

Coastal Carolina University

CHIN 390 – Introduction to Chinese Literature and Film

General Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Xinyi Tan
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Office Hours: TBA
Class Location: TBA
Meeting Times: TBA

Course Description: CHIN 390 - Introduction to Chinese Literature and Film (3 credits)
(Prereq: CHIN 210 or permission of the instructor) This course provides an introduction to influential literary and cinematic works from the Chinese-speaking world. Students learn about China and Chinese people's everyday life by reading and watching their stories documented in textual and visual materials including classic Tang poetry, modern proeses, and films about Chinese society. These materials allow students to examine crucial traditions and values that have shaped the cultural identities of the Chinese. The course also promotes students' acquisition of intermediate Chinese reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through engagement with selected materials. F, S, Su.

Course Objectives:

CHIN 390 will:

- allow students to gain better knowledge of Chinese literary and cinematic traditions through major literary and visual works.
- train students to discuss and analyze selected readings and films through regular engagement in content-based, collaborative tasks and projects.
- improve students' listening, reading, writing and speaking skills in Mandarin to communicate across ethnic and ideological boundaries.
- deepen students' understanding of Chinese cultural identities and thought patterns in comparison with their own cultures.

Texts:

- Qin-Hong Anderson. *Masterworks Chinese Companion: Expressive Literacy Through Reading and Composition* 名作导读与写作. Cheng & Tsui Company: Boston, 2004. ISBN: 978-0-88727-435-0. The textbook contains both traditional and simplified versions of most of the selected readings.
- All the films and other reading materials will be provided by the instructor and posted regularly on Moodle.

- Pocket Oxford Chinese Dictionary (Oxford Dictionaries, 4th Edition, required) or an electronic dictionary (recommended: <https://www.yellowbridge.com/chinese/dictionary.php/> / <https://dictionary.writtenchinese.com/worddetail/xiang/962/1/1>)
- Chinese-Characters dictionary: <http://chinese-characters.org/references/6/6211.html#.XxcpB5NKhBw>

Course Requirements:

In order to ensure that your learning is enjoyable and fruitful, it is important that you meet the requirements and follow the rules outlined below.

1. Attendance and participation (20%).

Part of your grade is based on attendance and absences count against your final grade. You cannot participate if you are not present, so attendance counts as a prerequisite to participation. You may miss **3 classes** without it affecting your final grade. You will receive a 15 pts. performance grade once a week. These scores will be averaged at the end of the semester to obtain your final participation grade.

2. Daily homework (20%).

You are expected to study new vocabulary and share your thoughts on assigned course materials on a regular basis. Your daily assignments include vocabulary and grammar exercises, VoiceThread speaking exercises and participation in discussion forum. All the assignments and due dates are posted in weekly modules on Moodle.

3. Preparation checks (10 %).

You are required to preview new expressions in Chinese and research the readings and topics covered in each session. There will be 11 regular preparation checks, worth 20 pts. each, throughout the semester, as indicated on the schedule. Makeup checks will not be administrated if you miss the class unless an advance notice is given to the instructor.

4. Papers (30%).

There will be **3** papers composed in both Chinese and English. For the Chinese part, there will use the expressions and grammar covered in class to write a short introduction for the given topic by pulling examples from related course materials. The part in English requires you to demonstrate critical thinking of the topics. You will write two drafts. 60% of your grade is based on your first draft and 40% on the revised second draft.

5. Presentation on chosen authors (10%):

With a partner, you will conduct research on an celebrated author, filmmaker or actor covered in this class. The choices will be given on the first week of class; however, you can also choose your own topic with the instructor's permission. The presentation will be delivered via Voice Thread. More detailed instructions will be given in class. The presentation is in English.

6. Final project (10%). You will demonstrate what you have learned about the

Chinese literature and film in the final project. More details will be given in class.

