**Seminar on Area Studies: Study of China’s Culture**

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**I. Course Description**

This course is designed as an attempt to answer the question: what does it mean to be Chinese; what role does Chinese culture play in being Chinese; what constitutes Chinese culture. This seminar course aims to provide students with a broad understanding of the perspectives and methodologies of studies on Chinese culture across various disciplines. Courses will be offered, with an emphasis placed on the introduction of fundamental concepts and theoretical framework of the studies of Chinese culture. Upon the completion of the course, students are expected to be able to attain a broad understanding of Chinese culture; explain the reason why claims about being Chinese and Chineseness can be such a source of contention; highlight dynamics between similarities and differences across Chinese societies. Regular attendance at lectures and a comprehensive mastery of the assigned readings will be based on weekly presentations (30%), attendance and participation (20%), and a final term paper (50%).

**II. Course Schedule**

**Week 1 Course Overview**

**Week 2 Study of Culture**

Geertz, Clifford, 1983 “From the Native’s Point of View: On the Nature of Anthropological

Understanding.” In Geertz Clifford ed., Local Knowledge. New York: Basic Books. pp. 55-72.

Michael Banton, 1965, The Relevance of Models for Social Anthropology, London: Tavistock.

Benedict, Ruth. Patterns of Culture. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1934.

Hofstede, Geert, 1991, Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind. New York and London: McGraw-Hill Book Company.

Huntington, Samuel P. 1996. *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

(Recommended readings)

Geertz, Clifford, 1973 The Interpretation of Cultures: selected essays. New York: Basic

Books.

**Week 3 Structure and Agency**

Bourdieu, Pierre, “Structures and Habitus,” chapter 2 of his *Outline of a Theory of Practice*, 1977, Cambridge University Press.

Sewell, William, “A Theory of Structure: Duality, Agency, and Transformation,” *American Journal of Sociology,* Vol. 98, No. 1, 1992.

Sherry Ortner, “Theory in Anthropology since the Sixties,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (1984).

Althusser, Louis, 1969, For Marx, translated by Ben Brewster, London: Verso.

**Week 4 Unpacking Chinese Culture: Models**

Polanyi, Karl, 1957, “The Economy as Instituted Process," In Karl Polanyi, Conrad Arensberg, and Harry Pearson. eds. Trade and Market in the Early Empires: Economies in History and Theory, Glencoe, Illinois: The Free Press. pp. 243-270.

Polanyi, Karl. The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2001.

Yang, Mayfair Meihui. 1994. *Gifts, Favors, and Banquets.* Cornell University Press. pp. 177-208.

**Week 5 Unpacking Chinese Culture: Guanxi and Marketing Hierarchy**

Fei Xiaotong,《鄕土中國》

Fei, Xiaotong. 1992 (1947). “Special Characteristics of Rural Society,” and “Chaxu Geju:

The Differential Mode of Association.” In From the Soil: The Foundations of Chinese

Society. G.G. Hamilton and Z. Wang, pp. 37-44, 60-70.

Yan, Yunxiang, 1996 “Chapter 4: The Gift Economy and Guanxi Networks” in The Flow of Gifts: Reciprocity and Social Networks in a Chinese Village. Stanford: Stanford University Press.pp.74-97.

Kipnis, Andrew B, 1997 “Introduction” in Producing Guanxi: Sentiment, Self and Subculture in a North China Village. Duke University Press.pp.1-24.

Skinner, G, W. 1964, 1965. “Marketing and Social Structure in Rural China.” *Journal of Asian Studies* 24(1): 3-43.

Skinner, G, W. 1985. “Presidential Address: The Structure of Chinese History.” *Journal of Asian Studies* 104(2): 271-292.

Skinner, G, W. 1977 “Introduction: Urban and Rural in Chinese Society” in George William Skinner and Hugh DR Baker eds. The City in Late Imperial China, Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp.253-274.

(Recommended readings)

Fei Xiaotong, *From the Soil: The Foundations of Chinese Society* (U. of California Press, 1992)

Chen, Lai. 2017. The Core Values of Chinese Civilization.

