

Chn 610b *Poetry from the Songs through the sixth century* (CE) david McCraw (mccraw@hawaii.edu)
Lincoln Annex 2/5, 956-6853. Hours: by app't.
Time: Tu 9-11:30. Zoom link: [xx](#); Meeting ID: [xx](#); Passcode: [xx](#)

Expected learning outcome: 610b students will learn to appreciate and react thoughtfully to a variety of texts in verse from Old China, thereby fulfilling the Department's Chinese graduate program requirements for a "comprehensive understanding" of the Chinese literary tradition.

This is a **reading and discussion** class, in which **regular class participation** is paramount. Your assignment: to prepare the week's reading and **come ready with questions and insights** to share with the class. If you're ill or have a compelling excuse, notify me in advance or as soon as possible.

Evaluation: Aside from class participation, students will write 5 short papers (2-2.5pp), plus a longer final paper (~8pp.). All assignments get evaluated primarily on the criterion "What's the quality of thought here?" Your ability to understand these texts, to dig deeply into them, and interpret and evaluate them with imagination and flair will largely determine your grade. Of course, you must also obey the usual rules about promptness, some minimum guidelines about format, and remember that plagiarism is illegal—any plagiarized assignment will be failed! See resources, below.

Grades will be based on these percentages:

Class performance: 33+%; shorter papers: 33%; final paper: 33%.

Prerequisites: some Old Chinese; a willingness to struggle with these texts (partly in translation, depending on your background).

Methodology: Typically for a lit. class, we'll raid any discipline, grab any approach that seems fruitful. As usual, close reading to understand poems and appreciate value will take precedence. Since philological obstacles to reading early poems loom large, we'll spend as much time as you want/need on Sinological issues.

Required Texts and Readings: we will provide all primary and secondary readings via Laulima, as needed.

Schedule: We plan to adjust the possible coverage of material to your needs and preferences, as far as possible. In a "normal" semester, we would spend (at least) 4 weeks on the *Songs*; here's some typical information to get you started. Roughly, we might cover:

Week 1: All read #1 關雎, 9 漢廣, 23 野有死麕, 94 野有蔓草; choose another from #10, 20, 29, 41, 66, 76, 156, 167, 168, 301..

Week 2 (protest): All read #112 伐檀; add from #33, 37, 41, 43, 46, 136, 141, 169, 197, 234... (disaffection): All #184 鶴鳴; select from #56, 138, 203, 206. (withdrawal): All #114; add from #60, 70, 115, 217.

Week 3 (unhappy women): a) Brides: All read #26; add from #34, 69, 86, 120. b) Wives: All read #54; add from #33, 62, 124, 132, 199, 226. c) divorce/abandonment: All read #35/58; add from #188, 201.

Week 4 (review, and difficult/ambiguous poems): #31, 33, 63, 65, 129, 245...

Further selections and scheduling will depend on your interests and suggestions.

Shorter papers will usually fall due on every second Tuesday of class, through Week 10. The final paper will fall due in Finals week, Tuesday, May 9. Please submit all papers by e-mail.

Below, we have included some *important campus resources* that may well enhance your experience at Manoa.

*Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty are not permitted within this course and are prohibited within the System-wide Student Conduct Code (EP 7.208). Examples include: fabrication, facilitation, cheating, plagiarism, and use of improper materials. Any incident of suspected academic

dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for review and possible adjudication. Additionally, the instructor may take action in regards to the grade for the deliverable or course as they see fit. Cf. Campus Academic Code, Section 4B1

[Policies: Systemwide Student Conduct Code | Student Conduct Code | Division of Student Success - UH Manoa \(hawaii.edu\)](#)

*For serious crisis: consult [Locating Help and Resources: Emergency Consultation | Counseling and Student Development Center \(CSDC\) | UH Manoa \(hawaii.edu\)](#), or call: (808) 956-7927

* If you have a disability and related access needs, please contact the KOKUA program (UH Disabled Student Services Office) at 956-7511, [KOKUA PROGRAM - Office for Students with Disabilities | University of Hawaii at Manoa](#)

* for personal safety issues, please see Department of Public Safety: (808)956-6911 (Emergency)/ (808)956-8211 (Non-Emergency) [Campus Safety | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa \(hawaii.edu\)](#)

*if you feel you have been harassed or have had your rights violated (or feel you have witnessed such an incident), please consult [Office of Title IX | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa \(hawaii.edu\)](#) or call (808) 956-2299, to peruse their wide range of consulting services.