

**CHINESE V33.0221: READINGS IN CHINESE CULTURE I**  
**(Fall 2010)**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is the first part of a one-year course designed for students who have completed 3 years of learning in Chinese or equivalent. It is designed mainly to inspire, sustain and reinforce students' intellectual curiosity in Chinese language usage, developing skills in conducting in-depth textual analysis and leaning to appreciate the stylistic sophistication resulted from an author's creative use of the Chinese language. At the same time, students are expected to significantly improve their reading comprehension and writing competence, as well as acquiring the ability to intelligently write and discuss in length and with coherence on topics rich in Chinese cultural connotation.

In this course, students are required to take the initiative in working on technical aspects of language acquisition, such as character-writing practicing, checking up and memorizing new words and learning the correct usage of new patterns, etc. By enrolling in this class, all students pledge that they will thoroughly preview before the class and thoroughly review after the class.

For Fall 2010, this course will focus on the use of Chinese language that is unique to the genre of prose writing (散文, 随笔或小品文) from late 1920's to 1940's, the genre in which the Baihua (白话文)-based Modern Chinese literature has arguably achieved its greatest success, and which unfortunately has not received as much attention in Chinese studies as other genres (such as novel) have.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

The course requirements include attendance, active participation in class activities, homework (mainly in the form of translation and composition), quizzes, oral presentation, and final examination. **Particular emphasis will be given to the effort a student makes in applying what s/he learned in the course when participating in classroom discussion and when completing writing assignment.**

**GROUND RULES**

No make-ups will be given for tests or quizzes. If you are ill or observing a religious holiday, you will be excused from that test or quiz.

You are allowed only one free, unexplained or unexcused absence. Absences can be excused only for religious reasons or by your illness, for which a dated doctor's note is required.

If you are late for a class more than 15 minutes, it will count as an absence, and the teacher will no longer be responsible for including you in drill or answering your questions regarding missed lesson in class.

All assignments should be handed in before the class begins. Exercises handed in on time will be corrected, graded and returned to you promptly. Late assignments will be noted but will NOT receive grades

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Attendance and Class Participation 20%\*

Homework Assignments 30%\*

Quizzes 20%

Oral presentation 10% (5% for written hand-out, and 5% for presentation itself)\*

Final project 20%

\*Attendance: every unexcused absence will result in a 2-point reduction of the final grade.

\*Students should discuss topics and dates for oral presentations with the instructor at their earliest convenience.

### **Course Schedule:**

9/8:	导论	
9/13-15:	周作人:	北京的茶食
9/20-22:	鲁迅:	喝茶
9/27-10/4:	周作人:	苦雨
10/6-11:	鲁迅:	弄堂生意古今谈
10/13-18:	郁达夫:	故都的秋
10/20-27:	张爱玲:	公寓生活记趣
11/1-3:	朱自清:	背影
11/8-15:	张承志:	背影
11/17-29:	曹禺:	雷雨 (电影)
12/1-8:	曹聚仁:	从读书说到作文
12/13:	Review	
12/15:	Final project	

**(Note: The above schedule is subject to change as the instructor sees fit)**