

Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2026

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Chinese
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org East Asian Languages & Lit - D0527
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences
Level/Career Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog 4409
Course Title (Counter-)Culture in Contemporary China
Transcript Abbreviation ContempChinCult
Course Description The course surveys the cultural landscape of contemporary China, with a strong focus on the lived experiences, voices, perspectives, and perceptions of underprivileged and marginalized communities in that country. These topics are examined through the lens of traditional and popular (counter-)culture as well as social justice and equality.
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 12 Week, 8 Week, 7 Week, 6 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? Yes
Is any section of the course offered 100% at a distance
Grading Basis Letter Grade
Repeatable No
Course Components Lecture
Grade Roster Component Lecture
Credit Available by Exam No
Admission Condition Course No
Off Campus Never
Campus of Offering Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark, Wooster

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Standing
Exclusions
Electronically Enforced Yes

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 16.0301
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course
Intended Rank Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- 1. Describe the complexity and diversity in traditions, environment, society, institutions, economy, infrastructure, and education in contemporary China.
- 2. Explain the characteristics, needs, interests, and roles of different social strata and groups in contemporary China.
- 3. Analyze the lived experiences, perspectives, and perception of underprivileged and marginalized communities in contemporary China.
- 4. Develop positive engagement with other identities, perspectives, and cultures as well as advocacy for global citizenship, social justice, equity, and inclusion in an interconnected contemporary world.

Content Topic List

- Continuity & alterity of philosophy
 - Imperial China: Important themes and trends
 - From Republic of China to People's Republic
 - Economy and economic inequality
 - Population and family planning
 - Citizenship in contemporary China
- Citizenship education in contemporary China
 - Citizenship through cultural lens
 - Differentiated citizenship (or not?)
 - Citizenship and social mobility
 - Gender and marriage
 - Internet and social media
 - Culture in workplace
 - Chinese culture abroad

Sought Concurrence

No

Attachments

- Chinese 4409 asc-distance-approval-cover-sheet-fillable (approved).pdf: Distance Approval Cover Sheet
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Chinese major curricular map_C4409.xlsx: major curriculum map
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Chinese minor curricular map_C4409.xlsx: minor curriculum map
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Spring 2024_Chinese 4409_Course Syllabus and Information (1-9-2024).docx: Syllabus (Docx)
(Syllabus. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Spring 2024_Chinese 4409_Course Syllabus and Information (1-9-2024).pdf: Syllabus (PDF)
(Syllabus. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- submission-doc-citizenship_C4409 (updated 1-10-2024).pdf: Citizenship theme worksheet
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- submission-traditions_C4409 (updated 1-10-2024).pdf: Traditions theme worksheet
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Chinese 4409 Resubmission Cover Letter.docx: Cover Letter
(Cover Letter. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Spring 2027 Chinese 4409 Course Syllabus and Information (9-2025).pdf: Revised Syllabus
(Syllabus. Owner: Smith, Jeremie S)
- submission-traditions C4409 (updated 8-13-2025).pdf: Revised Themes Document
(GEC Model Curriculum Compliance Stmt. Owner: Smith, Jeremie S)
- Spring 2027_Chinese 4409_Course Syllabus and Information (11-10-2025).docx: Revised Syllabus (11-11-2025)
(Syllabus. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- submission-traditions_C4409 (updated 11-11-2025).pdf: GEN Submission Form (11-11-2025)
(GEC Model Curriculum Compliance Stmt. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)
- Chinese 4409 Cover Letter (11-11-2025).docx: Cover Letter (11-11-2025)
(Cover Letter. Owner: Xie, Zhiguo)

