

HUMA2400 Approaches to Humanities in China Studies:**Research Methods and the Humanities of Love, Hatred, Life and Death**

愛、恨、生、死與人文學研究方法

Mon & Wed 10:30-11:50

Rm. LTH (Lift 25-26)

Zoom Meeting ID: 976 6746 6843; Passcode: 666666**I. Instructors and TA****Instructors**

| Discipline | Professor | Email | Phone | Room | Office Hrs |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|------|----------------------------|
| Anthropology | LIU Tik-sang 廖迪生 | hmtslu@ust.hk | 23587799 | 3333 | Mon & Wed 14:00 – 15:30 |
| Linguistics | SUN Jingtao 孫景濤 | hmjtsun@ust.hk | 23587795 | 3353 | Mon & Wed 15:00-16:30 |
| Literature | MA Xiaolu 馬筱璐 | hmxlma@ust.hk | 23588921 | 3377 | Fri 14:00 -17:00 |

Teaching Assistant

| Discipline | TA | Email | Room | Office Hrs |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|------|-----------------|
| Linguistics | TONG Mengyuan 童夢園 | mtong@connect.ust.hk | 3001 | Wed 16:00-17:00 |

II. Course Description

This course is designed to train students with the **skills of academic research** in the field of humanities in general, but with special reference to anthropology, arts, history, linguistics, literature, and philosophy of China, in particular. The course will pay attention to the following few key questions –

- 1) What constitute data or source materials?
- 2) How and where to collect them?
- 3) How data/ source materials are processed and analyzed?
- 4) What research questions are asked?
- 5) What conceptual and theoretical approaches are applied?

By focusing on the common human experiences of love, hatred, life and death, and how they are studied in each discipline, students will be guided to compare the distinctive approaches to humanities in China Studies.

Three modules, Anthropology, Linguistics and Literature, will be covered in this course this semester.

III. Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, students should be able to –

- Comprehend the basic research methods of particular disciplines in Humanities;
- Understand human endeavors and appreciate their creative expressions through the different approaches to Humanities in China studies;
- Develop cultural sensitivity toward human experiences and conditions;
- Write a research proposal with a basic framework related to research methods

IV. Course Assessment & Requirements

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| • 3 module quizzes (25 marks x 3) | 75 marks |
| • Participation in lectures and tutorials | 5 marks |
| • Research proposal | 20 marks |
| • Total: | 100 marks |

Students are required to take a quiz at the end of each module. The three quizzes may be designed in different formats, and please follow the instructors’ instructions for preparing the quizzes.

0.5 mark will be deducted for one absence starting from the third absence in each module.

Students are required to write a **research proposal** on a topic that relates to ONE of the three disciplines covered in this semester – i.e. anthropology, linguistics or literature.

The respective discipline that the research proposal should cover will be decided by first **soliciting students’ disciplinary preference**. If too many students choose one particular discipline over the others, **lot-drawing** will be conducted to finalize the result. Students, however, are welcome to “trade” with another classmate if he or she intends to work on a research proposal on a discipline that is not assigned by lot-drawing.

Research proposal deadline – May 25 (Wed.) at 23:59pm; Canvas submission.

V. Class Schedule, Topics and Readings

| Module | Dates |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Anthropology (8 sessions) | Feb. 7, 9, 14, 23, 28 Mar. 2, 7, 9 |
| Linguistics (8 sessions) | Feb. 16, 21 Mar. 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 |
| Literature (7 sessions) | Apr. 4, 6, 11, 20, 25, 27 May 4 |
| Conclusion | May 11 (Course Summarization & Research Proposal Q&A) |
| No Class | Apr 13 (Wed), 18 (Mon); May 2 (Mon), 9 (Mon) |

1) Course introduction

Feb 7

- Explain the syllabus
- Major components of research method
- Framework for cross-disciplinary comparison of research methods
- Explain the requirement of writing a research proposal

2) Module of Anthropology

Feb 7, 9

- **Topic: How to study Chinese Life Cycle?: An anthropological method**
- **Required Readings:**

Peoples, James and Garrick Bailey. 2012. *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (International Edition) (9th ed.). Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (Chapter 5: Methods of Investigation)

- **Reference Readings:**

Crane, Julia G. and Michael V. Angrosino. 1992. *Field Projects in Anthropology: A Student Handbook*. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press.

Liu, Tik-sang. 2013. "Approaches in Understanding Heritage." In *A Study of Cultural Heritage: (1) Theory and Practice*. Tik-sang Liu ed., pp. 137-150. Hong Kong: Personal, Social and Humanities Education, Education Bureau.

Peoples, James and Garrick Bailey. 2012. *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (International Edition) (9th ed.). Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (Chapter 10: Enculturation and the Life Course)

Feb 14

- **Topic: Love and Engagement**

- **Required Readings:**

Wolf, Arthur P. 1966. "Childhood Association, Sexual Attraction, and the Incest Taboo: A Chinese Case." *American Anthropologist*, 68:883-898.

