

**Course Code:** HUMA 2310  
**Course Title:** Traditional Chinese Fiction [C][PU]  
**Course Offered in:** Fall 2019  
**Course Instructor:** Professor Wu Shengqing 吳盛青

Associate Professor Division of Humanities

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### **Time and Classroom**

Tuesday 12-3pm

### **Course Description:**

This survey course will introduce students to the history of traditional Chinese fiction from its formative period to the beginning of the twentieth century. The course examines different themes (love, knight errands, ghosts and the supernatural, etc.), formal and aesthetic features, as well as their cultural implications through comparative and cross-media perspectives. The course will also discuss the cinematic representation and contemporary multi-media recreations of traditional stories. In addition to developing the students' abilities in aesthetic appreciation and writing and reading skills, students will have opportunities to engage in creative multi-media projects to rethink the relationship between tradition and modernity, and narrative and media. 本課程系中國古典小說入門課程，旨在幫助學生了解傳統小說歷史，培養小說藝術鑒賞能力，提高藝術思辨、鑒賞、創作能力，並將傳統融入當代的生活實踐、新的技術媒介。中文授課。

### **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):**

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Interpret tradition fiction texts in analytical and critical terms;
2. Gain critical thinking abilities and improve skills in oral and written performances;
3. Understand the major literary terms, schools and aesthetic concepts;
4. Develop cultural skills and engage in team work.

### **Weekly Organization and Readings**

Required and suggested readings are accessible through the course web page.

Lectures, students' presentations and discussions will alternate in class. Students are also required to attend poetry readings and workshops with the poets.

### **Assessments:**

Attendance, Presentation, pop quiz, and Discussion: 15% +5% (for good in-class performance)

One short paper: 20%

Group project: 10%

Exercises and take-home exam: 10%

Final Paper: 40%

### **Course Requirements:**

All students must attend classes regularly and finish readings before class.

1. Writing one short paper (1,000-1,500 Chinese characters) to analyze a plot, a character or a story which has been discussed in class;
2. A range of reading and writing assignments throughout the system;
3. Group project on one creative, multimedia project;
4. Final paper (2,500-3,000 Chinese character in length).

### **Course Outline:**

**Week 1:** 9/3, Introduction: How to read classical stories? Why? What is literary classics?

*Xiaoshuo* and its relationship with mythology and History

導論：何謂古典小說，何謂文學經典？——小說概念起源

Reading: “How to Analyze Novels & Short Stories”

Reading: 山海經、史記節選

**Week 2:** 9/10, Knight Errand stories 唐傳奇與俠義小說

Reading: 《俠女》、《虬髯客傳》、《聶隱娘》

Film: 刺客聶隱娘 (2015, 侯孝賢導)

**Week 3:** 9/17 Romance in the Tang 唐傳奇與愛情小說

《鶯鶯傳》——《霍小玉傳》

**Week 4:** 9/24 明清小說中情與色

《蔣興哥重會珍珠衫》、《賣油郎獨佔花魁》

Week 5: 10/1 No Class.

**Week 6:** 10/8 Ghost stories

Reading: 蒲松齡《聊齋誌異》

Film: 倩女幽魂 (1987)

**Week 7:** 10/15 Chinese Four Master pieces 四大奇書：《紅樓夢》節選

Readings: Chapters of *Dream of the Red Chamber* (1-5)

**Week 8:** 10/22: Chinese Four Master pieces 《紅樓夢》節選

Readings: Chapters of *Dream of the Red Chamber* (6-10)

**Week 9:** 10/29 Chinese Literary Modernities: Late Qing Science Fiction

Readings: 《新石頭記》

David Der-wei Wang: *Fin-de-siecle Splendor: Repressed Modernities of Late Qing Fiction* (1-52).

**Week 10:** 11/5 Chinese Literary Modernities : Redefining modern Love

Wu Jianren: “Sea of Regrets” 《恨海》; 徐枕亚, 《玉梨魂》

**Week 11:** 11/12 Chinese Literary Modernities : Lu Xun and Yu Dafu

Reading: 《狂人日記》、《祝福》

Marston Anderson: *Limits of Realism*

**Week 12:** 11/19 Echoes of Tradition: Old Stories in a New Bottle and Multi-media Creation

傳統的迴響、多媒介創作

**Week 13:** 11/26 Conclusion & Group project presentation

**Three samples of readings:**

章培恒、駱玉明主編:《中國文學史新著》,上海:復旦大學出版社,2007.

Mair, Victor H, ed., *The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1994.

魯迅:《中國小說史略》