Comments

- Please note that this course was resubmitted with only 1 themes category begin requested. This is a significant revision to this proposal. All feedback from the TCT Committee was incorporated in the revision.
-Jeremie *(by Smith, Jeremie S on 09/23/2025 01:19 PM)*
- See feedback email sent to department 03-21-2024 RLS *(by Steele, Rachel Lea on 03/21/2024 06:12 PM)*
- Thank you for the valuable feedback. *(by Xie, Zhiguo on 01/11/2024 12:02 AM)*
- Hello, it does not appear that any additional documents have been uploaded that address the feedback from the Themes Subcommittee review on 10/04/2023 (see feedback email sent on 10/19 to D. Knicely & Z. Xie). Please upload appropriate documentation (removing old files) and resubmit. Thank you. Should you have questions, please feel free to reach out to me at hilty.70@osu.edu. *(by Hilty, Michael on 11/07/2023 08:42 AM)*
- Returned at the dept's request *(by Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal on 06/08/2023 12:08 PM)*

COURSE REQUEST
4409 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen,Bernadette
Chantal
11/11/2025

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Xie,Zhiguo	06/05/2023 07:01 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender,Mark A	06/05/2023 08:02 PM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	06/08/2023 12:08 PM	College Approval
Submitted	Xie,Zhiguo	06/12/2023 05:19 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender,Mark A	06/13/2023 06:12 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	08/17/2023 06:26 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Hilty,Michael	09/05/2023 03:38 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Xie,Zhiguo	09/07/2023 01:35 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender,Mark A	09/07/2023 01:58 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	09/07/2023 02:50 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Hilty,Michael	10/19/2023 09:01 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Bender,Mark A	10/19/2023 10:30 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender,Mark A	11/03/2023 03:20 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	11/06/2023 11:54 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Hilty,Michael	11/07/2023 08:42 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Xie,Zhiguo	01/11/2024 12:02 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender,Mark A	01/11/2024 07:36 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	01/12/2024 04:26 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Steele,Rachel Lea	03/21/2024 06:12 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Smith,Jeremie S	09/23/2025 01:21 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Sieber,Patricia A	10/02/2025 09:37 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	10/02/2025 11:32 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Steele,Rachel Lea	10/27/2025 06:38 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Xie,Zhiguo	11/11/2025 08:39 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Sieber,Patricia A	11/11/2025 08:50 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	11/11/2025 08:53 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Neff,Jennifer Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Steele,Rachel Lea	11/11/2025 08:53 PM	ASCCAO Approval

Responses to contingencies and recommendation

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the Themes I Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee for their very constructive feedback. Below please find my responses to the contingencies as well as the recommendation:

First contingency set: The Subcommittee asks that the department make the following changes to the syllabus and the GEN Submission Form regarding the presence of the GEN goals and ELOs in the course's assessments:

1. The Subcommittee asks that the department augment the descriptions of the course's assignments (syllabus, p. 11-16) to articulate how they will meet the goals and ELOs of the GEN Theme. It should be clear to students from reading these descriptions that the theme must be central to the execution of the course's major assignments.

Response: The individual assignment categories are all explicitly aligned with the respective goals and ELOs they are designed to meet. Please see the alignment "roadmap" highlighted in green on pp.4~5 and the revisions highlighted in yellow on pp. 12~16 in the revised syllabus.

2. The Subcommittee would like to see further evidence that the assignments and assessments that are engaged with meeting ELOs 1.1-2.1 ask students to execute "critical and logical thinking", "advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration" and synthesis of approaches *to the theme*. In the syllabus' current iteration, it is difficult to discern how students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of the concepts of traditions, cultures, and transformations at an advanced level.

Response: Students will be able to meet ELO #1.1 through their prompted and guided discussion posts and the final project. They will meet ELO #1.2 primarily through the two reflective paper assignments and the final project. They will meet ELO #2.1 primarily through the weekly quizzes and the final project. Please see the alignment "roadmap" highlighted in green on pp.4~5 and the revisions highlighted in yellow on pp. 12~16 in the revised syllabus.

3. On a related note, the Subcommittee asks that the department provide more details about the number and type(s) of sources students will be required to use for the final project. Specifically, they are interested in how the sources will reflect scholarly engagement with and an advanced study of the theme.

