Ways of Seeing, Ways of Being: Excursions into Chinese Art
Professor Carma Hinton
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Office hours: Tuesday, 2:30 – 3:30 PM, or by appointment
Meeting Time/Place: Tuesday, 4:30 PM – 7:10 PM / East Building 122

Course Description/Objectives:
This course introduces students to some basic concepts and practices of Chinese art. Through in-depth studies of a variety of ancient as well as contemporary art, including painting, calligraphy, sculpture, and architecture, the course will explore the particular ways in which the relationship between convention and innovation, discipline and freedom, community and individuality, and high art and popular art evolved in China’s long cultural tradition. Considerable emphasis will be given to examining the role of art and artist in society.

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and Participation (26% of final grade)
   Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time. You are responsible for keeping up with the material and for getting notes for any missed classes. All readings listed under each class meeting must be completed before that meeting to ensure constructive classroom participation. Repeated unexcused absences will be reflected in the participation grade.

2. Short Written Assignments
   - Reading response papers (1-2 pages each). Each paper will consist of brief summaries of that week’s reading assignments, as well as your questions related to the content of the readings. Detailed instructions will be discussed in class and will change as our learning process evolves. Students are required to submit reading responses on Blackboard by 9 AM each Tuesday, and turn in a hard copy in that day’s class. (18% of final grade)
   - Two short papers (2-3 pages each). Topics and detailed instructions will be provided on Blackboard. Students are required to submit hard copies of short papers in class, in addition to submitting them on Blackboard. (16% of final grade)

3. Research Paper and Class Presentation (40% of final grade)
   A research paper on a topic of your choice (in consultation with me) is due at 4 PM on Friday, Dec. 8 (three days after our final class meeting). Each student will give a 10 to 15-minute presentation about their paper during the final two class meetings. The paper will be 8-10 pages in length; detailed instructions will be provided on Blackboard. (Grade breakdown: Proposal 3%; Presentation 7%; Research paper 30%)
   Please note: I will not accept papers through e-mail. Penalties will apply to late papers.

4. Museum Visits
   In exchange for one class session, students will meet with me in small groups at the Freer and Sackler Galleries of Art in Washington, D.C. I will provide flexible scheduling options for this visit; specific dates and sign-up information will be given out in class.
   The museum visit is required; failure to attend will affect your participation grade.
Readings:

Readings are selected from a variety of texts – all books will be on library reserve, and selected excerpts will be available through the course reader. Details about the readings are provided on Blackboard; click on "Weekly Course Schedule" (under Course Content) to find links to each week's reading assignments.

General Information:

Communication
You will be expected to check your George Mason University e-mail and the Blackboard site for this course (http://mymason.gmu.edu) regularly throughout the term. Updates to the syllabus and other vital course information will be sent to you at your GMU e-mail address and will be posted on Blackboard. You will be responsible for having read any messages I send you via these means.

I will make every effort to respond to your e-mails promptly. Please be sure to include the term “HNRS122 F17” at the beginning of your e-mail subject line to ensure a timely response. (E-mails with generic subjects such as “Hello” will automatically be filtered into a spam folder.)

Policy on electronic devices
You are NOT permitted to send text messages, instant messages, or e-mail during class time. If you have a genuine academic reason to use a computer during class for note-taking or accessibility, please discuss this with me at the beginning of the semester.

Students with Disabilities
If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at (703) 993-2474 or http://ods.gmu.edu. All academic accommodations must be arranged through ODS.

Honor Code
This course will be conducted in accordance with the GMU Honor Code, as stated in the University catalog. Students are expected to be familiar with the code and to abide by its stated principles.

Mason Alert System
Students should be aware that GMU has implemented the Mason Alert system in case of emergencies; you can sign-up at https://alert.gmu.edu/.

Useful Campus Resources
Writing Center: A114 Robinson Hall; (703) 993-1200; http://writingcenter.gmu.edu
University Libraries “Ask a Librarian”: http://library.gmu.edu/ask
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): (703) 993-2380; http://caps.gmu.edu

ArtsBus
The ArtsBus is an all-day trip to New York City’s art districts via chartered buses. School of Art faculty members accompany the trip and offer 2-hour guided tours of various museums and galleries. You will also have several hours of free time to explore the city on your own. The dates for fall 2017 ArtsBus trips are September 23, October 21, and November 18. See http://artsbus.gmu.edu for more information.
**Course Schedule:**
Schedule subject to change. Note that all readings listed with each class meeting must be completed *before* that meeting.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting #, Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #1 - Tue. 8/29</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Please read the syllabus carefully. Readings listed with each class meeting must be completed <em>before</em> that meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting #2 - Tue. 9/5</td>
<td>The Chinese writing system and calligraphy</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Lindqvist, Billeter, Kraus</td>
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<td>(9/5 last day to drop with no tuition penalty; last day to add classes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting #3 - Tue. 9/12</td>
<td>First Emperor’s tomb, Terracotta Army</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Ledderose, Portal, Rawson (in Portal)</td>
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<td>Meeting #4 - Tue. 9/19</td>
<td>The Great Wall: history, legends and art</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Roberts, Bulag, Waldron, Gao</td>
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<td>Short paper #1 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting #5 - Tue. 9/26</td>
<td>The Silk Road and Buddhist art</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Clunas, Liu</td>
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<td>(9/29 – final drop deadline)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting #6 - Tue. 10/3</td>
<td>The imperial palaces and gardens</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Wright, Barmé, Steinhardt, Ledderose</td>
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<td><strong>Columbus Day recess; Tuesday classes on 10/10 do not meet.</strong></td>
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<td>Meeting #7 - Tue. 10/17</td>
<td>Art and activism: Ai Weiwei</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> TBA</td>
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<td>Meeting #8 - Tue. 10/24</td>
<td>Landscape painting</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Tregear, Ledderose (in Bush, Murck), Barnhart, Cahill</td>
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<td>Meeting #9 - Tue. 10/31</td>
<td>The literati tradition</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Clunas, Bush and Shih</td>
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<td>Short paper #2 due</td>
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<td>Meeting #10 - Tue. 11/7</td>
<td>Engagement and subversion: contemporary artists and Chinese tradition</td>
<td><em>Readings to be completed before this meeting:</em> Liu, Silbergeld, Chang, Cherney, Erickson, Krens and Munroe</td>
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<td>(Research proposal due on Blackboard Sunday, 11/12)</td>
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<td>Meeting #11 - Tue. 11/14</td>
<td>This class and additional time periods to be scheduled Monday through Thursday of this week will be devoted to individual meetings to discuss research paper topics.</td>
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<td>Meeting #12 - Tue. 11/21</td>
<td>This class will be exchanged for the museum sessions to be held earlier in the semester at the Freer and Sackler Galleries - see the Museum Visit section of the Course Requirements above.</td>
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<td>Meeting #13 - Tue. 11/28</td>
<td>Summary and reflections / Student presentations</td>
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<td>Meeting #14 - Tue. 12/5</td>
<td>Summary and reflections / Student presentations</td>
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<td>(Research paper due 12/8)</td>
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