



ENG 033: Modern Chinese Fiction through Film

Term: 2020 Winter Session

Instructor: Staff

Language of Instruction: English

Classroom: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Class Sessions Per Week: 5

Total Weeks: 3

Total Class Sessions: 15

Class Session Length (minutes): 240

Credit Hours: 4

Course Description:

This course combines literary text with film to explore the modern Chinese creative culture. It covers classic works in the history of modern Chinese literature, including short stories, novellas and novels, as well as films adapted from them. Focusing on modern Chinese creative culture, we will study basic knowledge of literary background, introduction to well-known writers and their representative works, text analysis and literary criticism of literary works, appreciation and criticism of adapted films, etc. Through the course, students are expected to have a general understanding of modern Chinese literary creation and the Chinese society and culture reflected by it.

Course Materials:

1. Course Pack

Most reading and video materials are in the course pack. The course pack will include e-version of translated contemporary Chinese Fiction and its adaptations in cinema. All materials will be distributed to students by instructor in class or you can download through online platform. Specific reading list in the course pack, you can refer to the list in course schedule part.

2. Other Reference Materials

1. *The Literature of China in the Twentieth Century*, 0th Edition, by Bonnie S. McDougall (Author), Kam Louie (Author), Columbia University Press, 1999



2. *How to Read a Film: Movies, Media, and Beyond*, 4th Edition, by James Monaco (Author), Oxford University Press, 2009

Course Format and Requirements:

The main contents of each lecture are listed in Course Schedule. Before each class, Students are required to follow the course schedule, finish pre-reading content in schedule, and get well-prepared for the in-class discussions. All assignments must be submitted at the beginning of class the day they are due, or according to other instructions as given. Work submitted at the end of or after class, even on the day it is due, will be considered late. All work submitted for this class must be typed in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double spaced, with 1” margins, spell-checked, and in black ink. At the top, left-hand corner of the first page, include your name, the course code and the date. Your title should be centered under that, in normal Times New Roman, 12-pt font. Header information on each page should include the student’s last name and page number. Each paper, essay, or other assignment should include a separate Works Cited page including correct MLA citations of every work quoted in the assignment, including the primary source.

Attendance:

Attendance is important for this class. We will start each class with in-class writing on a question relative to the learning subjects. If you arrive to class more than ten minutes late, you will not be allowed to make up the in-class writing. You will not be marked absent, but you will not receive any of the attendance points for that day, so be sure to come to class on time.

Grading Scale:

A+: 98%-100%

A: 93%-97%

A-: 90%-92%

B+: 88%-89%

B: 83%-87%

B-: 80%-82%

C+: 78%-79%

C: 73%-77%

C-: 70%-72%

D+: 68%-69%



D: 63%-67%

D-: 60%-62%

F: Below 60%

Course Assignments:

Participation:

Participation is in-class discussions, in-class writing, group work, etc., is essential for a class like this. 15% of your course grade will be based on your active and engaged participation in class.

Repeated unexcused absences will hurt your grade.

Weekly Creative Response Paper

During each week, students are required to write a creative response paper to critique some aspect of a film, raise questions, and discuss the relationship between the original literary text and the film. Each Response paper shall be around 2-3 pages in length, in Times New Romans and double-spaced.

Final Paper:

For your final paper, you will write a 8-10 page literary analysis/research paper. You will choose a piece or pieces we have read throughout the semester, including your long works, formulate an argument about it, and support and contextualize that argument with evidence from the text, as well as with evidence from outside sources. There will be several steps in this process, including a paper proposal, an annotated bibliography, an outline, a conference with me, a rough draft and finally a final draft. A more detailed description of this paper is available on the course blog.

Final Presentation:

The final Presentation is a individual oral presentation. Each presentation will last around 8-10 minutes, to clarify both the fiction elements and the film elements in your final paper, to demonstrate your in-depth thinking and analysis in literary text among different well-known writers' representative fictions, and comparison to other film works. You will also expected to demonstrate your historical and cultural awareness in your final paper and presentation.

Course Assessment:

Participation	15%
Weekly Critical Response Paper (3)	45% (15% for each)
Final Paper	30%



Final presentation	10%
Total	100%

Course Schedule:

Week	Topics	Activities
1	<p>Introduction to the Course + Syllabus Overview</p> <p>The True Story of Ah Q (1921)</p> <p>The New Year's Sacrifice (1924)</p> <p>A Girl from Hunan (1929)</p> <p>The Shop of Lin Family (1932)</p> <p>Family (1933)</p>	<p>Reading/Watching Clips & Discussion</p> <p>Weekly Critical Response Paper</p> <p>Final Paper Distribution and Proposal</p>
2	<p>Lust, Caution (1978)</p> <p>At Middle Age (1980)</p> <p>Hibiscus Town (1981)</p> <p>Yellow Earth</p> <p>Farewell My Concubine (1985)</p>	<p>Reading/Watching Clips & Discussion</p> <p>Final Paper Outline and First Draft</p> <p>Weekly Critical Response Paper</p>
3	<p>Red Sorghum (1986)</p> <p>Raise the Red Lantern (1990)</p>	<p>Reading/Watching Clips & Discussion</p> <p>Weekly Critical Response Paper</p>



	To Live (1993) The Flowers of War (2007)	Individual Presentation Final Paper Final Draft
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Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Shanghai Normal University's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office.

Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.