

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Course Code: HUMA 2632
Course Title: Chinese Culture and Society in Anthropological Perspectives
Course Offered in: Fall 2023
Course Instructor: CHEUNG Siu-woo

Course Description:

This course is a survey of traditional and contemporary Chinese cultural practices and social institutions in local communities based on anthropologists' long-term first-hand fieldwork studies of local communities in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China. Basic anthropological concepts and theories about Chinese socio-cultural institutions will be examined. Major anthropological contributions to the understanding of the diversity and unity of Chinese cultures and societies will be explored in lectures on different topics. The transformation of Socialist China will be explored through tutorial presentation and discussion on various chapters from the book The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader written by an anthropologist based on his field research.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

	Course ILOs <i>On completion of this course, students should be able to:</i>
1	Comprehend basic terms, concepts and theories in cultural anthropology about Chinese cultures and societies in ethnographic writings.
2	Conduct critical analyses about socio-cultural issues in contemporary Chinese societies, such as kinship, class, gender and ethnic relations, ecological concern, development issues, and so on.
3	Relate and apply the holistic perspective on community heritage to explain other social and cultural phenomena.
4	Develop appreciation and respect of cultural diversity and understand the importance of cultural awareness for social interaction in contemporary daily life.

Course Outline:

	Date	Major experience	Reading	Assessment task
	Sept 4 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Course introduction	"Chapter 1: The Study of Humanities,"	

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Wk 1		Lecture: The nature of Anthropology	<u>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</u>	
	Sept 5 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Lecture: - Characteristics of culture: Culture, tradition, heritage	“Chapter 2: Culture,” <u>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology.</u>	
Wk 2	Sept 11 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: - Characteristics of culture: Culture, tradition, heritage	“Chapter 2: Culture,” <u>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology.</u>	
	Sept 12 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Lecture: Skills of anthropological research	“Chapter 3: Studying Culture: Approaches and Methods.” In <u>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</u>	
Wk 3	Sept 18 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Family	“Developmental Process in the Chinese Domestic Group.”	
	Sept 19 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: Arrangement of weekly tutorial sessions		
Wk 4	Sept 25 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Lineage	“Land and Lineage in Traditional China.”	
	Sept 26 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: Family and community	“Chapter 2: Family History.” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
	Sept 30 (Saturday)	Fieldtrip Option 1		Fieldtrip worksheet

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

	10:00-15:30	Mid-Autumn Festival Fire dragon dance in Tai Hang, Causeway Bay		
Wk 5	Oct 2 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Public Holiday		
	Oct 3 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: The Years of Chaos	“Chapter 3: The Liberation” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
	Oct 7 (Saturday) 10:00-15:30	Fieldtrip Option 2 -Lineage organization and heritage in Pingshan, Yuanlong		Fieldtrip worksheet
Wk 6	Oct 9 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Gender and Marriage	“Chapter 3: Uterine Families and the Women’s Community.” In <i>Women and the Family in Rural Taiwan</i>	
	Oct 10 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: Great Leap Forward	“Chapter 4: Hunger, Hunger.” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
	Oct 16 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Rural Life	“Village Alliance Temples in Hong Kong.”	
	Oct 17 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: The Years of Chaos 1	“Chapter 5: Joining the Act” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Wk 7			<i>Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	
Wk 8	Oct 23 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Public Holiday		
	Oct 24 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: The Years of Chaos 2	“Chapter 6: Return Home,” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
Wk 9	Oct 30 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Regional and Marketing System	"Marketing and Social Structure in Rural China," Part I, <i>Journal of Asian Studies</i>	
	Oct 31 (Tuesday) 12:00-13:50	Tutorial: The Rural Reform 1	“Chapter 7: Security Head.” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
Wk 10	Nov 6 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Guanxi as Social Relations	“The Culture of <i>Guanxi</i> in a North China Village.”	
	Nov 7 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: The Rural Reform 1	“Chapter 8: Prosperous Years” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
	Nov 13 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Popular religion	“Gods, Ghost, and Ancestors.”	

