



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

CHIN_V 469 - Artistic Images in Chinese Literature from the Bronze Age to the Present

Zheng Cai

This course explores common themes in artistic images closely associated with literary works in the history of China. Threading through a diversity of cultural forms and objects in a chronological order, from 1046 BCE to 2020 CE, the extensive series of topics is focused on the interrelationships between objects and words. This course identifies 50 objects of cultural significance in Chinese civilization. Free-content illustrations of artistic objects and an online digital library of free-content short excerpts from classical literary works in Chinese are available on the course website of UBC Canvas. Through lectures, discussions, visiting online museums worldwide, and assignments under a capstone research project, the course aims to promote a deepened understanding of artistic and literary representation as the vehicle for cultures and ideas. The course is delivered in Chinese only, so native or near native fluency and proficiency in oral and written Chinese are required.

Mode of Delivery: Online

Sample Readings

Bronze Inscriptions in Memory of Heroes (“珣征商，隹甲子朝” ——青铜器上的英雄史诗)

The Lofty Message of Forests and Streams (“分野中峰变，阴晴众壑殊” ——泼墨山水的林泉高致)

Ceramics as the Stage for Romantic Drama (“拂墙花影动，疑是玉人来” ——待月西厢的青花瓷)

Assignments

Participation and Engagement|20%

Self-study for Modules|15%

Module Quizzes|15%

Research Proposal|15%

Final Presentation|10%

Final Paper|25%