Grade Assessment:

Attendance and Participation	20%
Homework	20%
Preparation Checks	10%
Papers	30%
Presentation on selected authors	10%
Final project	10%

LIS Grading Standards:

Letter Grade	CCU Standard	Low %	High %
A	Excellent	90	100
B+	Very Good	86	89
B	Good	80	85
C+	Above Average	75	79
C	Average	70	74
D+	Below Average	65	69
D	Poor	60	64
F	Fail	00	59

Only excellent work will receive an A. Do not expect such a grade unless you strive to produce excellent work for this level.

Useful resources to learn and practice Chinese: In addition to the aforementioned activities, you have the following options to improve your skills in Mandarin Chinese.

- **Chinese-English language exchange:** the meeting will take place every week on Zoom. It allows you to practice what you have learned in class and to learn more about Chinese society and culture through conversation exchange with international students from China.
- **Intercultural Language and Resource Center:** You are encouraged to visit the new language center established and maintained by the LIS department. There are useful recourses for your language learning, including tutoring opportunities. I will keep you posted on more details.
- **Kanopy (stream international films for free):** Explore this wonderful site on which you will find up-to-date movies that introduce you to other cultures. I will assign Chinese films for you to watch throughout the semester.
<https://www.kanopy.com/>

Attendance Policies:

“Absences will be excused only for those documented cases listed on p. 41 of the current CCU

Catalog. Students will be allowed four (4) unexcused absences on the MWF schedule or three (3) unexcused absences on the MW / TTh schedule throughout the semester. For each additional unexcused absence, two (2) points will be taken off the final grade. Students who miss in excess of 25% of all class meetings (unexcused absences) will receive a failing grade. (25% = 10 absences for MWF classes and 7 absences for TTh classes)”.

(Authorized by the Dean's Office, January 3, 2011).

Documentation Policy:

Documentation must be submitted directly to the professor the day the student returns to class. The professor is not required to accept any excuses after this date. All excuses are subject to verification. IF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT CONDUCT FINDS THAT YOU HAVE SUBMITTED A FAKE EXCUSE, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN “F” IN THE COURSE.

Make-up Policy:

Only homework submitted by the deadline will receive credit. The professor is not obligated to accept **late work** of any kind. Absences, excused or not, do not absolve a student from the responsibility of completing all assigned work promptly. Students who miss assignments, exams or other coursework obligations due to documented, excused absences will be allowed to MAKE UP THE WORK WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THEIR RETURN TO CLASS OR THE STUDENT FORFEITS THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP THE ASSIGNMENT. It will be the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor and make arrangements at the instructor’s convenience. The instructor is not obligated to allow a student to make up work missed due to an unexcused absence.

Late Arrival, Early Departure, and Leaving Class Policy:

There are no excused late arrivals to class; nor are there excused early departures. Late arrivals and early departures affect your participation grade and contribute to absences. Any two late arrivals or early departures count as one unexcused absence. No make-ups are allowed if a student arrives late to class or leaves class early. It is your responsibility to speak with the professor after class to ensure that your name and time of arrival are entered on the roll sheet. Additionally, if a student leaves class, depending on the situation, length of time, and/or frequency, the professor reserves the right to assign unexcused absence penalties. **The same policies also apply to synchronous sessions.**

Disability Service:

Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact Accessibility & Disability Services (843-349-2503 or <https://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices/>).

Code of Student Conduct:

Plagiarism, cheating, attempted cheating and all other forms of academic dishonesty is prohibited. The Code of Student Conduct or the Academic Integrity Code <https://www.coastal.edu/academicintegrity/code/> provides further information, including other examples of cheating and the list of possible sanctions. In essence, academic dishonesty is pretending someone else's work is your own. **All academic dishonesty violations will be reported. Sanctions include zero on the assignment, a penalty of one letter grade on your final course grade, or an FX.**

Honor Pledge (Know the Code!)

Coastal Carolina University is an academic community that expects the highest standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility. As members of this community, we are accountable for our actions and are committed to creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

On my honor, I pledge:

- *That I will take responsibility for my personal behavior; and*
- *That I will actively oppose every instance of academic dishonesty as defined in the Code of Student Conduct.*

From this day forward, my signature on any University document, including tests, papers and other work submitted for a grade is a confirmation of this honor pledge.

<http://www.coastal.edu/aic/>