

CHIN 1147/6147 (Formerly 515): Contemporary Chinese Fiction 中国当代小说
2022 春

Instructor

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Office hours: MW 1-1:30 & 2:45-3:15 or by appointment

Texts

Selected fictional works published in China during the last two decades of the 20th century.

Reading texts will be posted on Canvas.

Course Description

This course is designed for those who have achieved native or near-native level of reading proficiency in Chinese. Extensive reading should be expected. The reading consists of influential literary works published in China since the late 1970s. Several movies adapted from fictional works penned during that period are also included. The 1980s and 1990s—known as the “new era”—witnessed an unprecedented surge of ideas and creative energy in the literary field. For the first time in modern Chinese history, literary creation was decentralized and became genuinely the activity of individual writers. Many drastically different literary movements and schools mushroomed as a result. Although many of these schools are short-lived, their impact on Chinese literary creation is extraordinary and long lasting. The objective of this course is to provide an overview of this new era literature. Our investigation will focus on the shifting purpose of creative writing over this time period and the socio-political environment that prompted such a shift. Their implication to current and future literary creation in China will also be briefly discussed. The class is conducted in Chinese. In addition to reading, several short essays and a mini-research project will be assigned.

Requirements & Assignments

The following are the assignment categories and general requirements:

- finish the reading assignment by the date indicated on the schedule
- post answers to discussion board questions (讨论板) (minimum 3; 200-300 characters)
- read and comment your classmates' discussion responses (minimum 3; 100+ characters)
- write two short response papers (读后感) (1-2 page)
- write two critical essays (论文) (topics will be posted on Canvas)
- conduct an independent mini-research project, and present it in class (口头报告) (specific requirements will be posted on Canvas)

All works must be done in Chinese unless otherwise indicated. All papers must be typed in 12 point font, double-space, and with one-inch margin on all sides. Either traditional or simplified characters are acceptable. The critical essays must have a title and include a bibliography.

Attendance & Participation

Regular attendance is expected. Any absences should be reported through the Course Absence Report system. (You can submit a Course Absence Report by logging on to Penn InTouch and choosing the “Course Absence Report” option from the menu on the left.) You are permitted four

(4) absences for any reason, after which **each additional absence will result in a 1% point reduction from your final grade**. Tardiness of 20-minutes or more is counted as absence. There are no “excused absences” – if you miss class, you are responsible for making up any work and for knowing the material covered.

The purpose of the Course Absence Report system is to facilitate communication between instructors and students when a student misses class. The system allows you to inform the instructor about absences of five days or less. If the absence is more than five days, you should contact your home school advising office for assistance and to discuss the academic implications of a longer absence.

You are expected to contribute regularly to class discussion. Finishing reading in advance is the key to ensure good participation. I strongly encourage everyone to speak up his/her mind during class and pay attention to your classmates’ comments. Silence and put away your cell phone and **DO NOT TEXT** during class.

Assessment

Essays (论文)	30% (2X15%)
Response papers (读后感)	20% (2X10%)
Discussion board postings (讨论板)	20% (postings 12% & responses 8%)
Mini-research presentation	20%
Class attendance & participation	10%

Reading Schedule (Revised 03/09/2022)

周日	周一	周二	周三	周四	周五	周六
1/9	10	11	12	13 课程及历史背景介绍	14	15
16	17	18 伤痕文学 冯骥才《啊！》	19	20 读后感 #1 due 冯骥才《啊！》	21	22
23	24	25 反思文学 王蒙《蝴蝶》	26	27 王蒙《蝴蝶》	28	29
30	31	2/1 读后感 #2 due 梁晓声《这是一片神奇的土地》	2	3 张辛欣 《我在哪儿错过了你》	4	5
6	7	8 电影：《天云山传奇》	9	10 改革文学 蒋子龙《乔厂长上任记》	11	12
13	14	15 论文#1 due 高晓声《陈奂生上城》	16	17 寻根文学 阿城《棋王》	18	19
20	21	22 阿城《棋王》	23	24 韩少功《爸爸爸》(节选)	25	26
27	28	3/1	2	3	4	5

		李杭育 《最后一个渔佬儿》		扎西达娃 《系在皮绳扣上的魂》		
6	7	8 春	9	10 假	11	12
13	14	15 莫言 《白狗秋千架》	16	17 先锋/实验/探索 徐星 《无主题变奏》	18	19
20	21	22 残雪 《山上的小屋》	23	24 王朔 《一点正经没有》(节选)	25	26
27	28	29 新写实 方方 《风景》	30	31 方方 《风景》	4/1	2
3	4	5 刘恒 《狗日的粮食》	6	7 新体验 毕淑敏 《预约死亡》	8	9
10	11	12 新市民 邱华栋 《沙盘城市》	13	14 论文#2 due 电影: 《洗澡》	15	16
17	18	19 准备口头报告	20	21 口头报告	22	23
24	25	26 口头报告	27	28	29	30