Response: The expectations are made explicit and clear regarding the number and type(s) of sources students will be required to use for the final project. Please see the revisions highlighted in **turquoise** on p. 18 in the revised syllabus.

4. The Subcommittee asks that the department modify the explanation of how the course meets the GEN goals and ELOs (syllabus, p. 4) to include mention of the course's various assignments and how these will align with the goals and ELOs. The Subcommittee offers the friendly suggestion that adding the phrase "in the final paper, students will..." or "The final presentations will require students to...", etc. is a simple yet effective way to communicate to students when and how they will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the ELOs.

Response: The revised syllabus includes new detailed explanations on how the course's various assignments align with the goals and ELOs. Please see the alignment "roadmap" highlighted in **green** on pp.4~5 in the revised syllabus.

5. The Subcommittee asks that the department augment its responses on the GEN Submission Form to identify which assignments/assessments will meet each of the ELOs. They note that several of the ELOs are only described as being met via *topics* within the course, or the possibility that students *could* choose a final project that would achieve one or more the ELOs.

Response: The GEN Submission Form has been significantly revised to reflect the update syllabus. More specifically, detailed descriptions are now added in the form to identify which assignments/assessments will meet each of the ELOs.

Second Contingency Set: As of August 29th, 2025, all syllabi must have either a link to the statements below **or** these statements written out in their entirety within the syllabus (the statement(s) in **bold** below are missing from the current syllabus and/or incomplete/out-of-date). Syllabi should link to the **Office of Undergraduate Education's Syllabus Policies & Statements webpage** and/or copy-and-paste the statements from the Office of Undergraduate Education's website.

1. Academic Misconduct
2. **Student Life - Disability Services**
3. **Religious Accommodations**
4. **Intellectual Diversity**

Instructors are also welcome to include any other standard and/or recommended syllabus statements found on the Office of Undergraduate Education's webpage which they deem relevant for their course. Please also refer to this page to ensure that the Diversity and Title IX Statements on pp. 20-21 of the syllabus (now combined into the statement on **"Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct"**) and all other statements are current and accurate.

Response: The revised syllabus now includes a direct link to the Office of Undergraduate Education's Syllabus Policies & Statements webpage. The syllabus also requires students to visit the link and read the statements. Please see p. 20 in the revised syllabus.

Recommendation: The Subcommittee notes and appreciates the scaffolding of the final project. However, the Subcommittee recommends that the department make this an individual (rather than a group) project. They note that group projects are often difficult for students to coordinate in an online environment, and that it will likely be challenging for the instructor(s) to discern whether all the members of any given group have met all the GEN goals and ELOs associated with the final project.

Response: The final project has now been revised to be individual projects. All the relevant wording has been updated in the syllabus to reflect this change.



Syllabus

Chinese 4409

(Counter-)Culture in Contemporary China

Spring 2027

3 Credit Hours

Online

Course overview

Instructor

- Name: Zhiguo Xie
- Email: xie.251@osu.edu (**preferred** means of communication)
- Phone: 614-292-3184
- Office Hours: TBA
 - Zoom Link: TBA

Note: All class-wide communications will be sent via the Announcements tool on CarmenCanvas. Please check your notification settings (instructions at go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications) to make sure you will be able to receive course communications. Not receiving course notifications is NOT a valid excuse for missing any course requirements.

Course description

The course surveys the cultural landscape of contemporary China, with a strong focus on the lived experiences, voices, perspectives, and perceptions of and by those groups that hold distinct values, beliefs, ideologies, and/or behaviors from



the mainstream community. These topics are examined through the lens of both traditional and contemporary Chinese (counter-)culture.

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

Exclusions: Not open to freshmen

Electronically Enforced: Yes

Course expected learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should successfully be able to:

1. Describe the complexity and diversity in traditions, economy, society, institutions, and education in contemporary China.
2. Explain the characteristics, values, interests, and roles of different social strata and communities in contemporary China.
3. Analyze and contrast the experiences, perspectives, and perceptions of the mainstream community and subcultural groups in contemporary China.
4. Develop positive engagement with other identities, perspectives, and cultures in an interconnected contemporary world.

General education goals and outcomes

As part of the *Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations* (TCT) category of the General Education curriculum, this course is designed to prepare students to be able to do the following:

1. Goal #1. Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and in-depth level than in the Foundations component.
 - a. ELO #1: Engage in critical and logical thinking about the topic or idea of the theme.



- b. ELO #2: Engage in an advance, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or idea of the theme.
2. Goal #2: Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.
 - a. ELO #1: Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences as they apply to the theme.
 - b. ELO #2: Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.
3. Goal #3: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of how cultures and sub-cultures develop and interact, historically or in contemporary society.
 - a. ELO #1: Describe the influence of an aspect of culture (e.g., religious belief, gender roles, institutional organization, technology, epistemology, philosophy, scientific discovery, etc.) on at least one historical or contemporary issue.
 - b. ELO #2: Analyze the impact of a "big" idea or technological advancement in creating a major and long-lasting change in a specific culture.
 - c. ELO #3: Examine the interactions among dominant and sub-cultures.
 - d. ELO #4: Explore changes and continuities over time within a culture or society.
4. Goal #4: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of differences among societies, institutions, and individuals' experience within traditions and cultures.
 - a. ELO #1: Recognize and explain differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, cultures, societies, and/or individuals.



- b. ELO #2: Explain ways in which categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender and perceptions of difference impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues.

This course fulfills the above GE outcomes through the following means:

1. Through the weekly quizzes, students will:

- a. identify and describe relevant perspectives and approaches to both “mainstream” cultures and counter-cultures in contemporary China (ELO #2.1).
- b. identify and describe the influence of (counter-)culture on different communities in contemporary China (ELO #3.1)
- c. examine conflicts and negotiations among dominant and sub-cultures as well as within sub-cultures in contemporary China (ELO #3.3).
- d. understand the complexity and challenges of cultural continuity and alterity from ancient China to contemporary China (ELO #3.4)

2. Through prompted and guided Carmen discussions, students will:

- a. engage in critical and logical thinking about cultural topics related to contemporary China and the approaches to understanding these topics (ELO #1.1).
- b. build learning maturity through creative retrospective application of personal experience in the context of novel cultural contexts (ELO #2.2).
- c. articulate the “big idea” of tradition and modernity integrated in various facets of contemporary China and the on-going impact of such integration (ELO #3.2).
- d. explore how traditional Chinese cultural ideas, values, and beliefs have transformed (in) contemporary China (ELO #3.4).

3. Through the reflective paper assignments, students will:

- a. analyze the impact of changing social contexts and cultural values on such areas as demographic shift, family, the workplace, and interpersonal relationships in contemporary China (ELO #1.2).



- b. explain how traditional culture, pop culture, and counter-culture interact and counteract with each other in the dynamic context of contemporary China (ELO #3.3).
- c. explain differences, similarities, and disparities in both individual and community experiences against Chinese traditional values and contemporary (counter-)cultures (ELO #4.1).
- d. explain how such common categories as gender, age, socio-economic status and regional variability can impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues (ELO #4.2).

4. Through the final project, students will:

- a. develop critical and logical thinking skills to conduct original research about traditions and cultures in the context of contemporary China (ELO #1.1).
- b. conduct an in-depth scholarly investigation of a recent event or phenomenon that is relevant to the theme of this course (ELO #1.2).
- c. demonstrate a developing sense of self as an active learner through participation in class activities, reflection, self-assessment, and innovative research on cultural events/phenomena (ELO #2.2).
- d. identify, describe, and synthesize theoretical frameworks and apply them to gain a deeper understanding of the influence of one or more aspects of contemporary Chinese (count-)culture on select issues (ELOs #2.1 & #3.1).

How this online course works

Mode of delivery

This course is 100% online.

Please review the attached course schedule for details on course topics, reading/watching materials, assignments, and deadlines. For all weeks (except for weeks 15-16) there are at least one pre-recorded asynchronous lecture OR a live class session. All asynchronous lectures will be posted on Carmen. During the live



sessions we will discuss and/or expand on class materials and assignments. Attendance to these live sessions is optional but strongly recommended. Those who did not attend a live session are required to watch the recording of that session.

Pace of online activities

This course is divided into **weekly modules** that are released one week ahead of time. A typical module includes a summary of the week's activities, reading/watching assignments (journal articles, book chapters, newspaper articles, online videos, etc.), pre-recorded asynchronous lectures, one or more discussion topic(s) for the week, a knowledge-check quiz, and other materials to help with learning.

You will be working on your weekly modules within the cycle of **Sunday through 11:59 Saturday**.

By 11:59pm Wednesday you will need to have finished reading and watching all assigned materials and asynchronous lectures. You will also have posted your initial contribution ("initial post" or IP for abbreviation) to the discussion board.

On Thursday and Friday, you will need to read and comment on peer contributions ("comment post" or CP for abbreviation). You must submit your comments by 11:59pm Friday.

By 11:59pm Saturday, you will need to have completed the quiz for the week.

Credit hours and work expectations

This is a **3-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 3 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of (C) average.



Participation requirements

Because this is an asynchronous course, your attendance is based on your online activities and participation. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

Participating in online activities: 2+ Times Per Week

You are expected to log in to the course in Carmen at least two or three times every week. If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with the instructor as soon as possible.

Office hours and live sessions: optional

There will be four live sessions for the course (Weeks 2, 6, 11, 14, exact schedules TBA). Attendance to these live sessions is optional but strongly recommended. Those who did not attend a live session are required to watch the recording of that session.

Course communication guidelines

Writing style

While you are free to choose your style of writing, you should write using correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Always proofread at least once before submitting.

Brevity and informativeness are especially important for the success of discussions on Carmen. Please respect the limited time and attention of the instructor and your classmates by providing substantive posts while limiting them to a maximum of eight sentences each. If in a post you write more than eight sentences, you should have a good justification for doing so, and you must include that justification in the post itself.



Avoid Redundancy

One of the most undesirable forms of class contribution would be posts that simply reiterate or rephrase what someone else has already posted, without bringing new analysis, insight, or perspective to the discussion. Hence, you should read everything that everyone else has contributed before posting your own and check your post to make sure it contributes something genuinely new and substantive. Therefore, a time-saving tip: post your contributions and comments early to minimize repetition and redundancy.

Tone and civility

It is essential to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment in this course where everyone feels respected and willing to share and where people can disagree amicably and constructively. Please bear in mind that sarcasm does not always come across clearly in written form. Hence, please think twice before deciding to use it in your post.

Citing your sources

You should cite any sources you used to back up what you say. You are free to use whatever citation style (APA, MLA, etc.) you feel most familiar or comfortable with.

Course materials and technologies

Textbooks

There is no required textbook for the course. All required readings and video materials, or the links thereof, will be posted on Carmen.



Course technology

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at it.osu.edu/help, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- Self-Service and Chat support: it.osu.edu/help
- Phone: 614-688-4357(HELP)
- Email: 8help@osu.edu
- TDD: 614-688-8743

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

Required Equipment

- Computer: current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows 10) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- Microsoft Office 365: All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at go.osu.edu/office365help.



