

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures
FALL Semester 2022

Class time: TR 9:00-10:15 am

Zoom: <https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/92138554398>

Meeting ID: 921 3855 4398

Passcode: eall_363b

Office hours: TR 10:15-11:15 + by appointment

Zoom (same as class): <https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/92138554398>

Meeting ID: 921 3855 4398

Passcode: eall_363b

Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NCeqA6MnrL6Hk2S5cbqmTZYo2uTopUtI?usp=sharing>

Instructor: Dr. Yun Peng

Email: pengy@hawaii.edu

EALL 363 B 001 Twentieth-Century Chinese Literature and Culture, 1919–1949

DESCRIPTION

This upper-level undergraduate course is a survey of Chinese literature in the first half of the twentieth century. The materials are organized in a roughly chronological order, with emphasis on recurring themes and motifs. The guiding question is the way in which literature engages the twentieth-century Chinese experience. Students will gain an understanding of the main issues and broad trends, while also becoming attuned to the dialogic nature of writing. Through close reading exercises and discussions, students will also acquire basic skills that allow them to formulate historically informed and formally attentive interpretations of modern Chinese texts. The class will be conducted in seminar style, with an emphasis on interactive discussions supplemented by lectures.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will

- Be familiar with major literary motifs, stylistic features, and cultural themes of the period surveyed.
- Acquire skills for in-depth literary analysis through practice.
- Be able to draw critical connections between literary texts and their historical contexts.
- Be able to demonstrate the above abilities in writing.

WRITING-INTENSIVE COURSE

This course has been approved as writing-intensive (WI) and you will receive a WI credit upon successful completion of the course requirements.

To help you fulfill the writing-intensive component of the requirement, I will provide a handout on writing resources, and detailed instruction on each assignment. We will discuss sample pieces of writing and review students' works. You will also receive personalized feedback and guidance, and have opportunities to revise after receiving comments.

Students must adequately complete all writing assignments to pass the course with a D grade or better. Students who do not complete all writing assignments will get a D- or an F and will not earn W Focus credit.

POLICIES

- **Employability and your Chinese language study**

The Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures is committed to providing students with information about the value of the skills and learning they develop in conjunction with their Chinese language study for future employment. The Department works with the Hawai'i Language Roadmap, a statewide initiative for a multilingual workforce for Hawai'i housed in the College of Arts, Languages and Letters, to provide students with opportunities to learn about marketing their language proficiency to employers (e.g., resume writing, interview training), to meet employers who are hiring for bilingual proficiency, and to credential their language proficiency with the nationally-recognized Global Seal of Bilingual Proficiency, a valued workforce credential. For more information: roadmap@hawaii.edu, or visit the Roadmap website at: <https://nflrc.hawaii.edu/languageroadmap>

- **Basic Needs for UH Students**

Basic needs include food and housing, childcare, mental health, financial resources and transportation, among others. Student basic needs security is critical for ensuring strong academic performance, persistence and graduation and overall student wellbeing. If you or someone you know are experiencing basic needs insecurity, please see the following resources: UH System Basic Needs: <https://www.hawaii.edu/student-basic-needs/>

- **Academic integrity**

Plagiarism (including copying from the Internet) is a serious violation of academic ethics and may lead to suspension. Check the UH catalogue or website for definitions of plagiarism, academic dishonesty, and how violation of UH regulations and rules will be dealt with. As the website cautions: "Ignorance of these definitions will not provide an excuse for acts of academic dishonesty." For More information, please visit the [Office of Student Conduct website](#)

- **Disability policy**

If a student has a disability that requires special teaching, testing accommodations, or other classroom modifications, he or she should notify the instructor and contact the Kokua program at 956-7511 or visit Student Services Center, room 13.

- **Zoom**

The course will require pair/group activities via Zoom. Students are required to turn on their video and audio during these activities. If you have concern over this requirement, please discuss them with me. Not turning on your camera for prolonged periods without a valid reason may negatively affect your Attendance and Participation grades.

- **Electronic submission**

When submitting assignments through the Lualima dropbox, please use pdf format; in the document title, please include your full name and the description of the assignment. For example, "yun peng midterm.pdf."

- **Grades**

Following university guidelines, C indicates work that meets the course requirements in every way; B is given when student performance significantly exceeds the course requirements; A is an honor grade reserved for outstanding achievement. A+ is given only on rare occasions.

The grade distribution is designed to reward consistent effort throughout the semester. Improvements will be duly reflected. Students who are concerned about their performance (or seeking general feedback) are encouraged to talk to me as early as possible. Do not wait till it is too late. Once the final grades are posted, they are not negotiable unless there are errors involved.

