**George Mason University  
Department of Modern & Classical Languages**

**Chinese 310: Survey of Traditional Chinese Literature**--**Fall 2010**  
Class Meeting Time: MW 3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.  
Class Meeting Room: FAB-B110  
Instructors: Dr. Karl K. Zhang; Dr. Xiaohong Shen  
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Office: Aquia 311   
Office Hours: MW 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. and by appointment  
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**Summary of the Course**: An introduction of the outlines of Chinese literature from the beginning to the nineteenth century, presented through literary sources arranged in roughly chronological order. Our readings include poetry, fiction, drama and personal essays as well as documents of philosophy, history, religion, and transcribed oral records. No one can expect to "cover" traditional Chinese literature in one semester, but I hope that you will leave this course with a sense of the richness of the literature, a basic map of China's literary development, and an interest in investigating it further.

**My Expectations of You**: Participation in class is very important, because I take seriously the idea that my job is not simply to "present" material but to work through, analyze and add to it. Classes will be a combination of lecture and discussion. Be sure to have the material read before class meeting so that you can contribute meaningfully to the discussions. This course fulfills the General Education Requirement in Literature, so in addition to ten weekly journals, you will also write two exams and one paper (five to eight pages) on an assigned topic in November. Point breakdown: participation, 20%; weekly journals, 25%; first exam, 20%; second exam, 20%; research paper, 15%.

**Bibliography:** This book is for sale at the University Bookstore: Victor Mair, **The Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature**(New York: Columbia University Press, 2000).  This text is required. By the end of the course we will have read it almost from cover to cover. Other readings will be distributed in class or posted on the blackboard as we advance. In addition, I hope to bring in visiting speakers, show slides and perhaps around five short video tapes.

**Student Presentations and Extra Credits:** Student presentations are optional but will be awarded with one extra credit. Those who do poorly in participation, midterm or weekly journals should consider doing extra work for extra credits. In addition to presentation, students are also encouraged to visit the Freer and Sackler Galleries for Asian Arts in Downtown D.C. for one extra credit (http://www.asia.si.edu/visitor/default.htm). Up to two extra credits will be given to a student.

**Honor Code** The George Mason University Honor Code is in effect throughout the entire duration of the course and applies to all course work carried out inside and outside the classroom. It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with the GMU Honor System and Code as laid out in the Student Handbook. Please refer to http://www.gmu.edu/mlstudents/handbook/honor.html for detailed information.

**Policy on Disabilities** Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. Please see www.gmu.edu/student/drc or call 703-993-2474 to access the DRC.

**Grading Scale**  
  
A      100-93  
A-     92-90  
B+    89-87  
B      86-83  
B-     82-80  
C+    79-77  
C      76-70  
D      69-60  
F       59-0

**Session-by-Session Syllabus (In case you are unable to finish reading everything, try to finish the readings with a star sign at least.**

