

University of Arizona
Spring 2023

CHN 345

Buddhists, Bandits, and Beauties:

Masterworks of Chinese Fiction from the 1500s to the Digital Age

T Th 12:30 - 1:45PM

Biology Science East, Room 314

For centuries, Chinese people have thrilled to the adventures of characters such as the Monkey King, Lord Guan, and Wu Song the tiger killer. All of these stories are found in classic novels printed in sixteenth century. The exciting plots and plain-speech “storyteller” style of these novels have made them accessible in the original to readers even today. Increasingly, however, such stories have found fame throughout Asia and the world through popular culture and new media adaptations. In this course, we will examine both the originals (in translation) and the modern adaptations. We will explore the historical setting of the sixteenth-century Ming dynasty in which the novels were first created, as well as recent films and other cultural creations based on them. The aim will be to uncover the cultural dynamics that allow for such creativity and fluidity.

Topics may include Chinese religions, print and popular culture, literary and cross-cultural adaptation, film, graphic novels/manga, video games, and taboos against sex and violence. Readings will be primarily in English; supplementary/alternative readings, including portions of the original texts as well as secondary scholarship, will be made available for readers of Asian languages upon request.

This course satisfies the Tier-II Humanities and Non-Western Civilizations requirement.
Prerequisite: Two Tier-I Traditions/Cultures courses.

Instructor and Contact Information

Huiqiao Yao (she, her, hers)

Office Hours: Thursdays 11 am-12 pm or by appointment, Learning Services Building 102
huiqiaoyao@arizona.edu (Please allow 24 hours for me to reply to emails.)

Course Preceptor: Liz Davis (erdavis@arizona.edu)

Course Format and Teaching Methods

This course will be taught in an in-person, Tuesday-Thursday (TR) lecture format.

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, you will be able to:

- identify the ways in which traditional Chinese fiction was created and circulated
- analyze the cultural and historical adaptation of literary works across media
- trace the influence of traditional non-Western religion and philosophy in literature and film
- conduct original research and write or present persuasive argumentation concerning literature and culture

Required Texts

This is a reading-intensive course, and it is important that you obtain access to the textbooks and have them accessible to you during class. The main texts for this course will be:

- Roberts, trans. *Three Kingdoms (2014 edition)* (NOTE: the authorship of *Three Kingdoms* is traditionally credited to “Luo Guanzhong”; the UA bookstore has shelved this book incorrectly under G for Guanzhong.)
- Roy, trans. *The Plum in the Golden Vase, or, Chin Ping Mei Volume 1, The gathering*
- Yu, trans. *The Monkey and the Monk*. (Shelved under Yu, the translator’s name.)

All of these books are available electronically through the university library. If you prefer a hard copy, they are also available for purchase through the campus bookstore. (The bookstore may have used copies available, and should price-match other sources.)

All other readings will be distributed online through the course D2L site.

Please note that these books have been translated many times. I have chosen these particular translations carefully and consider them the best available. They also exist in various different editions, for which page and chapter numberings may vary widely. Therefore it is important that you get the particular editions/translations I have listed. Using others may cause you to be out of sync with the class and assignments.

If you wish, you may read these texts in the original Chinese. However, you must be able to discuss and write about them in English for the purposes of the class. Therefore, if you do read the original Chinese, you should still reference the translations in order to use consistent terminology, etc. The Chinese texts are not copyrighted in any way and are easily discoverable online.

Scheduled Topics/Activities

Please see the weekly schedule. Assigned readings are subject to change; any changes will be posted to D2L and announced in class.

Course Communications

Important information will be sent via UA email and the course D2L site. Be sure to check in with both daily. I highly recommend turning on D2L notifications and/or downloading the Pulse app.

Please use only your official university email account to contact me and your preceptor. Doing so helps us maintain your privacy and stay organized.

Grading Scale and Policies

Grading Scale

A	100% - 90.0%
B	89.99% - 80.0%
C	79.99% - 70.0%
D	69.99% - 60.0%
E	59.99% and below

Grade Items

Participation	15%
Presentation	10%
D2L Responses	25%
Research Paper 1	20%
Research Paper 2	20%
Creative Project	10%

Due dates are on the schedule below. By Week 8, you will have completed more than 40% of your grade. Details may be found on the schedule below.

Participation: Lectures are aimed at helping you place the material into context and understand it better. You should come to the lecture having done the readings and prepared for any activities or discussion. You should also be prepared to participate in any in-class activities, discussions, or feedback to your classmates' presentations; failure to do so will lower your grade. These activities may be written or oral. **If you are sick, please do not come to class.** Contact me as soon as possible for alternative assignments; you will not lose participation points if you do the alternative assignments.

Two of the lowest participation points will be dropped.

