

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 1980-81

<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
History 493	Social and Intellectual History of China, 1400 B.C. - 589 A.D.	Lin Yu-sheng

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 493 is concerned with major topics in the history of Chinese thought, culture, and society from ancient times to the end of the Six Dynasties period. While this course is not conducted at the introductory level, those who have little or no background in classical and traditional Chinese thought and history but are interested in the subject matter, are also welcome if they are prepared to fill the gap by reading the first five chapters of E. O. Reischauer and J. K. Fairbank, East Asia: The Great Tradition in the first three weeks.

The course will focus on the social and cultural backgrounds of the rise of ancient Chinese philosophies; the formation and nature of the Chou feudal society; the origins of Confucian humanism; the metaphysical, ethical, and socio-political theories of classical Confucianism, the doctrines and evolution of classical Taoism, Moism, and Legalism; the establishment of the Chinese imperial state and its impact on Chinese thought; the transformation of Confucianism in the Han; the disintegration of the Han empire and the rise of Neo-Taoism.

Since it is obviously impossible to cover all aspects of the evolution of Chinese thought and society from 1400 B.C. to 589 A.D. in the span of 15 weeks, it seems more interesting and profitable to engage in in-depth analysis of some major topics as mentioned above. The main aspects of the history of Chinese Buddhism will not be discussed. Anyone who is interested in the history of Chinese Buddhism is urged to read independently two excellent studies: E. Zürcher, The Buddhist Conquest of China (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1959) and Kenneth Ch'en, Buddhism in China (Princeton University Press, 1964; also available in Princeton paperback reprinting edition).

LECTURES

Two lectures and one discussion session each week.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

1. One term-paper about 10-15 typewritten double-spaced pages on one of the suggested topics or a topic of your own choice that can be intellectually justified.
2. A final in-class examination on questions (50% identifications; 50% essays) that are distributed in advance.
3. An "Incomplete" is rarely permitted in this course. In other words, it is granted only under extremely unusual circumstances, such as a prolonged serious illness substantiated by a letter of the student's physician.

2. Social and Cultural Backgrounds of the Rise of Ancient Chinese Philosophies

Required Readings (continued):

F. W. Mote, Intellectual Foundations of China (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1971), Chapters 1 and 2. DS 721 M73.

Suggested Readings:

Fung Yu-lan, A History of Chinese Philosophy (Princeton University Press, 1952), Vol. I, Chapters 2 and 3. B 126 F41.

H. G. Creel, The Birth of China (New York: Ungar, 1954), DS 723 C7.

3. The Formations and Nature of the Chou Feudal Society

Suggested Readings:

H. G. Creel, The Origins of Statecraft in China, Vol. 1 (University of Chicago Press, 1970), Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5. JQ 1508 C711.

Cho-yun Hsu, Ancient China in Transition (Stanford University Press, 1965). HN 673 H75.

4. The Nature of Chinese Religion

Required Reading:

L. G. Thompson, Chinese Religion.

5. The Moral Idealism of Confucius and Mencius

Required Readings:

Lin, Yü-sheng, "The Evolution of the Pre-Confucian Meaning of Jen and the Confucian Concept of Moral Autonomy," Monumenta Serica, Vol. 31 (1974-75), pp. 172-204. RB Hist. L 6595 EV.

D. C. Lau, Confucius: The Analects (Penguin Books, 1979).

Kung-Chuan Hsiao, A History of Chinese Political Thought, vol. 1, chap. 2, pp. 79-142 and chap. 3, pp. 143-213.

Suggested Readings:

Wm. Theodore de Bary, et. al., comp., Sources of Chinese Tradition, vol. I, chapter 2 and pp. 86-98.

D. C. Lau, tr., Mencius (Penguin Books, 1970), "Introductions," pp. 7-46; "Appendix 5: On Mencius' Use of the Method of Analogy in Argument," pp. 235-263. B128 M33 E59.

James Legge, tr., Confucian Analects in the Four Books (Paragon Reprinting Corp.), or The Chinese Classics (Hong Kong University Press, 1960). PL 2461 R43.

9. The Founding of the Chinese Poetical Tradition: The Book of Songs (the Shih-ching) and The Songs of Ch'u (the Ch'u-tz'u)

Suggested Readings:

Arthur Waley, tr., The Book of Songs.

David Hawkes, tr., Ch'u Tz'u: The Songs of the South (Oxford University Press).

Shih-hsiang Chen, "The Shih Ching: Its Generic Significance in Chinese Literary History and Poetics," Chung-yang yen-chiu yuan li-shih yu-yen yen-chiu so chi-k'an (Bulletin of the Institute of History and Philology, Academic Sinica), Vol. 39, Pt. 1 (1969), pp. 371-413.

Shih-hsiang Chen, "The Genesis of Poetic Time: The Greatness of Ch'u Yuan, Studied With a New Critical Approach," Ch'ing-hua hsueh-pao (Tsing Hua Journal of Chinese Studies), New Series, Vol. 10, No. 1 (June, 1973), pp. 1-44.

10. Hsuntzu, Legalism, and the Establishment of the Chinese Empire

Required Readings:

D. C. Lau, "Theories of Human Nature in Mencius and Shyuntzyy [Hsuntzu]," Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, Vol. 15(1953), pp. 541-565. RB Hist. L3621 T.

F. W. Mote, Intellectual Foundations of China, Chapter 7.

Kung-Chuan Hsiao, chaps. 6 and 7, pp. 319-424.

Suggested Readings:

Burton Watson, tr., Hsuntzu: Basic Writings (Columbia University Press, 1963). B128 H66 E55.

Burton Watson, tr., Han Fei Tzu: Basic Writings (Columbia University Press, 1964). PL 2662 H3 A28.

11. Chinese Thought on Natural Law

Suggested Reading:

Joseph Needham, Science and Civilization in China, Vol. 2, Chapter 18: "Human Law and the Laws of Nature in China and the West," pp. 518-583.