REQUIREMENTS

- **Attendance (5%)**

Students are expected to attend all classes. **More than four unexcused absences will affect the final grade for the course.** More than ten will result in automatic failure of the course, regardless of the student's prior standing. Late arrivals or early departure exceeding 15 minutes will count as full absences. Excused absences, such as illness or death in the immediate family, must be documented. Airline reservations and other travel plans do not constitute excused absences.

Absent students are responsible for acquiring relevant class notes and handouts **from fellow students.** Work assigned in a student's absence will not be given a later deadline without prior agreement with the instructor.

- **Participation (10%)**

I expect you to read all assigned texts with care, take notes and come to class with informed thoughts to contribute to class discussion.

Active participation in class is encouraged and required. Disagreements are welcome, provided that they are supported by thoughtful reasoning and presented in a manner respectful of others' positions. Listening carefully and working with others in groups are also essential aspects of participation.

- **Online homework (30%)**

In this assignment you will practice close reading and work together as a group. Details will be handed out in a separate sheet.

- **Basic exercises (20%)**

Students are required to complete two basic reading exercises. The instructions will be handed out in advance.

- ❖ Structure/narrative arc (2-3 pages)
- ❖ Patterns and associations (3 pages)

- **Analysis paper (15%)**

Students are required to complete one analysis papers (3-4 pages) on a topic to be handed out in advance.

- **Final essay (20%)**

A six-page essay to be completed at the end of the semester. To receive a grade for this assignment, you must submit a draft (3-4 pages). I will comment on your draft and make suggestions for revision. The topic will be discussed in advance.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Attendance (5%)

- Participation (10%)
- Online homework (~10 pages) (30%)
- Two basic reading exercises (6-8 pages) (20%)
- Analysis paper (3 pages) (15%)
- Final essay (6 pages with revision) (20%)

REQUIRED TEXTS

Chang, Eileen. *Love in a Fallen City*. New York: NYRB Classics, [2006](#).

All other readings are available in the [class Google Drive](#).

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (8/23, 8/25)

Introduction

Milena Doleželová-Velingerová, “The Origins of Modern Chinese Literature”

Watch:

[I. China in Revolution, 1911-1949](#)

[II. The Mao Years](#)

[III. Born Under the Red Flag](#) (in 12 parts; [alternative link to part 3](#))

Week 2 (8/30, 9/1)

Lu Xun, “Preface to the First Collection of Stories, ‘Call to Arms’” (1919)

C. T. Hsia, “Obsession with China: The Moral Burden of Modern Chinese Literature”

Week 3 (9/6, 9/8)

Yu Dafu, “Sinking” (1921)

Week 4 (9/13, 9/15)

Lu Xun, “On Photography”; “Medicine”

Lu Xun, “New Year’s Sacrifice” (1925)

Week 5 (9/20, 9/22)

Ling Shuhua, “Embroidered Pillows”; “The Night of Midautumn Festival” (1928)

Rey Chow, “Virtuous Transactions: Reading Three Short Stories by Ling Shuhua”

Week 6 (9/27, 9/29)

Ding Xilin, *A Wasp* (1923); *Oppression* (1926)

→ **“Structure/narrative arc” exercise due on September 23**

Week 7 (10/4, 10/6)

Cao Yu, *Thunderstorm* (1934)

Week 8 (10/11, 10/13)

Eileen Chang, “The Golden Cangue” (1943)

Week 9 (10/18, 10/20)

Shi Zhecun, “An Evening in the Rainy Season” (1929)

Eileen Chang, “Sealed Off” (1943)

Week 10 (10/25, 10/27)

Eileen Chang, “Love in a Fallen City” (1943)

→ **“Patterns and associations” exercise due on October 28**

Week 11 (11/1, 11/3)

Eileen Chang, “Red Rose, White Rose” (1943)

Week 12 (11/10)

Xia Yan, *Under Shanghai Eaves* (1937)

No class on Nov. 8 (Election Day)

Week 13 (11/15, 11/17)

Shen Congwen, “Xiaoxiao” (1929); “Three Men and One Woman” (1930); “Quiet” (1932)

→ **Analysis paper due on November 18**

Week 14 (11/22)

Xiao Hong, “Hands” (1936)

No class on Nov. 24 (Thanksgiving)

Week 15 (11/29, 12/1)

Mao Dun, “Spring Silkworms” (1932); “The Shop of the Lin Family” (1932)

→ **Final paper draft due on December 4**

Week 16 (12/6, 12/8)

Ding Ling, “When I was in Xia Village” (1941); “Thoughts on March 8”

Final paper due on December 16