

# HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

## Course Outline 2018-19

### 1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number: CHN 2245F, Section 550

Course Name: Chinese Cinema in Mainland China

Instructor Name: Dr. Lucy He

Office: HUC-A10

Telephone numbers: 519-438-7224 ext. 331

E-mail address: [lhe26@uwo.ca](mailto:lhe26@uwo.ca)

Scheduled class time: 8:30-11:30 am, Wednesday, HUC-W6

Office Hours: 1:30-2:30 pm Monday, 8:30-9:30 am Friday, or by appointment

### 2.0 COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is for students who are competent in reading and writing Modern Standard Chinese. Representative films produced in the major historical periods in Mainland China are examined. The emphases are on the analysis of screenplays and film reviews, as well as political, social, and cultural changes that are reflected in the films. Course readings include selected screenplays and film reviews published in Chinese journals as well as articles/chapters that provide historical background.

### 3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to enable students to:

1. Critically analyze selected screenplays and reviews;
2. Better understand the political, social, and cultural contexts of cinema in Mainland China;
2. Comprehend Chinese cinema and their impact on the Chinese society;
3. Improve their abilities to engage in perceptive reading and critical thinking;
4. Enhance their written and oral presentation skills.

### 4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

This class meets 3 hours each week: 2 hour lecture, 1 hour group analysis of a film and discussion. Regular attendance and contribution to class discussion are essential and expected.

### 5.0 REQUIRED READINGS & TEXTS

Course readings, unless otherwise indicated, are to be found in course WebCT.

Suggested background reading: Christopher Berry and Mary Ann Farquhar. *China on Screen: Cinema and Nation*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2006.

### 6.0 EVALUATION

#### 1. Attendance & participation 20%

Regular attendance and contribution to class discussion are essential and expected. Participation marks depend on the sufficiency of your preparation and the quality of your contribution, as determined by the instructor.

#### 2. Film review 20%

Write a review on one film that is covered in the course. About 1,500 words in length, it is due on **Oct 17, 2018 (Wednesday)**. Please submit the soft copy of your review to OWL (via Turnitin.com) and the hard copy in class. Instruction sheet will be distributed at least two weeks before the due date.

### 3. Written test 20%

A critical analysis of the film clips shown in class.

### 4. Final paper 40%

Analyze one screenplay or film covered by the course. You may choose a screenplay or a film that is not studied in the course with approval from the instructor. The film chosen should not be the film of your review. The length of the paper should be around 3,000 words in Chinese. Papers are due without exception on **Dec 5, 2018 (Wednesday)**. Please submit the soft copy of your paper to OWL (via Turnitin.com) and the hard copy in class. Instruction sheet will be distributed to class at least four weeks before the due date.

## 6.5 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. There is a penalty for late submission: one mark for each calendar day (Saturday and Sunday included) to a total of seven days. Assignments more than seven days late will not be accepted. No Extension will be given, except in the case of documented medical or compassionate circumstances.
2. No make-ups will be given on the test, except in the case of documented medical or compassionate circumstances.

## 7.0 SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introduction

Sep. 12

Week 2: China in early 1930's: Crossroads 十字街头

Sep. 19

Week 3: Underclasses in Old Shanghai: Street Angel 马路天使

Sep. 26

Week 4: A Love Story in the Civil War: Spring in a Small Town 小城之春

Oct. 3

Oct.9-12: Fall Reading Week

Week 5: Youth and Confucianism: Early Spring in February 早春二月

Oct. 17 Film Review Due

Week 6: Beijing in the 1930s: Memories of Peking 城南旧事

Oct. 24

Week 7: Students during the Cultural Revolution: In the Heat of the Sun 阳光灿烂的日子

Oct. 31

Week 8: Test

Nov. 7

Week 9: Love, Humiliation, and Politics in a Distant Village of China: Hibiscus Town 芙蓉镇

Nov. 14

Week 10: Patriotism or Humanism: Assembly 集结号  
Nov. 21

Week 11: Chinese Traditional Folk Arts: Song of the Phoenix 百鸟朝凤  
Nov. 28

Week 12: Conclusion  
Dec. 5 Final Paper Due



**The Appendix to Course Outlines is posted on the OWL course site.**