Presentation (x2): During this semester, you are asked to do two group presentations (each 15-20 minutes), one on the primary source and the other on the secondary source. The presentations are summaries of the readings and no outside research is needed. Guidelines of presentations will be distributed later.

D2L Responses (x5): Prompts will be posted to D2L approximately once every two weeks. Responses should be at least 250 words, and should be written in formal, “academic” English similar to what you would use in a research paper. All sources should be properly cited. D2L Responses should be turned in by class time on the due date.

Research Papers (x2): Throughout the semester, there will be two research papers of approximately 1000 words each, worth 20% of your grade each. Each paper’s grade will be broken down into component parts, including preparation (writing outlines, finding sources, etc.) to be turned in ahead of time to help guide you through the process. More details will be discussed in class. *One* of these may be rewritten *once* within one week of it being returned to you, if you are dissatisfied with your grade.

Creative Project: Adaptation and genre will be major topics in this class. In order to engage with those topics, you will take a familiar film, novel, or other story, and adapt it into the Chinese fiction genre by drawing upon what you have learned. Or, you will adapt one of the Chinese works of fiction we have read into a “Western” style. You will also write a short explanation of how you made your creative choices and how they were inspired by themes from the class.

Missed/Late assignments: The usual penalty for late assignments will be a deduction of 5% of the total grade for the assignment for each day late (not including weekends), up to three days. After three days, late assignments will not be accepted. If an assignment is due on a Thursday, the latest it may be turned in is the following Tuesday, with a penalty of 15%, or a grade and a half. In the case of exceptional circumstances (illness, personal tragedy, etc.), notify your instructor as soon as possible.

No assignments will be given or accepted after the last day of classes under any circumstances.

Requests for incompletes (I) and withdrawal (W) must be made in accordance with University policies, which are available at <https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/grades/incomplete-i-grade> and <https://registrar.arizona.edu/grades/withdrawal-grades> respectively.

Department of East Asian Studies Major and Minor

Have you considered majoring or minoring in East Asian Studies? The Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Arizona offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree with a major in East Asian Studies, as well as minor programs. The East Asian Studies major offers a language-intensive track (Chinese or Japanese) and a culture track. For more information, see <https://eas.arizona.edu>.

Training in East Asian Studies affords students important opportunities for careers in a wide variety of fields, including teaching, international business, international law, government and diplomatic service, and journalism.

For questions about majoring or minoring in East Asian Studies and/or to declare a major/minor, contact EAS faculty advisor Dr. Maggie Camp at eas-advising@email.arizona.edu or visit <https://eas.arizona.edu/declare>. You also can contact the College of Humanities Advising Office for any advising needs, at <http://advising.humanities.arizona.edu>.

Honors Credit

Students wishing to contract this course for Honors Credit should email me to set up an appointment to discuss the terms of the contract and to sign the Honors Course Contract Request Form. The form is available at <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/documents/students/ContractRequestForm.pdf>

Classroom attendance

- If you feel sick, or if you need to isolate or quarantine based on University protocols, stay home. Except for seeking medical care, avoid contact with others and do not travel.
- Notify your instructor(s) if you will be missing a course meeting or an assignment deadline.
- Non-attendance for any reason does not guarantee an automatic extension of due date or rescheduling of examinations/assessments.
- Please communicate and coordinate any request directly with your instructor.
- If you must miss the equivalent of more than one week of class, please contact the Dean of Students Office DOS-deanofstudents@email.arizona.edu to share documentation about the challenges you are facing.
- Voluntary, free, and convenient COVID-19 testing is available for students on Main Campus.
- If you test positive for COVID-19 and you are participating in on-campus activities, you must report your results to Campus Health. To learn more about the process for reporting a positive test, visit the Case Notification Protocol.
- The COVID-19 vaccine and booster is available for all students at Campus Health.
- Visit the UArizona COVID-19 page (<https://covid19.arizona.edu>) for the most up-to-date information.

Code of Academic Integrity

NOTE: This class has a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism and “ghostwriting.” If you turn in assignments that you did not do yourself and claim them as your own work, you will receive a failing grade in the class. Depending on the severity of the case, you may also be expelled from the University of Arizona.

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity> <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism available at: <http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>.

Selling or otherwise uploading class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor's express written consent. Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions. Additionally, students who use D2L or UA email to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student email addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

Threatening Behavior Policy

The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to one's self. See: <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.

Notification of Objectionable Materials

This course will contain material of a mature nature, which may include explicit language, depictions of nudity, sexual situations, and/or violence. Students are not automatically excused from interacting with such materials, but they are encouraged to speak with the instructor to voice concerns and to provide feedback.

