

Course Title	CHINESE HISTORIOGRAPHY
Course Code	HST4002
Recommended Study Year	3 or 4
No. of Credits/Term	3
Mode of Tuition	Sectional
Class Contact Hours	3
Category	History Major Elective Category 1
Discipline	-
Prerequisite(s)	NIL
Co-requisite(s)	NIL
Exclusion(s)	NIL
Exemption Requirement(s)	NIL

Brief Course Description

This course introduces students to the historiographical traditions of China from antiquity to the imperial period. Students will learn about the major types of historical writings of ancient China, the context of their production and circulation, and most importantly, how they can be utilized for historical research. Students will also receive basic instruction in the grammar of the classical Chinese language. They will read excerpts of various historical works, and learn the literary conventions of these historiographical texts.

Aims

Students will gain a knowledge of the basic history of historiography of China, from the antiquity to the imperial period. Moreover, they will have a basic understanding of what historical sources are available for the study of different historical periods and topics. They will also acquire functional literacy of the classical Chinese language, so that they will be able to read different historiographical texts on their own upon completion of the course.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the basic types of historiographical writings from ancient China from antiquity to imperial period;
2. Synthesize and evaluate their knowledge of the original production, subsequent circulation, and limitation of historical writings as historical sources;
3. Apply a functional proficiency in the classical Chinese language to read ancient Chinese historiographical texts independently.

Indicative Content

1. 考古史料：甲骨文，金文，簡帛
2. 群經史料：五經及其他 (尚書/周易)
3. 諸子史料
4. 紀傳體
5. 編年體
6. 政書體史料
7. 科技宗教學術史料
8. 文集史料
9. 筆記雜史史料
10. 類書叢書 / 史學評論

Teaching Method

There will be lectures, group discussion, and in-class exercises, in the weekly class meetings. The lectures and group discussion will provide the broad historical background of the historiographical sources. The in-class exercises are devoted to the explication of classical Chinese grammar and translation of historiographical texts into modern Chinese.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Weekly assignments: mostly translation exercises of original historical sources (LOs 1, 3)
2. Class participation: attendance and frequent participation in class discussion (LOs 1, 2, 3)
3. Presentation: an extended presentation towards the end of the term on findings of their final paper (LOs 1, 2, 3)
4. Final paper: a 4000-words essay to delve into a particular historical source and discuss how it can be used by historians and what it may teach us about the historical period from which it came (LOs 1, 2, 3)

Assessment

Continuous Assessment: 100%

1. Weekly assignments, 30%
2. Class Participation, 15%
3. Presentation, 15%
4. Final paper, 40%

Required/Essential Readings

安作璋《中國古代史史料學》(第三版)。福建人民出版社，2010。

賀卓君《中國歷史文選》華東師範大學出版社，1987。

何晉《新編中國歷史文選》北京大學出版社，2007。

周予同《中國歷史文選》(上下冊)。上海古籍出版社，1979。

Michael A. Fuller. *An Introduction to Literary Chinese*. Harvard UP, 1999.

Recommended/Supplementary Readings

Beasley, William G., and Edwin G. Pulleyblank, *Historians of China and Japan, Historical Writing on the Peoples of Asia* (London: Oxford University Press, 1961)

Butterfield, Herbert, *History and Man's Attitude to the Past: Their Role in the Story of Civilisation* (London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 1961)

Collingwood, R. G. (Robin George), *The Idea of History* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1962)

Durrant, Stephen, 'Histories (Shi 史)', in *The Oxford Handbook of Classical Chinese Literature (1000 BCE-900 CE)*, ed. by Wiebke Denecke, Wai-Yee Li, and Xiaofei Tian (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), pp. 184–200

Durrant, Stephen W., Wai-yee Li, and David Schaberg, *Zuo Traditions = Zuozhuan: Commentary on the 'Spring and Autumn Annals'*, *Classics of Chinese Thought* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2016)

Gardner, Charles S., *Chinese Traditional Historiography* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1938)

Gentz, Joachim, 'Historiography', in *Keywords Re-Oriented, InterKULTUR, European-Chinese Intercultural Studies* (Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 2009), IV, 57–66

Goldin, Paul R., 'Appeals to History in Early Chinese Philosophy and Rhetoric', *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, 35 (2008), 79–96 <<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-6253.2007.00464.x>>

Hobsbawm, Eric J., 'The Social Function of the Past: Some Questions', *Past & Present*, 1972,

- Li, Wai-ye, *The Readability of the Past in Early Chinese Historiography* (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Asia Center, 2008)
- Nylan, Michael, 'Sima Qian: A True Historian?', *Early China*, 23/24 (1998), 203-246
- Popkin, Jeremy D., *From Herodotus to H-Net: The Story of Historiography*, 1 edition (New York ; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015)
- Queen, Sarah A., and Paul van Els, eds., *Between History and Philosophy: Anecdotes in Early China* (Albany, UNITED STATES: State University of New York Press, 2017)
<<http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/lnhk/detail.action?docID=4983435>> [accessed 23 February 2018]
- Schaberg, David, *A Patterned Past: Form and Thought in Early Chinese Historiography*, Harvard East Asian Monographs, 205 (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Asia Center : Distributed by Harvard University Press, 2001)
- Schmidt-Glintzer, Helwig, Achim Mittag, and Jörn Rüsen, eds., *Historical Truth, Historical Criticism, and Ideology: Chinese Historiography and Historical Culture from a New Comparative Perspective*, Leiden Series in Comparative Historiography, v. 1 (Leiden ; Boston: Brill, 2005)
- Vogelsang, Kai, 'The Scribes' Genealogy', *Oriens Extremus*, 44 (2003), 3-10
<<http://www.jstor.org/stable/24047564>> [accessed 22 May 2017]
- Wang, Shumin 王樹民, *中国史学史纲要*, 中华历史丛书, Di 1 ban.; 第 1 版. (北京: 中华书局, 1997)
- Yu-shan Han, *Elements of Chinese Historiography = 中國史學綱要* (Hollywood, Calif.: W.M. Hawley, 1955)
- 杜維運, and Weiyun Du, *Zhongguo shi xue shi 中國史學史*, 初版., Chu ban. (Taipei Shi: San min shu ju, 1993)
- , *Zhongguo shi xue yu shi jie shi xue 中國史學與世界史學* (Taipei: Sanmin shuju, 2008)
- 根本誠, and Makoto Nemoto, *Chūgoku rekishi rinen no kongen 中國歷史理念の根源* (Tōkyō: Seikatsusha, 1943)

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.