

ANT 265: Contemporary Chinese Society and Culture

Spring Term, 2003: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:30 am - 12:20 pm, Chambers 226

Instructor: Prof. Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.

Office: Carnegie 01

Office Hours: M, W, F 10:30-11:20 am;

T, Th 9:30-11:00 am or by appointment

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This seminar examines Chinese society and culture from the “bottom up,” with an emphasis on the structure of everyday life. We will be reading particular ethnographic case studies as our entry into understanding Chinese social, cultural, political, and economic processes. We will specifically examine ancestor worship, single-child family policy, rural local government, the Shanghai Stock Market, urban religious practices, rural-urban migration, and youth popular culture.

Our emphasis will be on understanding how Chinese traditions and culture have shaped understandings of modernity in Chinese society. What is uniquely Chinese in Chinese culture? How do social units like the family or practices such as life-cycle rituals give structure to Chinese society? What will China be like in the 21st century?

Course Readings

- Farrer, James 2002. *Opening Up: Youth Sex Culture and Market Reform in Shanghai*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (ISBN: 0226238717)
- Gillette, Maris 2000. *Between Mecca and Beijing: Modernization and Consumption Among Urban Chinese Muslims*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (ISBN: 0804746850)
- Hertz, Ellen 1998. *The Trading Crowd : An Ethnography of the Shanghai Stock Market*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (ISBN: 0521564972)
- Jing, Jun 1998 *The Temple of Memories: History, Power, and Morality in a Chinese Village*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (ISBN: 0804727570)
- Ruf, Gregory 1998. *Cadres and Kin: Making a Socialist Village in West China, 1921-1991*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (ISBN: 0804741298)
- Zhang, Li 2001. *Strangers in the City: Reconfigurations of Space, Power, and Social Networks Within China's Floating Population* Stanford: Stanford University Press. (ISBN: 0804742065)

In addition to the above books, various articles will be required. Articles are available from the library electronic reserve, and are to be completed by the date assigned on the course schedule.

Course Requirements

Class participation: 15%

The most important work in this course is to be prepared for each class; this means having **thoroughly read the material** and **being prepared to discuss** particular points from the reading. Readings are due on the day listed in the class schedule. I will not lecture on the readings, but will discuss the implications and difficult points in the material. Remember, there is no such thing as a dumb question or comment. A good strategy is to mark a part of the reading that you feel is important, unclear, or thought-provoking, and share the passage with the class.

I will also organize an optional “movie night” to supplement classroom material. I plan to show movies twice a month. Attendance is not mandatory. I will make announcements later as to the time and places.

Response papers: 10%

Each student will have to write five (5) response papers, one page and double-spaced. They are individually ungraded and require only timely submission for full credit. See the handout for more information.

2 Review Essays (take-home): 40%

Students will write two (2) short essays (no more than five pages) that do not require outside research. There are a variety of options that are available to fulfill this requirement; see the handout on short essays for more information.

Research Paper: 35%

In lieu of a final exam, students will write a term paper (12-15 pages) that may involve further research outside of class. A proposal and bibliography will be worth 5% of the final grade, and the final paper (worth 30%) will be due at the end of the term.

While students working with each other outside of class is highly encouraged, all graded, written work must be your own and pledged accordingly. All work is subject to the Davidson College Honor Code as stated in the student handbook. If there are individual accommodations for special needs, please let me know and authorize the Dean of Students to contact me so that we can work something out.

Class Schedule (subject to modification)

Monday, 13 January	Class Introduction
Wednesday, 15 January	Overview of Chinese History Reading: Richard Smith article (e-reserves); Timothy Cheek article (e-reserves)
	Families
Friday, 17 January	Reading: Jack Potter article (e-reserves); Rubie Watson article (e-reserves); James Watson article (e-reserves)
Monday, 20 January	No Class: Martin Luther King Day Reading: Jing p. 1-44
Wednesday, 22 January	Reading: Jing p. 45-86
Friday, 24 January	Reading: Jing p. 87-114; Whyte article (e-reserves)
Monday, 27 January	Reading: Jing p. 115-143 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Wednesday, 29 January	Reading: Jing p. 144-176
	Politics
Friday, 31 January	Reading: Ruf, p. 1-29;
Monday, 3 February	Reading: Ruf, p. 30-89 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Wednesday, 5 February	Reading: Ruf, p. 90-121; Jean Robinson article (e-reserves)
Friday, 7 February	Reading: Ruf, p. 122-162
Monday, 10 February	Reading: Susan Greenhalgh article (e-reserves); Hill Gates article (e-reserves)
	Economics
Wednesday, 12 February	Reading: Yan article (e-reserves); Hertz p. 1-28
Friday, 14 February	Reading: Herz p. 31-70
Monday, 17 February	Reading: Herz p. 71-93 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Wednesday, 19 February	Reading: Herz p. 94-125
Friday, 21 February	Reading: Herz p. 129-151
Monday, 24 February	Reading: Herz p. 152-173 Assignment: First Short Essay Due

Wednesday, 26 February	Reading: Herz p. 174-199
Friday, 28 February	Reading: Yan article on McDonalds in Beijing (e-reserves)
3 – 9 March	Spring Break: Have a Good Vacation
	Religion and Modernity
Monday, 10 March	Reading: Lozada article (e-reserves); Gillette p. 1-21 Assignment: Term Paper Proposal Due
Wednesday, 12 March	Reading: Gillette p. 22-67
Friday, 14 March	Reading: Gillette p. 68-113
Monday, 17 March	Reading: Gillette p. 114-144 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Wednesday, 19 March	Reading: Gillette p. 145-166; Lozada article on KFC (e-reserve)
Friday, 21 March	Reading: Gillette p. 167-191;
Monday, 24 March	Reading: Gillette p. 192-236 Assignment: Second Short Essay Due
	Social Dislocation
Wednesday, 26 March	Reading: Brownell article (e-reserve); Zhang 1-21
Friday, 28 March	No Class: Prof. Lozada attending 2003 Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies
Monday, 31 March	Reading: Zhang p. 23-68
Wednesday, 2 April	Reading: Zhang p. 69-114
Friday, 4 April	Reading: Zhang p. 115-158
Monday, 7 April	Reading: Zhang p. 159-185
Wednesday, 9 April	Reading: Zhang p. 186-212
	Popular Culture
Friday, 11 April	Reading: Efird article (e-reserves); Farrer p. 1-21
Monday, 14 April	Reading: Farrer p. 22-52
Wednesday, 16 April	Reading: Farrer p. 53-82
Friday, 18 April	Reading: Farrer p. 83-149

Monday, 21 April	No Class: Easter Break
Wednesday, 23 April	Reading: Farrer p. 150-186
Friday, 25 April	Reading: Farrer p. 186-222
Monday, 28 April	Reading: Farrer p. 223-257
Wednesday, 30 April	Reading: Farrer p. 258-326
Friday, 2 May	Last Day of Class: Overview
Monday, 5 May	Assignment: Final Papers Due