費孝通, 2006（1947） “差序格局”，《鄉土中國》，上海：上海人民出版社。

Yang, Mayfair Mei-hui., 1994 “Introduction” in Gifts, favors, and banquets: The art of social relationships in China. Cornell University Press. pp.1-48.

Goodman, Bryna, 1995, Native Place, City, and Nation, Berkeley: University of California Press.

Gold, Guthrie, and Wank. 2002. "An Introduction to the study of guanxi.“ in *Social Connections in China.* pp. 3-20.

Yang, 2002, “The Resilience of Guanxi and its New Deployments: A Critique of Some New Guanxi Scholarship,” *The China Quarterly*, pp. 459-476.

Wank, David L. *Commodifying Communism: Business, Trust, and Politics in a Chinese City* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999)

Yan, Yunxiang. 1996. *The Flow of Gifts: Reciprocity and Social Networks in a Chinese Village*. Stanford University Press.

Kipnis, Andrew. 2002. "Practices of guanxi production and practices of ganqing Avoidance." in *Social Connections in China.* pp. 21-34.

Skinner, G, W. 1964, 1965. "Marketing and Social Structure in Rural China." *Journal of Asian Studies* 24(2): 195-228, 24(3): 363-399.

Skinner, G, W. 1971. "Chinese Peasants and the Closed Community: An Open and Shut Case." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 13(3): 270-281.

Skinner, G, W. 1977 “Cites and the Hierarchy of Local System” in George William Skinner and Hugh DR Baker eds. The City in Late Imperial China, Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp.253-274

Skinner, G, W. 1978. "Cities and the Hierarchy of Local Systems." pp. 1-77 in A. Wolf. ed. *Studies in Chinese Society*. Stanford University Press

**Week 6 Unpacking Chinese Culture: Gentry I**

Fei, H. 1946. “Peasantry and Gentry.” *American Journal of Sociology* (July): 1-17

M. Blecher, *China Against the Tides: Restructuring through revolution, radicalism and reform*. Pinter, 1997. pp. 9-16.

Elman, Benjamin. "Political, Social, and Cultural Reproduction via Civil Service Examinations in Late Imperial China" in *Journal of Asian Studies* (1991) 50 (1) pp. 7-28.

(Recommended readings)

Ho Ping-ti. 1962, *The Ladder of Success in Imperial China*. New York: Columbia University Press.

**Week 7 Unpacking Chinese Culture: Gentry II**

Faure, David. 1989. “The Lineage as a Cultural Invention.” *Modern China* 15: 4-37.

Barbara E. Ward, 2020, Through Other Eyes: Essays in Understanding "Conscious Models", Routledge.

(Recommended readings)

Freedman, Maurice. 1958. *Lineage Organization in Southeastern China*. London: Athlone Press. Chs. 1, 2, 9, 11, 14.

Potter, Jack M. 1970. “Land and Lineage in Traditional China.” In Family and Kinship in Chinese Society, ed. Maurice Freedman. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Watson, Rubie S. 1982. “The Creation of a Chinese Lineage: The Teng of Ha Tsuen, 1669-1751.” Modern Asian Studies, 16: 69-100.

Siu, Helen F. 1989. *Agents and Victims in South China.* New Haven: Yale University Press. Ch.4.

**Week 8 Outline Presentation**

**Week 9 The Hundred Schools of Thought: Confucianism, Legalism, and Daoism**

“Confucian Teachings,” in Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook, ed., Patricia Ebrey (New York: The Free Press): 17-26.

A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy. Tran & comp. Wing-tsit Chan. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1969, pp. 3-83, 115-135.

“Legalist Teachings,” in Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook, ed., Patricia Ebrey (New York: The Free Press): 32-37.

“Daoist Teachings,” in Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook, ed., Patricia Ebrey (New York: The Free Press): 27-31.

A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy. Tran & comp. Wing-tsit Chan. Princeton:

Princeton University Press, 1969, pp. 136-210, 314-335.

