



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

REVOLUTION IN LITERATURE AND REVOLUTIONARY LITER - 46504

Last update 28-02-2014

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Asian Studies

Academic year: 2

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Amira Katz-Goehr

Coordinator Email: agoehra@hotmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 13.30-12.30

Teaching Staff:

Amira Katz-Goehr

Course/Module description:

The development of modern Chinese literature since the days of a “revolution in literature” up to the establishment of the PRC (1917-1949).

Course/Module aims:

Introduction of modern Chinese literature through its various developmental stages.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Presenting the various genres of modern Chinese literature.

Expounding the unique characteristics of modern Chinese literature - its role in view of its historical and political background.

Expounding MCL's texts in relation to current literary theoretical developments.

Developing skills and sensitivities in close reading of literary texts.

Presenting the various authors with emphasis on life and biography at a t period of transition from tradition to modernity.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Exercise, lecture

Course/Module Content:

Reading modern Chinese stories, essays and poems.
The students will prepare a story, essay or poems for each class. They will be asked to choose out of these text particular paragraphs of interest and significance relating to the text itself and some external factors. The texts will be discussed from the following perspectives: literary, literary criticism, historical and ideological. Occasionally, the student will be asked to read material concerning the relevant historical background, the authors and literary thought.

lesson 1

Introduction: The meaning and implication of a “revolution in literature” - the use of the colloquial language, new topics, forms, techniques. Literature and politics - the role of literature. Questions of dating and documentation of the beginnings of MCL - various approaches. Trends of writing and their development following historical events and the ‘literary field’. Radicalization of literature since the end of the 20’s up to the establishment of the PRC (1949). Questions relating to the cannon of MCL.

lesson 2

Hu Shi, experimental poems (1918-1920)

Lu Xun, “The Diary of a Madman” (1918)

lessons 3-4

Yu Dafu, “Sinking” (1921)

lesson 5

Ding Ling, “Sophie’s Diary” (1927)

lesson 6

Lu Xun, “In Memory of Liu Hezhen” (1926)

lesson 7

Ba Jin, “The Heart of a Slave” (1931); Ding Ling, “Belief” (1930)

lesson 8

Mao Dun, “Spring Silkworms” (1932)

lesson 9

Lao She, “White Li and Black Li” (1934); Rickshaw, ch. 24 (1939)

lesson 10

Shen Congwen, “The Husband” (1930)

lesson 11

Shi Zhecun, “Devil’s Road” (1932)

lesson 12

Xiao Hong, “Hands” (1936); Ding Ling, “When I Was in Xia Village” (1940)

lesson 13-14

1946-1949

Zhao Shuli, “Widow Tian”, FangZhi, “Taking Responsibility”, Hao ran, “Powerful and Impartial”

Required Reading:

The texts mentioned above.

Additional Reading Material:

Poems by Guo Moruo, Xu Zhimo, Dai Wangshu, Wen Yi-duo, He Qifang, Feng Zhi and others.

Lu Xun, "Kong Yiji", "Medicine", "Ah Q", "In the Tavern", "Autumn Sacrifice", "Regret", "Forging the Swords". Prose poems from Wild Grass.

Rou Shi, "Slave Mother"

Yu Dafu, "Intoxicating Spring Nights"

Xu Dishan, "The Merchant's Wife", "Chun Tao"

Shi Zhecun, "Rainy Night"

Ny Shiyin, "Foxtrot Shanghai"

Lao She, Rickshaw

Ba Jin, The Family

A. Bibliography

- 1) Schyns, Jos., *1500 Modern Chinese Novels and Plays*. Peiping (1948)
- 2) Yang, W.L.Y. & N.K. Mao, *Modern Chinese Fiction* (1981)
- 3) Slupski, Z., *A Selective Guide to Chinese Literature, 1900-1949*, vol. II: *The Short Story* (1988)
- 4) Haft, L., ed. *A Selective Guide to Chinese Literature, 1900-1949*, vol. III: *The Poem* (1989)
- 5) Yang Li et al. (eds), *A Biographical Dictionary of Modern Chinese Writers*. Beijing (1994)

B. Chapters from the following research books

- 1) Hsia, C.T., *A History of Modern Chinese Fiction*. New York: Columbia University Press(1971)
- 2) Hsia, T.A., *The Gate of Darkness: Studies in the Leftist Literary Movement in China*. Seattle: University of Washington Press (1968)
- 3) Chow Tse-tsung, *The May 4th Movement Intellectual Revolution in Modern China*.
- 4) Denton, Kirk A, ed., *Modern Chinese Literary Thought; Writings on Literature, 1893-1945*. Stanford University Press (1996)
- 5) McDougall, B.S. & K. Louie, *The Literature of China in the Twentieth Century*. London: Hurst and Company (1997)
- 6) Lee, L.O.F., *The Romantic Generation of Modern Chinese Writers*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press (1973)
- 7) Goldman, M. *Modern Chinese Literature in the May Fourth Era* . Cambridge: Harvard

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- Univesity Press (1977)
- 8) Prusek, J., *The Lyrical and the Epic; Studies of Modern Chinese Literature*.
Bloomington: Indiana University Press (1980)
- 9) Slupski, Z., *A Selective Guide to Chinese Literature 1900-1949. Vol. II - the Short Story*
- 10) Dolezelova, M., *A Selective Guide to Chinese Literature 1900-1949, vol. 1 - The Novel* (1988),
- 11) Ng, Mao-Sang, *The Russian Hero in Modern Chinese Fiction*, (1988)
- 12) Anderson M., *The Limits of Realism; Chinese Fiction in the Revolutionary Period*.
Univ. of California Press (1990)
- 13) Wang, D.D.W., *Fictional Realism in 20th Century China: Mao Dun, Lao She, Shen Congwen*. Columbia UP (1992)
- 14) Herdan, Innes. *The Pen and the Sword: Literature and Revolution in Modern China*. London: Red Books, 1992.
- 15) Widmer, E. & D.D-W. Wang, eds., *From May Fourth to June Fourth Fiction and Film in Twentieth Century China*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press (1993)
- 16) Barlow, T. (ed.) *Gender Politics in Modern China* (1993)
- 17) Liu, L.H., *Translingual Practice: Literature, National Culture, and Translated Modernity - China, 1900-1937*. Stanford: Stanford university Press (1995)
- 18) Wang D.D.W., *Fin de Siecle Splendor: Repressed Modernities of late Qing Fiction 1849- 1911*. Stanford UP (1997)
- 19) Lee, Ou-fan Leo, *Shanghai Modern*. Harvard UP (1999)
- 20) Hockx, M., *The Literary Field of Twentieth Century China*. Curzon (1999)
- 21) Tang Xiaobing, *Chinese Modern: The Heroic and the Quotidian.. Durhm: Duke UP* (2000)
- 22) Dolezelova-Velingrova, M. & O. Kral (eds.) *The Appropriation of Cultural Capital; China's May Fourth Project*. Harvard UP (2001)
- 23) Hockx, M. *Questions of Style: Literary Societies and Literary Journals in Modern China, 1911-1937*. Leiden (2003)
- 24) Hong, Zicheng. *A History of Contemporary Chinese Literature*. Tr. Michael Day. Brill, 2007. [Brill blurb]

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 100 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: