

RHETORIC AND THE CHINESE CIVILIZATION

This course is a companion to the more frequently offered “Rhetoric and Civilization,” focused on the development of Western rhetorical traditions and Western civilization. “Rhetoric and the Chinese Civilization” surveys the role of rhetorical study and practice in the formation, organization and communication of the Chinese civilization from its ancient formation to modern times. By investigating how rhetoric was viewed in the context of philosophy, politics, law, and knowledge during key moments of historical development, it provides a wide context to understand the relationship between rhetoric and the civilization of the Middle Kingdom.

TEXTS

Xing Lu, *Rhetoric in Ancient China, Fifth to Third Century B.C.E.*, Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998.

Hu Shih, *The Development of the Logical Method in Ancient China*, (Shanghai: Shanghai Oriental Book Company, 1922).

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING (TOTAL 200 POINTS)

- 1) **MIDTERM (50 POINTS)** The midterm will be a mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions that require students to use conceptual material to interpret examples from class readings and discussions.
- 2) **FINAL (50 POINTS)** The Final will be the same as the midterm but will cover material from the second half of the semester.
- 3) **TWO ESSAYS (30 POINTS EACH)** Twice during the semester students will turn in an essay that analyzes an example from class readings via class concepts.
- 4) **PARTICIPATION (40 POINTS)** Participation points will be distributed between in class participation activities and short take home assignments. Points for in class activities cannot be made up and short take home assignments will not be accepted late.

Final grades are final. All work must be done during the semester and not made up after the fact. If you are concerned about your grade during the class, please contact me for help.