**Week 10 Popular Religion and Chinese State**

Wolf, Arthur P. 1974 “Gods, Ghost and Ancestors.” In Wolf Arthur P. ed., Religion and ritual

in Chinese society. Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp. 131-182.

Watson, James L.1985 “Standardizing the Gods: The Promotion of T’ien Hou (“Empress of Heaven”) along the South China Coast, 960-1960”. In Johnson David, Nathan Andrew J., and Rawski Evelyn S., eds., Popular Culture in Late Imperial China. Berkeley: University of California Press. pp.292-324.

**Week 11 Oing-Li-Fa Paradigm**

정종호, 「재중 한국계 기업의 경영 현지화에 대한 문화적 영향: 개혁․개방기 중국의 "情․理․法 文化構成"을 중심으로,」『비교문화연구』제9집2호, (서울: 서울대학교 비교문화연구소, 2003), 83-123.

**范忠信․鄭定․詹學農 공저(이인철 역), 1996 『중국법률문화탐구』, 서울: 일조각.**

**Week 12 China’s Models for Rural Industrialization**

Tsai, 2007, *Capitalism without Democracy*, pp. 150-166.

정종호, 2013. 중국 지역발전모델의 회고와 전망: 삼대모델(三大模式)을 중심으로, 『중국학연구』, 제63집, 2013. 3월, pp. 239-266.

Parris, Kristen, “Local Initiative and National Reform: The Wenzhou Model of Development," *The China Quarterly,* 134: 1993, 242-263.

宋学寶, 「“苏南模式”和“温州模式”的比较研究」，『改革』，第3期, 2001, 61-65.

(Recommended readings)

Liu, Yia-Ling, “Reform From Below: The Private Economy and Local Politics in the Rural Industrialization of Wenzhou," *The China Quarterly,* 130: 1992, 293-316.

Liu, Alan P. L., “The “Wenzhou Model" of Development and China's Modernization," *Asian Survey*, 32(8): 1992, 696-711.

Fureng Dong, “The Wenzhou Model for Developing the Rural Commodity Economy,” in Peter Nolan and Fureng Dong, eds. 1989. *Market forces in China: Competition and Small Business – The Wenzhou Debate*, London: Zed Books, pp. 81-86

費孝通, 「溫州行」,『瞭望』, 第20期, 1986, 21-22, 第21期, 1986, 24-25, 第22期, 1986,   28-29.

新望, 『蘇南模式的終結』, 三聯書店, 2005.

张应强, 「苏南模式、温州模式发展现状比较」，『甘肃社会科学』，第6期, 2002, 129-130

**Week 13 China Model**

Daniel A. Bell, The China Model: Political Meritocracy and the Limits of Democracy (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015), pp. 151-198

**Week 14 Other Chinese**

Harrell, Stevan, 1995 “Introduction: Civilizing Projects and the Reaction to Them”, in Stevan Harrell ed. Cultural Encounters on China’s Ethnic Frontiers. Seattle: University of Washington Press. pp. 3-36.

Cheung, Siu-Woo. 2003 “Miao Identities, indigenism and the politics of appropriation in Southwest China during the Republican period”. Asian Ethnicity，4: pp.85-114.

Gladney, Dru C. 1996 Muslim Chinese: Ethnic Nationalism in the People’s Republic. Pp.1-63.

Cambridge, Mass., Council on East Asian Studies, Harvard University: Distributed by Harvard University Press, 1996. Pp. 1-63.

Mullaney, Thomas, 2010 Coming to Terms with the Nation: Ethnic Classification in Modern

China. Berkeley: University of California Press. pp.1-17.

Wang, Jianmin. 2002, “Ethnonyms and nationalism in Xinjiang”, in C. X. George Wei and Xiaoyuan Liu, ed., Exploring Nationalism of China: themes and conflicts. Pp. 173-186.

Gladney, Dru C. 1994 “Representing nationality in China: Refiguring majority/minority identities.” The Journal of Asian Studies 53 (1): 92-123.

**Week 15 Final Presentation**