Global Research and Writing 101 15:

A New China Through Literature

Meeting Time: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11:30-12:20pm

Classroom: Goldstein 117

Instructor: David N.C. Hull

Email: DHull3@WashColl.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10-11am

Location: Goldstein 209

**Course Description:**

Can literature save a dying people?  This was the question that many Chinese intellectuals asked at opening of the turbulent 20th century.  As it became more and more clear that the foreign Manchu (Qing) dynasty could not long survive under the dual threats of internal rot and external aggression, many Chinese people saw not the imminent collapse of one single dynasty, but a danger of the utter elimination of the Chinese state or perhaps even the Chinese race.  And yet there might be a way to save China: if western science and technology could be imported and domesticated could they be used to defend China?  What then becomes of the old China?  Must the Chinese people and society be reformed in a “western” mold in order to take advantage of the new tools?  Does China need to become less Chinese in order to avoid destruction?

This course will explore these problems through Chinese literature of the period as well as works of western social theory that the Chinese intellectuals hoped could be used to save China.  Students will develop reading, communication, research, writing, and editing/revision skills through multiple written assignments, presentations and student-led discussions.  All class material will be presented in English.  No foreign language ability is required.

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the students will be able to:

* Approach an unfamiliar text and evaluate it
* Find sources related to a text or subject
* Apply these sources in exploration of questions about the text
* Format an argument in an academically sound form
* Present that argument in a written form as well as in an oral presentation

**Required Texts:**

Note: There will be other assigned texts provided in PDF on the Canvas website.

Denton, Kirk A. Modern Chinese Literary Thought: Writings On Literature, 1893-1945. Stanford, Calif: Stanford University Press, 1996.

Descartes, René, and Donald A. Cress. Discourse On The Method For Conducting One's Reason Well And For Seeking Truth In The Sciences. Indianapolis, Ind: Hackett Pub. Co, 1998.

Hacker, Diana, Nancy I. Sommers, Kimberli Huster, Jonathan S. Cullick, Terry Myers Zawacki, And Jonathan S. Cullick. A Writer's Reference. 2015.

Hegel, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich, and Leo Rauch. Introduction To The Philosophy Of History: With Selections From The Philosophy Of Right. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co, 1988.

Lu, Xun, and Julia Lovell. The Real Story Of Ah-Q And Other Tales Of China: The Complete Fiction Of Lu Xun. London: Penguin Books, 2009.

Mao, Dun, and Madeleine Zelin. Rainbow. Berkeley, Calif. [U.A.]: Univ. Of California Press, 1992.

Zhang, Ailing, and Karen Kingsbury. Love In A Fallen City. New York, NY: New York Review Books, 2007.

**Weekly schedule:**

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| **Topic** | **Readings** | **Assignments** |
| Section One: Classical Chinese Foundations | | |
| Week One Aug 29 | | |
| Confucianism | * The Analects * The Great Learning | Reading Response Post (Thursday Night) |
| Week Two Sept 5 | | |
| Daoism and Legalism | * The Zhuangzi * The Han Feizi | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Three Sept 12 | | |
| Fundamentals of Writing and Research I  \*Wednesday’s Class will be held in the Newlin Room in the library. |  | First Section Paper  (Friday Night) |
| Section Two: The Birth of the Individual and the State in the West | | |
| Week Four Sept 19 | | |
| The Individual, Society, and the State | * Discourse on Method – Descartes * The Social Contract – Rousseau * Declaration of the Rights of Man * What is Enlightenment – Kant | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Five Sept 26 | | |
| The Power of History | * Introduction to the Philosophy of History (Chapters 1-4) – Hegel * The Communist Manifesto – Marx and Engels | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Six Oct 3 | | |
| The Power of the Individual | * On the Genealogy of Morals – Nietzsche * Civilization and Its Discontents – Freud | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Seven Oct 10 \*Fall Break – No Classes Oct 13th-14th | | |
| Fundamentals of Writing and Research II |  | Second Section Paper  (TBA) |
| Section Three: The Chinese Context | | |
| Week Eight Oct 17 | | |
| The Chinese Crisis and the Role of Literature | * Modern Chinese Literary Thought – Denton | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Nine Oct 24 | | |
| Lu Xun and Cannibalistic History | * The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China: The Complete Fiction of Lu Xun | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Ten Oct 31 | | |
| The Pressure of Identity | * Sinking – Yu Dafu * Miss Sophie’s Diary – Ding Ling | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Eleven Nov 7 \*Fall Advising – No class on the 9th | | |
| Revolutionary Idealism | * Rainbow – Mao Dun | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Twelve Nov 14 | | |
| Revolutionary Love | * Love in a Fallen City, Red Rose White Rose – Zhang Ailing | Reading Response Post (Tuesday Night) |
| Week Thirteen Nov 21 \*Thanksgiving Break – No Classes 23rd-25th | | |
| Wrapping Up Content |  | Third Section Paper  (TBA) |
| Section Four: Production | | |
| Week Fourteen Nov 28 | | |
| Conference Presentations |  | Presentation Script and Peer Evaluations (Friday Night) |
| Week Fifteen Dec 5 | | |
| Writing Peer Reviews and Post Mortem |  | Final Paper v1.0 (Wednesday Night)  Peer Reviews (TBA) |
| Post Class | | |
|  |  | Final Paper v2.0 (TBA) |

**Grading Breakdown:**

Quizzes 10

Reading Responses 10

Section Papers (3) 20

Paper Work 20

(Peer Reviews, Paper v1.0)

Presentation 10

Final Paper 15

Participation 15

**Attendance Policy:** Attend class. Pay attention in class. Don’t bother or distract other people in class.

**Statement on Academic Integrity**: The Washington College Honor Code will be upheld at all times in this class. Any violation of the Honor Code will result in notification of the Honor Board and the Associate Provost, and could result in failure of this course. Both willful and inadvertent plagiarism are violations of the Honor Code and will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Miller Library, second floor

Andrea Vassar, Director of Disability Services and the Office of Academic Skills, ext. 7883

The Office of Academic Skills is the College’s designated provider of accommodation services for enrolled students with documented disabilities. These services are in compliance with federal statutes as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Amendments Act (ADA AA) of 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are a student with documented disabilities and you would like to request accommodations, please review and follow the Disability Disclosure and Initial Accommodation Process found https://www.washcoll.edu/offices/academic-skills/. Students are encouraged to request accommodations as early in the semester as possible to ensure timely access to programs and facilities. If you need assistance with the process or have any questions or concerns, please contact Andrea Vassar, Director of Disability Services and Office of Academic Skills at avassar2@washcoll.edu. (Student Handbook, 28)