

EAST ASIAN STUDIES GRADUATE COURSE LIST FOR SPRING 2024



CEAS Provisional Course Listing as of November 3rd, 2023

Some of the information contained here may have changed since the time of publication. Always check with the department under which the course is listed or on the official Yale Course Search website found at <https://courses.yale.edu/> to see whether the courses you are interested in are still being offered and that the times have not changed.

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 562b **Unity and Diversity in Chinese Culture** Helen Siu

M 1.30-3.20

An exploration of the Chinese identity as it has been reworked over the centuries. Major works in Chinese anthropology and their intellectual connections with general anthropology and historical studies. Topics include kinship and marriage, marketing systems, rituals and popular religion, ethnicity and state making, and the cultural nexus of power. *Instructor permission required.*

ANTH 575b/EAST 575b **Hubs, Mobilities, and Global Cities** Helen Siu

T 1.30-3.20

Analysis of urban life in historical and contemporary societies. Topics include capitalist and postmodern transformations, class, gender, ethnicity, migration, and global landscapes of power and citizenship. *Instructor permission required.*

CLASSICS

**CLSS 611b/EALL 507b/
MUSI 507b** **Ancient Musical Thought from Homer to Confucius** Mick Hunter,
Pauline LeVen

F 9.25-11.15

Examines traditions of musical thought across ancient cultures with a particular focus on Greece (LeVen) and China (Hunter). How did ancient thinkers understand the place of music within society, the ideal state, and the cosmos? What role did musical training and connoisseurship play in education? What is the relationship between music and wisdom? And how do the answers to these questions inform comparative study? As the 2023–24 Archaia core seminar, this course is offered in conjunction with Archaia's year-long Ancient Studies Workshop, through which students have the opportunity to learn from various experts in ancient musical thought.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

**CPLT 525b/EALL 530b/
EAST 542b** **Poetry and Ethics Amidst Imperial Collapse** Lucas Bender

M 1.30-3.20

Du Fu has for the last millennium been considered China's greatest poet. Close study of nearly one-sixth of his complete works, contextualized by selections from the tradition that defined the art in his age. Exploration of the roles literature plays in interpreting human lives and the ways different traditional forms shape different ethical orientation. Poetry as a vehicle for moral reflection. *All readings are in English. Instructor permission required.*

**CPLT 802b/EALL 804b/
ENGL 804b**

Transpacific Performance in the Cold War

Rosa van Hensbergen

T 3.30-5.20

During the Cold War, interdisciplinary artists were crisscrossing the Pacific between Japan and the US, presenting their works in exhibitions, participating in performance festivals, and engaging in experimental collaborations. These crossings and crossovers took place with varying degrees of state involvement as the US government worked to promote its version of American culture abroad. In this course, we discover a series of transpacific performances and events against the backdrop of Cold War cultural politics, from collaborations between Japanese modern dancers and American jazz musicians in the early 60s to immersive works of Japanese video art presented in New York in the 90s. *The rare archival and print materials that form an essential component of this course are made available in English. Japanese and other relevant language specialisms are welcome though not required, as are comparative and creative approaches. An aim of this course is to work closely together to produce a publishable or performable piece of work—critical or creative—related to your future research and career ambitions. For those wishing to work with Japanese-language materials, please contact the instructor directly to organize additional Japanese-language workshops.*

DIVINITY SCHOOL

REL 983b

China Mission

Chloe Starr

T 1.30-3.20

The Day Missions Collection at YDS is one of the strongest mission collections in the world, comprising about one third of the Divinity Library's 600,000 volumes—and it is also the central repository in the United States for China-related mission papers. This course offers students the opportunity to complete an original research project in the library relating to mission in China, utilizing manuscript, microform, and monograph materials from the collections. For the first six weeks, we read intensively in mission history, theory, and practice, schematized through mission narratives. The next four weeks are “library lab” time: supervised reading time in special collection and archive materials within the library; and reading into and developing projects while help is on hand for deciphering handwriting, providing reference tools, etc. The final two weeks are dedicated to research presentations and evaluation, with each student offering findings to the class in their chosen media.

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

EALL 505b

The Culture of Landscape in China

Pauline Lin

T,Th 1.00-2.15

An introduction to Chinese philosophical, poetic, and visual explorations of landscape and the changing relationship between human beings and nature. Through texts, archaeological materials, visual and material culture, and garden designs from the second century BCE to modern times, we learn about the Chinese conception of the world; relationship to and experiences in nature; and shaping of the land through agriculture, imperial parks, and garden designs. We conclude with contemporary environmental issues confronting China and how contemporary parks can help regenerate our ecosystem.

**EALL 507b/CLSS 611b
MUSI 507b**

Ancient Musical Thought from Homer to Confucius

Mick Hunter,
Pauline LeVen

F 9.25-11.15

Examines traditions of musical thought across ancient cultures with a particular focus on Greece (LeVen) and China (Hunter). How did ancient thinkers understand the place of music within society, the ideal state, and the cosmos? What role did musical training and connoisseurship play in education? What is the relationship between music and wisdom? And how do the answers to these questions inform comparative study? As the 2023–24 Archaia core seminar, this course is offered in conjunction with Archaia's year-long Ancient Studies Workshop, through which students have the opportunity to learn from various experts in ancient musical thought.

