

China - Contemporary Social Issues for Teachers - Fiction in Translation

Summer Session, 1989
(July 4 - August 11)
Mondays/Wednesdays
1:00 -3:50 p.m.
Location: MPX 7500F

Instructor: Dr. Wu Jingyu

Prerequisite: Educ. 401/401 and practicing teacher

Course Description:

Since the late 1970's the creative writers of the People's Republic of China have enjoyed much more freedom than in previous decades to depict the life and sentiments of the ordinary people in that country. This course aims at helping teachers to know contemporary China through reading and discussing the English translation of novels and short stories published during the last decade.

List of Topics:

- Session 1 Introduction - - Historical background and characteristics of post-cultural-revolution literature
Voices of Spring (Wang Meng)
- Session 2 Changes in the countryside
A Badly Edited Story (Ru Zhijuan)
A Corner Forsaken by Love (Zhang Xian)
- Session 3 Urban Life
The Man from a Pedlars' Family (Lu Wenfu)
The Destination (Wang Anyi)*
- Session 4 Love & Family
Love Must Not Be Forgotten (Zhang Jie)
A Rose-colored Evening Meal (Shen Rong)
- Session 5 Youth - Lost & Regained (I)
A Land of Wonder & Mystery (Liang Xiaosheng)
The Wooded Hill (Zhang Xinxin & Sang Ye)
- Session 6 Youth - Lost & Regained (II)
Rivers of the North (Zhang Chengzhi)**
- Session 7 Intellectuals - Hardships & Dedication (I)
Mimosa (Zhang Xianliang)
- Session 8 Intellectuals - Hardships & Dedication (II)
At Middle Age (Shen Rong)
- Session 9 Women - Burden of the Past
The Well (Lu Wenfu)***

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Session 10 Politics & the Individual (I)
The Butterfly (Wang Meng)

Session 11 Politics & the Individual
A Small Town Called Hibiscus (Gu Hua)

Session 12 Issues of Concern
A Spate of Visitors (Wang Meng)
Ten Years Dedicated (Shen Rong)

* Chinese Literature Autumn 1984

** Chinese Literature Summer 1987

*** Chinese Literature Spring 1987

All other stories and novels are available in Panda Books published by Chinese Literature.

Course Requirements:

Will be announced at the first class.

Required Texts:

Wang Meng. The Butterfly and Other Stories.

Zhang Xianliang. Mimosa

Gu Hua. A Small Town Called Hibiscus

Shen Rong. At Middle Age

Note:

A few additional sessions will be offered in Mandarin for the benefit of language teachers enrolling in the course, but these additional lectures need not be attended by non-Mandarin speaking students.

For further information contact Undergraduate Programs at 291-4417.