

CHIN9522

Exploration of Major Cultural Themes across Chinese History

6 credits - total learning hours: 120 (including 45 contact hours)

Session C: July 16 to August 3, 2018

9:30 to 12:30, Mon-Fri

Course Description

A history and culture course that familiarizes students with China and its past, approached from non-traditional perspectives. The course introduces international students to Chinese history, schools of thoughts, cultural themes and achievements in Chinese civilization; highlights differences and similarities between Chinese and other cultures; stimulates students' interest in deeper understanding of China, its people, its history and its culture in the global context. Students are required to make presentations on assigned topics and submit one essay at the end of the course.

Aims and Objectives

1. To lay a foundation for students' further interest in different subjects in Chinese history and culture
2. To encourage students to look at Chinese history from a broad perspective

List of Topics to be covered in meetings

Legends and myths about China, early civilization, ancient Chinese philosophers and some of their teachings; how China was influenced by the world through trade and cultural exchanges; Chinese literature and art.

Teaching resources

In addition to works on China by well-known authors, selected works of ancient philosophers, Chinese Art and selected Chinese poems, books published in the past few years are also used as references, which include: , the Silk Roads, a new history of the world, The Times Atlas of World History, Reflection on Chinese Civilization, etc.

(Please note the topics and teaching resources may vary and are provided here as a guide.)

Assessment: 100% coursework

Assessment methods	Weighting (%)
1. In-class quizzes	30
2. Essay	40
3. Group discussion and presentation	30

Learning outcomes:

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of Chinese history timeline, historical events and people that had a great impact on Chinese history.
2. Incorporate background information provided by selected reading materials, to articulate one's opinion and understanding of certain historical figures, philosophical theory and cultural themes of the time, social events and their significance in changing society.
3. Produce a critique of established thoughts/definition of historic figures, theories, social events and demonstration of critical thinking and ability to analyze events, people, cultural themes, and to use cross reference of other parts of the world and learn lessons from history.