Carmen Access

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass: How to Make Changes and Manage Devices page](#) to learn how to add a device.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Grading and instructor response

How your grade is calculated

Assignment Category	Points
Introduction video	20 pts * 1 = 20 pts
Quizzes	15 pts * 13 = 195 pts
Discussions	25 pts * 12 = 300 pts



Assignment Category	Points
Reflective papers	100 pts * 2 = 200 pts
Final project topic identification	20 pts * 1 = 20 pts
Final project interim report	40 pts * 1 = 40 pts
Final project presentation	75 pts * 1 = 75 pts
Final paper	150 pts * 1 = 150 pts
Total	1,000 pts

Final grade will be calculated based on OSU's standard letter-grade scheme

Description of major course assignments

Introduction video

○ Description

This assignment asks you to post a short video introducing yourself to the rest of the class. You can use a device as simple as a cell phone camera or a laptop. Let the instructor know if you do not have access to a video camera so as to make alternative arrangements. Your video should be short and concise, no more than 2 minutes.

To receive full credit, your video must include:



- Your name, major, and rank (sophomore, junior etc.)
- Where (country and/or state/province) are you from
- Self-assessment of your prior knowledge about China in general
- Your goal(s) for taking this course. Be as specific as you can
- One interesting thing about yourself you would like to share

You will need to post the video to a group discussion link in Carmen so that you classmates can see the video as well.

Quizzes

○ Description

For each of the first 15 weeks excluding the week of spring break and the two weeks with reflective paper assignments due, there will be a quiz that typically consists of 2~5 multiple-choice and/or True/False questions. The questions are designed to assess your comprehension and mastery of the course materials during that week. Collectively, the quizzes will allow you to explore cultural change and continuity from traditional China to contemporary China, identify and describe the influence of many aspects of (counter-)culture in contemporary Chinese society, examine the interactions among dominant and sub-cultures as well as within sub-cultures. Some quiz questions will take a considerably more theoretical orientation and ask you to identify and describe relevant ideas, perspectives and approaches discussed in course materials. You can take each quiz twice, and the higher grade will be your grade for that quiz. It is imperative that you have read/watched all assigned materials before you started the quiz.



During weeks with a quiz, the quiz will open on Tuesday morning at 8 am and close on Saturday evening at 11:59 pm. You can begin the quiz whenever you wish after it is open but once you start, you will have 15 minutes to complete and submit the quiz. This policy applies to both the first and second quiz attempts.

Discussions

○ Description

As this is a DL course, your participation in the Carmen discussion boards is crucial for the academic success of not just you yourself but the class as a learning community. For each week between Weeks 2~14 (excluding the week of spring break), you will need to have read and/or watched all assigned materials for that week and have posted your initial contribution(s) in response to the provided prompt(s) **by 11:59 on Wednesday**. Then, you spend **Thursday and Friday** reading and digesting contributions from your peers and commenting on at least one of them. All your posts (both your initial contributions (IPs) and your comments on peer contributions (CPs)) must be genuinely new, substantive, and around 200 words but less than ten sentences each. In addition, your comments on your peers' contributions should demonstrate clear connections to their contributions.

Many discussion prompts will be designed in such a way that students must use the discussions as opportunities to apply, integrate, and assess the acquired approaches and perspectives discussed in this course via analyzing important topics and ideas. Specifically, you will participate in meaningful scholarly dialogue with the class as an active learning community, engage in critical and logical thinking about selected course topics, and develop learning maturity via self-evaluation and creative retrospective application of prior knowledge to novel contexts. Select discussion prompts will also include how to analyze the impact of the "big" idea of tradition and modernity integration in various facets of contemporary China. Please refer to the "Course communication guidelines" for additional guidance.



As long as your post is submitted on time and meets the guidelines specified above, you will receive full credit for that post. Late posts will receive no points; poorly written, error-ridden, or immaterial posts will receive partial or no points.

Reflective Papers

○ Description

During the semester, students need to complete two reflective papers that clearly demonstrates advanced knowledge of key concepts of traditions, cultures, and transformations. The first reflective paper needs to be thematically related to at least one of the topics covered in Weeks 4~7, and the second reflective paper needs to be thematically related to at least one of the topics covered in Weeks 8-13. Detailed instructions, prompts, and rubrics will be provided to ensure students will engage in critical in-depth scholarly inquiry of topics covered in the course. For each reflective paper, students need to draw upon at least two assigned course readings (NB: not videos or other course materials) from the corresponding time window as their point of departure and utilize at least two outside sources. These outside sources need to be peer-reviewed publications, official government reports, and/or official trade associations research. In a nutshell, high quality research is the key here.