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Wk 11	Nov 14 (Tuesday) 12:00-13:50	Tutorial: The Rural Reform 2	“Chapter 9: The Breakup.” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
Wk 12	Nov 20 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: State and society	“Standardizing the Gods: The Promotion of Tien Hou (“Empress of Heaven”) Along the South China Coast, 960-1960.”	
	Nov 21 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Tutorial: The Rural Reform 2	“Chapter 10: Village Cadres..” In <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team presentation ppt • Class participation
Wk 13	Nov 27 (Monday) 09:00-10:50	Lecture: Ethnic minorities and ethnic classification in China	“Appropriating Otherness and the Contention of Miao Ethnic identity in Southwest China.”	
	Nov 28 (Tuesday) 11:00-11:50	Course wrap up		

Planned Assessment Tasks:

Class attendance	50
Tutorial Presentation (Team)	50
Tutorial participation (Individual)	50
1 Field-trip (with worksheet)	50
Research Project (proposal & report)	30 + 120
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Total	350

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Readings:

Lecture Readings

1	Garrick Bailey and James Peoples, "Chapter 1: The Study of Humanities," <i>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</i> . (Belmont, CA.: West/Wadsworth), pp. 1-12.
2	Garrick Bailey and James Peoples, "Chapter 2: Culture," <i>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</i> . (Belmont, CA.: West/Wadsworth, 1999), pp. 15-25.
3	Garrick Bailey and James Peoples, "Chapter 3: Studying Culture: Approaches and Methods." In <i>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</i> . (Belmont, CA.: West/Wadsworth)
4	Myron L. Cohen. 1970. "Developmental Process in the Chinese Domestic Group." In Maurice Freedman, ed., <i>Family and Kinship in Chinese Society</i> , pp. 20-36. Stanford, CA.: Stanford University Press.
5	Jack M. Potter. 1970. "Land and Lineage in Traditional China." In Maurice Freedman, ed., <i>Family and Kinship in Chinese Society</i> , pp. 121-138. Stanford, CA.: Stanford University Press.
6	Margery Wolf. 1972. "Chapter 3: Uterine Families and the Women's Community." In <i>Women and the Family in Rural Taiwan</i> , pp. 32-41. Stanford, CA.: Stanford University Press.
7	John A. Brim. 1974. "Village Alliance Temples in Hong Kong." In Arthur P. Wolf, ed., <i>Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society</i> , pp. 93-104. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
8	G. William Skinner. 1964-65. "Marketing and Social Structure in Rural China, Part I, <i>Journal of Asian Studies</i> , 24:3-43. (施堅雅著，史建云等譯 1998[1964] "第一部分"。《中國農村的市場與社會結構》，頁 5-67。北京：中國社會科學出版社。)
9	Arthur P. Wolf. 1974. "Gods, Ghost, and Ancestors." In Arthur P. Wolf, ed., <i>Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society</i> , pp. 131-182. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (Basel, Switzerland), 2021, Vol. 13, no.9510.
10	Yan, Yunxiang. 1996. "The Culture of Guanxi in a North China Village." <i>The China Journal</i> 35: 1-25.
11	James Watson. 1985 "Standardizing the Gods: The Promotion of Tien Hou ("Empress of Heaven") Along the South China Coast, 960-1960." In David Johnson, Andrew J. Nathan, and Evleyn S. Rawski, eds., <i>Popular Culture in Late Imperial China</i> , pp. 292-324.
12	Cheung Siu-woo. 2012. "Appropriating Otherness and the Contention of Miao Ethnic identity in Southwest China." <i>The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology</i> , Vol. 13, No. 2, pp. 142-169.

Tutorial Readings

1	Huang Shu-min. 1989. <i>The Spiral Road: Change in a Chinese Village Through the Eyes of a Communist Party Leader</i> . Boulder: Westview Press. (黃樹民著，素蘭、納日碧力戈譯。《林村的故事：一九四九年后的中國農村變革》。北京，三聯書店，2002。)
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Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus