pp. 53-103 (on Blackboard)

Tutorial 4 in Week Five: *Confucianism*

Tutorial Questions:

- Is Confucianism a religion?
- What are the core values of Confucianism?
- What role does Confucianism have to play in contemporary China?
- Can you name a few countries other than China in which Confucian influences remain strong?

WEEK SIX

Lecture Tuesday 16 August (Dr Michael Radich, Religious Studies)

Topic 1 *China's Religious Landscape*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 133-137

Topic 2 *The "Sinification" of Buddhism*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 141-172

Tutorial 5 in Week Six: *Religions in China and Chinese Religions*

Tutorial questions:

What are the major religious belief systems in China?

In what ways are they evident in Chinese daily lives today?

Are you aware of any Chinese religion practiced in New Zealand? Can you describe it?

MID-TRIMESTER BREAK: 20 August to 4 September

Essay One due by 4:00pm Monday 5 September

WEEK SEVEN

Lecture Tuesday 6 September

Topic 1 *The Brush: Calligraphy & Painting*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 235-273; Simon Leys, "Poetry and Painting: Aspects of Chinese Classical Aesthetics", in *The Hall of Uselessness*. Victoria: Black Inc., 2011, pp. 285-309 (on Blackboard)

Topic 1 *The Brush: The Regulated Verse*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 173-234

Tutorial 6 in Week Seven: *The Usages of the Brush*

Tutorial questions:

How do you "read" a Chinese Painting?

Why the priority given to calligraphy as the supreme art form?

WEEK EIGHT

Lecture Tuesday 13 September

Topic 1 *The Library*

Reading: Duncan M. Campbell, "Reflections on the Tower of the Crimson Clouds and the History of the Private Library in Late-Imperial China", *East Asian History* 38, 2014: pp. 63-74 (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *The Garden*

Reading: Chapter 17, Cao Xueqin, *The Story of the Stone: Volume 1: The Golden Days* (Penguin, 1973), David Hawkes, trans. (on Blackboard)

Tutorial 7 in Week Eight: *The Spaces of Culture*

Tutorial Questions:

How did the architecture of space influence Chinese Civilisation?

WEEK NINE

Lecture Tuesday 20 September

Topic 1 *The Opera: The Peony Pavilion*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 345-382; Cyril Birch, trans., *The Peony Pavilion*, 2nd Ed. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 202, pp. ix-xxx, 24-53 (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *The Novel: The Dream of the Red Chamber/Story of the Stone*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 385-418; C.T. Hsia, *The Classic Chinese Novel: A Critical Introduction*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1968, pp. 245-297 (on Blackboard)

Tutorial 8 in Week Nine: *Popular Literature*

Tutorial questions:

What role does literature and the performing arts play in civilisation?

How do the marginalised speak back?

WEEK TEN

Lecture Tuesday 27 September

Topic 1 *Western Interlocutors: Marco Polo*

Reading: Jonathan Spence, "The Worlds of Marco Polo", in *The Chan's Great Continent: China in Western Minds*. Penguin, 1998, pp. 1-18 (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *Western Interlocutors: Matteo Ricci*

Reading: Jonathan Spence, "Matteo Ricci and the Ascent to Peking", in *Chinese Roundabout*. New York: W.W. Norton, pp. 37-49 (on Blackboard)

Tutorial 9 in Week Ten: *Q & A for **Test***

Tutorial questions:

What do you think have been the crucial changes of China in its progress from an empire to a modern nation? Has China been an open empire? Is it an open nation?

WEEK ELEVEN

Lecture Tuesday 4 October

Topic 1 *Lu Xun & the Birth of Modern China*

Reading: Lu Xun, "Preface", "Diary of a Madman", and "Kong Yiji", in Julia Lovell, trans., *The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China: The Complete Fiction of Lu Xun*. Penguin, 2009, pp. 15-36 (on Blackboard)

Topic 2 *Final Reflections*

Reading: Valerie Hansen, *The Open Empire*, pp. 419-430

Tutorial 10 in Week Eleven: *Contemporary Usages of Chinese Civilisation*

Tutorial questions:

How have Chinese in the past and presently understood their civilisation?

What role does the past we have studied in China's present and future?

WEEK TWELVE

Lecture Tuesday 11 October

Course Evaluation and **Test**

Tutorial 11 in Week Twelve: *Review, Q&A regarding Test*

Final essay due 4:00 pm Friday 14 October