The purpose of the reflective paper assignments is to provide students with opportunities to critically reflect on course readings, evaluate and analyze select topics, approaches, and perspectives in more detail and depth, engage in an advanced scholarly exploration of one or more topics of their choice, understand and explain differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, societies, and/or individuals, and explain ways in which different categories (including modern technology and social media) can impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues. Therefore, students can use their reflective papers – among other viable paths – to clearly demonstrate their understanding of course content, explore new



cultural perspectives from other communities, nations, and peoples, develop and articulate educated argumentation on these perspectives, and substantiate the opinion with in-depth empirical research. In the reflective papers they can also draw connections and/or contrast to their own background and experience and explore how to use new perspectives to respond to challenging contexts.

Each reflective papers should be 4~6 double-spaced pages or 1,000-1,500 words, typed in a 12-pt font of students' own choice.

Final project: Overview

○ Description

This assignment requires you to conduct in-depth original research on an event or phenomenon of cultural significance. The primary goal is to apply the theoretical frameworks, concepts, and approaches covered in this course to a relevant real-world case. The analysis must demonstrate a clear understanding of the course material and its utility in understanding aspects of contemporary Chinese (counter-)culture.

You must use this final project to demonstrate strong critical and logical thinking skills as well as advanced ability to conduct original research that is relevant to the theme of this course. You need to build on concepts, ideas, theories and approaches acquired through the course to gain a deeper understanding of one or more aspects of contemporary Chinese (counter-)culture and their potential impact.

Final project topic identification

○ Description



At this stage you need to identify an event or phenomenon that occurred after 1949 and bears a clearly demonstrable connection to the key concepts, themes, theories discussed in this course. Explain why you have decided to choose the event or phenomenon and how you would like to approach it in the context of this course. This will serve as the basis for your final project. Your submission should be 200~400 words. You should stick with the chosen event or phenomenon for the final project as best as possible. If you need to change the topic later in the semester, please talk with the instructor as soon as possible and provide justifications for making the switch. After the instructor approves the switch of topic, you should submit a new document to explain the new topic, and your grade will be based on the new document.

Final project interim report

○ Description

This interim report serves an important purpose in setting out what you hope to achieve for the final project and how far you have gotten in achieving it. Although as compared to the final paper it should be significantly shorter (450~600 words, graphic equivalent, or combination thereof), it still needs to be self-contained, precise, and informative, with at least the following components:

- i. (Re-)explain the even/phenomenon and its cultural significance
- ii. State what you plan to achieve in researching the topic (e.g., research questions, practical recommendations)
- iii. Document the progress you have achieved so far (e.g., literature review, data collected/sorted, initial analysis)
- iv. Outline the rough steps still needed to complete the project on time

Final project presentation



○ **Description**

- i. You should prepare a deck of about 15 slides highlighting the key results, findings, analysis, etc. of your research. References and appendices do not count toward the limit.
- ii. The submitted slides should be accompanied by either voice-over narration (preferred) or detailed notes in the notes pane of your slides as if you were giving an actual oral presentation.
- iii. Your deck of slides should utilize concepts, ideas, and approaches covered in this course. It should represent original research on the chosen topic and demonstrate deep analytic and critical thinking skills, rather than mere reproduction of facts.
- iv. You can model the presentation after the four sections required of the final project (see below). This, however, is not a requirement. For instance, in the presentation, you can choose to focus on one aspect of the project and take a deep dive into it.
- vi. The slides should also include citations and appendices (if any).