Topley, Marjorie. 1975. "Marriage Resistance in Rural Kwangtung." In *Women in Chinese Society*, Margery Wolf and Roxanne Witke, eds., pp. 67-88. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Peoples, James and Garrick Bailey. 2012. *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (International Edition) (9th ed.). Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (Chapter 8: Marriage and Families, Chapter 9: Kinship and Descent)

- **Reference Readings:**

Yan, Yunxiang. 2002. "Courtship, Love and Premarital Sex in a North China Village." *The China Journal*, 48:29-53

Feb 16, 21 (Module of Linguistics, please see below)

March 23, 28

- **Topic: Life**

- **Required Readings:**

Cohen, Myron L. 1970. "Developmental Process in the Chinese Domestic Group." In *Family and Kinship in Chinese Society*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Watson, Rubie S. 1986. "The Named and the Nameless: Gender and Person in Chinese Society." *American Ethnologist*, 13(4): 619-631.

- **Reference Readings:**

Ahern, Emily M. 1978. "The Power and Pollution of Chinese Women." In *Studies in Chinese Society*, ed. Arthur P. Wolf. Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp. 269-290.

Peoples, James and Garrick Bailey. 2012. *Humanity: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (International Edition) (9th ed.). Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (Chapter 11: Gender in Comparative Perspective)

Wolf, Margery. 1972. *Women and the Family in Rural Taiwan*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

March 2, 7

- **Topic: Death**

- **Required Readings:**

Potter, Jack M. 1970. "Land and Lineage in Traditional China." In *Family and Kinship in Chinese Society*, ed. Maurice Freedman. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Watson, Rubie S. 1988. "Remembering the Dead: Graves and Politics in Southeastern China." In *Death Ritual in Late Imperial and Modern China*, eds. James Watson and Evelyn Rawski. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 203-227.

- **Reference Readings:**

Potter, Jack M. 1970. "Wind, Water, Bones, and Souls: The Religious World of the Cantonese Peasant." *Journal of Oriental Studies*, vol. 8, pp. 139-53.

Watson, James L. 1982. "Of Flesh and Bones: The Management of Death pollution in Cantonese Society." In *Death and the Regeneration of Life*, eds. Maurice Bloch & Jonathan Parry. London: Cambridge University Press, pp. 155-86.

Anthropology Module Quiz – March 9 (Wed)

3) Module of Linguistics

Feb 16

- **Topic: Phoneme, Syllable and Morpheme**

- **Required Readings:**

Crystal, David 2008. "Phoneme", "Syllable" and "Morpheme", *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics* (6th Ed.). UK & USA: Blackwell Publishers, pp361-362; pp.467-469; pp313-314.

- **Reference Readings:**

Ladefoged, Peter and Keith Johnson 2011. "Syllables", *A course in phonetics*, (6th edition), Boston: Wadsworth, pp. 243-249.

Fromkin, Victoria, Robert Rodman and Nina Hyams. 2014. "Phonemes: The Phonological Units of Language" and "Morphemes: The Minimal Units of Meaning", *An Introduction to Language* (10th edition), Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, pp. 230-235; pp36-42.

Feb 21

- **Topic: Nature of writing systems (especially Chinese writing)**

- **Readings:**

Qiu Xigui. 2000. *Chinese Writing*, translated by Gilbert Louis Mattos, Jerry Norman, Early China Special Monograph Series, No. 4. Berkeley: Publications, Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2000. Chapter 2, pp13-28.

Rogers, Henry. 2005. *Writing Systems: A Linguistic Approach*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. Chapter 1 & 3, pp1-8; pp20-49.

Mar 14, 16, 21, 23

- **Topic: Classification of Chinese characters and character creation**
- **Required Readings:**

Qiu Xigui. 2000. *Chinese Writing*, translated by Gilbert Louis Mattos, Jerry Norman, Early China Special Monograph Series, No. 4. Berkeley: Publications, Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2000. Chapter 7, pp. 173-220.

- **Reference Readings:**

Qiu Xigui. 2000. *Chinese Writing*, Chapter 6, pp. 151-171.

Mar 28

- **Topic: Cultural and historical components seen in Chinese characters**
- **Readings:**

Taylor, Insup and M. Martin Taylor 1995. *Writing and Literacy in Chinese, Korean and Japanese*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company. “Characters tell stories” pp60-66.

Linguistic Module Quiz – Mar 30 (Wed)

4) Module of Literature

April 4, 6

- **Topic: What is literature?**
- **Readings:**
René Wellek & Austin Warren, *Theory of Literature* (Selected)
- **Case study:**
Lilian Lee Pik-Wah, *Green Snake*
http://big5.quanben5.com/n/qingshe_2/xiaoshuo.html

April 11, 20

- **Topic: What is cinema?**
- **Readings:**
Gilles Deleuze, *Cinema 1* (Selected)
- **Case study:**
Green Snake (1993)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBjycaw5ulk>

Apr 25, 27

- **Topic: What is animation?**
- **Readings:**

Thomas Lamarre: *The Anime Machine: A Media Theory of Animation* (Selected)

- **Case study:**

White Snake (2019)

<https://gimy.app/eps/22582-1-1.html>

Literature Module Quiz – May 4 (Wed)

5) Course Summarization & Research Proposal Q&A

May 11 (Wed)

- Course Summary & Concluding (to be attended by all instructors)
- Research Proposal Q&A (please attend the session run by the instructor of the disciplinary field of your research proposal)