



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

## ENG 275 Chinese Literature in the Modern Era

Winter 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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This course offers an in-depth exploration of groundbreaking short stories, novellas, novels, and poetry that document the socio-cultural landscape of China from the late Qing Dynasty to the present day. Students will delve into a diverse range of literary works, gaining insights into the stories of the Chinese people amidst significant historical events such as social reforms, revolutions, wars, the Cultural Revolution, cultural renaissance, and economic growth.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Master various literary genres, including short stories, novellas, novels, and poetry.
2. Gain a nuanced understanding of China's history from the late Qing Dynasty to the present through the lens of literature.
3. Develop insight into Chinese culture and society, exploring how literature reflects cultural values and societal changes.
4. Hone critical thinking skills through the examination of literary archives, analyzing the impact of historical events on individuals and communities.
5. Foster a global perspective by linking the narratives of modern China to broader themes, encouraging cross-cultural comparisons.

### **PREREQUISITES**

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N/A

### **GRADING**

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Essays	20 Points
Midterm Exam	30 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$ .

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### **Required Texts:**

Pang-yuan Chi and David Der-wei Wang, *Chinese Literature in the Second Half of a Modern Century: A Critical Survey*, Indiana University Press, 2000.

### **Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:**

None

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Introduction Topic 2: Contemporary Chinese Literary Theory's Fin-de-siècle Struggle Topic 3: Taiwan Literature, 1945–1999 Topic 4: Modernist Literature; Nativist Literature In Taiwan <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#1



Module 2	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Colonialism, The Cold War Era, And Marginal Space Topic 6: The Existential Condition of Five Decades of Hong Kong Literature Topic 7: Reinventing National History Topic 8: Communist and Anti-Communist Fiction of the Mid-Twentieth Century</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#2 Essay#1</p>
Module 3	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: On the Logics of Socialist Realism Topic 10: Modernism And Its Discontents; Taiwan Literature in the 1960s Topic 11: Beyond “Nativist Realism”; Taiwan Fiction in the 1970s and 1980s Topic 12: Searching For Roots; Anticultural Return in Mainland Chinese Literature of the 1980s</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Midterm Exam</p>
Module 4	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Re-Membering The Cultural Revolution; Chinese Avant-garde Literature of the 1980s Topic 14: Reflections on Mainland Chinese Literary Criticism in the 1980s Topic 15: Feminism And Female Taiwan Writers Topic 16: Chinese Women’ s Writing in the Late 1980s and 1990s</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Essay#2</p>
Module 5	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: The Cultural Imaginary Of a City; Reading Hong Kong Through Xi Xi Topic 18: What Is Chinese Postmodernism/Post-Mao-Dengism? Topic 19: Poetry and Society in Contemporary China and Taiwan Topic 20: Poetry and Society in Contemporary China and Taiwan(Cont.)</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam</p>

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student’s frequent missing of class to the Soochow



University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.