Accessibility and Accommodations

Our goal in this classroom is that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on Disability Resources and reasonable accommodations, please visit <http://drc.arizona.edu/>.

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

Subject to Change Statement

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Final Note

It is my goal that every one of you succeeds in this course. To that end, I will reach out often with reminders and invitations to connect through email or D2L announcements. If there are circumstances you believe will impact your ability to work through the course as it stands, do not wait until you are behind before contacting me or your preceptor!

CHN 345 Reading Schedule (Subject to Change)

Day	Week	DUE	Book	Topic	Chapters	Secondary Readings
Thu, Jan 12, 2023	1		Introduction	Chinese literature/ The Ming-Qing era		
Tue, Jan 17, 2023	2		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>	From history to novel	1 (pp. 2-14), 20-28 (pp. 59-101)	Idema and West, "Records of the Three Kingdoms in Plain Language (Introduction)"
Thu, Jan 19, 2023	2		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>			
Tue, Jan 24, 2023	3		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>	Defining "Loyalty"	34-38 (pp. 101-153)	Constantine Tung, "Cosmic Foreordination and Human Commitment: The Tragic Volition in Three Kingdoms"
Thu, Jan 26, 2023	3	D2L 1	<i>Three Kingdoms</i>			
Tue, Jan 31, 2023	4		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>	"Popular" versions of the Three Kingdoms story	39-43 (pp. 154-209)	McLaren, "Constructing new reading publics in late Ming China," in <i>Printing and Book Culture in Late Imperial China</i>
Thu, Feb 2, 2023	4					
Tue, Feb 7, 2023	5		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>	Deflating "loyalty"	44-49 (pp. 209-272)	Tian, "Restoring the Broken Halberd," pp. 325-345.
Thu, Feb 9, 2023	5	D2L 2	<i>Three Kingdoms</i>			
Tue, Feb 14, 2023	6		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>	The Decline	50, 73-83, 103-104 (pp. 272-280; 320-364; 391-403)	FILM: "Red Cliff"
Thu, Feb 16, 2023	6		<i>Three Kingdoms</i>			
Tue, Feb 21, 2023	7	Outline and Bibliography of Paper 1	<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>	Buddhist novels, Confucian authors	1-3 (pp. 1-50)	Sun, <i>Transforming Monkey</i> , Ch. 1 "Who is Sun Wukong?" (pp. 15-35)
Thu, Feb 23, 2023	7	D2L 3	<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>			
Tue, Feb 28, 2023	8		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>	Buddhist novel, Daoist allegory	4-10 (pp. 51-159)	Liu I-ming, "How to Read," in Rolston, ed. <i>How to Read the Chinese Novel</i> , pp. 299-315.
Thu, Mar 2, 2023	8	Paper 1	<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>			
Tue, Mar 7, 2023	9		Spring Break		(catch up or read ahead)	
Thu, Mar 9, 2023	9		Spring Break			
Tue, Mar 14, 2023	10		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>	"Public domain" Novels	11-18 (pp. 160-288)	Qiancheng Li, "Transformations of Monkey," in <i>Snake's Legs</i> .
Thu, Mar 16, 2023	10		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>			
Tue, Mar 21, 2023	11		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>	Monkey in love?	19-24 (pp. 289-385)	FILM: <i>Havoc in Heaven</i>
Thu, Mar 23, 2023	11	D2L 4	<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>			
Tue, Mar 28, 2023	12		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>	The Journey Home	25-31 (pp. 386-497)	
Thu, Mar 30, 2023	12		<i>Journey to the West (Monkey and the Monk)</i>			
Tue, Apr 4, 2023	13		<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>	Tiger fighters	1-2 (pp. 3-61)	Roy, "Introduction" (pp. xvii-xlvii)
Thu, Apr 6, 2023	13	D2L 5	<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>			

Day	Week	DUE	Book	Topic	Chapters	Secondary Readings
Tue, Apr 11, 2023	14	Outline and Bibliography of Paper 2	<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>	The culture of print	3-5 (pp. 62-110)	Shang, “The Making of the Everyday World: The <i>Jin Ping Mei Cihua</i> and Encyclopedias for Daily Use,” in <i>Dynastic Crisis and Cultural Innovation</i>
Thu, Apr 13, 2023	14		<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>			
Tue, Apr 18, 2023	15		<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>	Subversive songs	6-8 (pp. 111-169)	Carlitz, <i>Rhetoric of the Chin P'ing Mei</i> , pp. 95-127.
Thu, Apr 20, 2023	15	Paper 2	<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>			
Tue, Apr 25, 2023	16		<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>		9-10 (pp. 170-204)	TBD
Thu, Apr 27, 2023	16		<i>Plum in the Golden Vase</i>			
Tue, May 2, 2023	17	Creative Project	Conclusion			