- EALL 523b** **Topics in Chinese Drama** Tina Lu
HTBA
We read a selection of Southern plays (also known as *chuanqi*) from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Discussions concern the formation of the genre, performance styles (including watching some *kunqu*), and the contents of the plays. Students produce a fifteen- to twenty-page research paper over the course of the semester. *Prerequisite: ability to read Chinese (both classical and vernacular).*
- EALL 530b/CPLT 525b/ EAST 542b** **Poetry and Ethics Amidst Imperial Collapse** Lucas Bender
M 1.30-3.20
Du Fu has for the last millennium been considered China's greatest poet. Close study of nearly one-sixth of his complete works, contextualized by selections from the tradition that defined the art in his age. Exploration of the roles literature plays in interpreting human lives and the ways different traditional forms shape different ethical orientation. Poetry as a vehicle for moral reflection. *All readings are in English. Instructor permission required.*
- EALL 565b/EAST 553b** **Japanese Literature after 1970** Rosa van Hensbergen
M 1.30-3.20
This course is an introduction to Japanese literature written in the last fifty years, with a focus on women writers. We read poetry and prose featuring mothers, daughters, and lovers, novels that follow convenience and thrift store workers, and poetry about factory girls. Our reading takes us from the daily grind of contemporary Tokyo to dystopian futures, from 1970s suburbia to surreal dreamscapes. We attend carefully to the ways in which different writers craft their works and, in particular, to their representation of feelings and affects. Whether the dull ache of loneliness, the oppression of boredom, or the heavy weight of fatigue, it is often something about the mood of a work – rather than its narrative – that leaves a distinct impression. We develop the tools to analyze and discuss this sense of distinctness, as well as discover ways to stage connections and comparisons between the works we read. Comparative and creative perspectives are especially welcome, and assignments can accommodate a range of media and presentation formats to suit. *No knowledge of Japan or Japanese is required, nor is any prior grounding in literature. For those wishing to work with Japanese-language materials, please contact the instructor directly to organize additional Japanese-language workshops.*
- EALL 574b** **Gender and Sexuality in Korean Literature and Film** Kyunghee Eo
T 1.30-3.20
In this course, students explore how cultural representations of gender and sexuality in Korea and the Korean diaspora have changed over the course of the twentieth century. Primary sources include literary texts, narrative and documentary films, as well as scholarship on themes and historical context relevant to the materials. We begin by exploring how gendered selfhood in Korea was constructed in relation to the colonial modernization process in the first half of the twentieth century. We then move onto stories of how women and men survived the Cold War and developmentalist and dictatorial regimes of South Korea from 1945 to 1987. In the last segment of the course, we focus our attention to voices from the contemporary moment, to examine how present-day Koreans of various gender and sexual identities are contending with the challenges of an increasingly neoliberalizing social order. *All class materials are in English translation, and no previous knowledge of Korean language is required.*
- EALL 581b/FILM 873b** **Japanese Cinema and Its Others** Aaron Gerow
MW 11.35-12.50
Critical inquiry into the myth of a homogeneous Japan through analysis of how Japanese film and media historically represent “others” of different races, ethnicities, nationalities, genders, and sexualities, including women, black residents, ethnic Koreans, Okinawans, Ainu, undocumented immigrants, LGBTQ minorities, the disabled, youth, and monstrous others such as ghosts.
- EALL 804b/CPLT 802b/ ENGL 804b** **Transpacific Performance in the Cold War** Rosa van Hensbergen
T 3.30-5.20
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FILM STUDIES

FILM 873b/EALL 581b

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HISTORY

HIST 881b

T 1.30-3.20

China’s Age of Exploration

Valerie Hansen

Study of China’s maritime history focusing on the period 1000–1500, culminating with the Zheng He voyages and their cancellation. English-language readings in secondary sources and primary sources in translation; examination of relevant maps in Beinecke’s collection. *Separate section for those with a reading knowledge of classical Chinese.*

HISTORY OF ART

HSAR 612b/EAST 508b

W 1.30-3.20

Mapping Asia: A World-History Perspective (13th – 18th Centuries)

Angelo Cattaneo

Maps and mapping processes have become multilayered and transdisciplinary objects of study and analysis. Long considered and evaluated exclusively as objective scientific tools par excellence, in recent decades they have undergone a profound reconceptualization that has accentuated their being primarily devices of cultural interpretation framed in specific contexts of political, religious, colonial, social, and economic power. This stratification makes maps and mapping operations particularly interesting objects of historical analysis that have generated interest in many fields of knowledge, conveying perspectives, knowledge, interests, and worldviews through a combination of visuality and writing. These specific “intentionalities” aim to make an impact on the communities and societies they address: by representing worlds, they create worlds. It is these intentionalities that the course aims to bring out, study and analyze, particularly in the context of Asia, which has been mapped very precociously and has been a very important area of investigation and exploration by foreign travelers. Asia occupies a central place in the imagined geography of cartographers, as maps have been a fundamental tool that has shaped the continent, its self-perception, and its understanding of the world. Special attention is given to early modern mapping processes and cartography, from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century. This period became a turning point in the way both European and Asian cartographers saw their regions and represented them, also giving rise to cartographic productions that complemented or juxtaposed their knowledge systems. The circulation of knowledge and visual cultures among cartographers from both macro-regions, with a focus on Japan and China, is a focus of the course. The analysis of the cartographic construction of Asia and its regions is integrated with a world history– research perspective, from classical to modern times, spanning the cultures of Asia, Europe and Islamic Africa, in turn examined through the maps that different cultures made of their own worlds. Students also have the opportunity to analyze a selection of historical maps in the Beinecke Library collections to discover how maps have variously embodied cultural lenses, religious beliefs, scientific discoveries, and political concerns.

MUSIC

MUSI 507b/CLSS 611b

EALL 507b

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