**Session by Session Schedule**

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| Date | Class | Homework |
| 08/30 M  09/01 W | Introduction to the Course and a Video Show on Chinese Civilization (DVD: China: The Mandate of Heaven, available in JC, University Catalog *Call Number: CB311 .L4 2002*）   -------------------------------------------  Beginning of the Poetic and Philosophical Traditions: \* Classics of Odes (61-73);  The Black Musician (Blackboard); \* The Great Preface to the Classics of Odes (Blackboard) | In-Class Written Questions (Assignment 1) |
| 09/06 M Labor Day     9/08 W | No Class  -------------------------------------------------  \* Confucian Analects (17-20); \* Mencius (20-21); Video Show: Confucianism (Religion: A World History. BL 48.R44 1998, pt 2). | M. Assignment 2 Due |
| 09/13 M  09/15 W | Beginning of the Poetic and Philosophical Traditions Continued: Video Show: Taoism (Religion: A World History. BL 48.R44 1998, pt 8); \*Chuang Chou (22-32). ---------------------------------------------------  \* Lao Tzu (32-37). | M. Assignment 3 Due |
| 09/20 M  09/22 W | The Warring States, Qin and Han. \* Mo Tzu (Blackboard); Duties of the Student (12-16); \* Ground-Thumping Song (242);   Heavenly Questions (192-208); Two Avengers (Blackboard); Qin Penal Servitude Code (Blackboard).  -------------------------------------------------------\* Letter to Ren An by Sima Qian (Blackboard) Biography of Ching Ko (Blackboard); Video Excerpt from “The Emperor and Assassin.” by Chen, Kaige, available in Johnson Center, University Library Catalog Call Number: PN1997.E5561 2000 | M. Assignment 4 Due |
| 09/27 M  09/29 W | From Han to Tang. \* Song of The Great Wind (241); Seven Stimuli (211-229).  ----------------------------------------------  Cock-Phoenix, Hen-Phoenix (241-242); \*A Song by Li Yen-nien (243); \* Lost Horizon (243-244); Song of the Viet Boatman (244); Mulberry Up the Lane (245); \* Nineteen Old Poems (247-248).\* They Fought South of the Wall (247); \* Watering Horses (249-250); I Watered My Horse (Blackboard); \* Enduring the Cold (250) | M. Assignment 5 Due |
| 10/04 M  10/06 W | \*Orchid Pavilion (351-353); \* Peach Blossom Spring (364-366). \* The Return (235-237); \* Tao Chien selections (77-79).  --------------------------------------------------- \* Hsieh Ling-yun selection (80);  \* Pity Me (251-252); Midnight Songs (253-255); \*A Peacock Southeast Flew (255-265);  \* Mulan (267-269). | M. Assignment 6 Due |
| 10/12 T  10/13 W | Monday classes meet on Tuesday this week because of the Columbus Day Recess on Monday. Tuesday classes do not meet this week --Video Show: Mulan.  Midterm Exam. |  |
| 10/18 M  10/20 W | Tang dynasty A Video Show: Chinese Tang Dynasty  ------------------------------------------------  \* All selections from Wang Wei    (90-92, 270-271); \* Li Po (92-95, 147-149, 342-345) |  |
| 10/25 M  10/27 W | \*Tu Fu (97-99).  -----------------------------------------------------  \*The Story of Ying-ying (507-517); Jokes (430-440); Video Show: Buddhism (Religion: A World History. BL 48.R44 1998, pt 8) | M. Assignment 7 Due |
| 11/01 M  11/03 W | Song Dynasty  \* Su Shih selections (119-121, 158-160, 238-240);  Su Shi: Water Mode Song, Mid-Autumn (Blackboard)  \* Li Ch’ing-chao, Bronze and Stone (355-358);  \*Li Ch’ing-chao selections (165-169);  \* Longing to Recover the North (Blackboard).  ---------------------------------------------------  Yuan dynasty:  Country Cousin at the Theater (174-176);  \* Autumn Thoughts (176-177);  \* Injustice to Tou O (673-713) | M. Assignment 8 Due |
| 11/08 M  11/10 W | Ming and Qing.  \* Strange Tales (485-495).  -------------------------------------------------  \* Sketches from the Cottage (496-506).  \*Farmer’s Wife Confronting the Ghost (Blackboard) | M. Assignment 9 Due |
| 11/15 M  11/17 W  -----------------------  11/22 M | \* Wu Sung Beats the Tiger (581-591)  **STUDENT PRESENTATION**  Transformation Text on Mahamaudgalyayana  (607-642)  \* The Scholars (Blackboard).   ------------------------------------------------------ Video Show: Perfumed Handkerchief.  Teacher’s copy. JC Media Library’s copy is damaged.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **STUDENT PRESENTATION:**  **\*The Journey to the West (566--580)**;**\* Burial Mound for Flowers (591-604)** | M. Assignment 10 Due  M. Assignment 11 Due |
| 12/06 M  12/08 W | \*The Mortal Thoughts of a Nun (721-723);  \* **The Peony Pavilion (713-720**).  Video Show: The Chinese Cracker (Teacher's copy, University does not have one)  **STUDENT PRESENTATION:**  **Lessons for Women (320-327)**  **Governor of the Southern Branch (517-528).**  Review  Hard Copy Term Paper due in class |  |
| 12/20 M | Final Exam 1:30 p.m.-4:15 p.m. in the same classroom |  |