Final paper

○ **Description**

Based on the presentation and additional research afterwards, you write a paper of 6~10 double-spaced pages (excluding references and appendices, if any). The paper should include at least four sections: (1) introduction: a section that briefly explains the topic for the project (1/2~1 page), (2) relevant prior research: a section summarizing at least three assigned course readings and/or other sources that are directly relevant to the topic (1~2 pages). (3) key ideas: a section that details key research findings, results, arguments, analyses, etc. in the project (4~6 pages), and (4) conclusions: a section that helps your reader to understand the significance, limitations, etc. of the research. (1/2~1 page). The paper should also include citations (must-have) and appendices (if any).



When conducting research for the final paper, students are required to demonstrate advanced scholarly engagement within the theme of this course. To ensure this, the paper must incorporate a minimum of five high-quality sources, among which least three should be peer-reviewed scholarly publications (that is, research published in scholarly journals after undergoing a rigorous peer-review process by subject matter experts). The other sources can be official government reports, and/or official trade associations research.

Late assignments

Unless specified otherwise in the syllabus (e.g., religious accommodations) or with prior permissions from the instructor, NO late submissions will be accepted. That is, late submissions will receive automatic zero points, and this policy applies to ALL assignments in this course. Please refer to Carmen for due dates.

Grading Scale

- 93-100%: A
- 90-92%: A–
- 87-89%: B+
- 83-86%: B
- 80-82%: B–
- 77-79%: C+
- 73-76%: C
- 70-72%: C–
- 67-69%: D+
- 60-66%: D
- Under 60%: E

Instructor feedback and response time

The following list gives you an idea of the instructor's intended availability throughout the course. Remember that you can call 614-688-4357 (HELP) at any time if you have a technical problem.



- **Preferred contact method:** If you have a question for the instructor, please send an email to xie.251@osu.edu. Typically, you will hear back from the instructor within 24 hours on days when class is in session at the university. For your best interest, please do not wait until the weekend to email, especially for non-urgent matters.
- **Class announcements:** Class-wide communications will be sent via the Announcements tool on CarmenCanvas. Check your notification settings (<https://go.osu.edu/canvas-notifications>) to be sure you will be able to receive course communications.
- **Discussion board:** Depending on the circumstances of the week, the instructor may choose one of the following options to respond to messages in the discussion boards:
 - a. The instructor offers written feedback once mid-week and once at the end of the week. The instructor may lump together similar posts in providing feedback.
 - b. The instructor posts a short video check-in at the end of the week, commenting on your collective endeavors, highlighting important common themes among the posts, filling substantive gaps, and so forth.
- **Other written assignments:** you can generally expect feedback within 7~10 days.

Academic policies

Copyright for instructional materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.



Standard Syllabus Statements

OSU's standard syllabus statements apply in this course. Students must visit the following link: <https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/syllabus-policies-statements/standard-syllabus-statements>, to familiarize themselves with OSU's statements on:

- i. Academic Misconduct
- ii. Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity
- iii. Religious Accommodations
- iv. Disability Statement (with Accommodations for Illness)
- v. Intellectual Diversity
- vi. Grievances and Solving Problems
- vii. Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct



Course Schedule

Refer to our Carmen course page for up-to-date assignment due dates.

AL = Asynchronous lecture

IP = Initial Posts on Carmen

CP = Commentary Posts on Peer Contribution(s)

W&C 2018 = Wasserstrom and Cunningham 2018

Note: You are strongly recommended to read/watch each week's materials in the order they are posted on Carmen, not the order they are listed in the course schedule.

WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
1	Jan 11~16	Themes and Trends of Imperial China	Read: W&C 2018: Ch.2 De Weerd 2021 Watch: Video-1: AL on Dynastic Cycle Video-2: AL on Mandate of Heaven	Intro. video (Jan 12) Quiz 1 (Jan 13)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
2	Jan 17~23	“Big” Idea: Philosophical continuity & alterity I	Read: Wang 2023 (Ch.2) Watch: Video-1: Confucianism and China: Past and Present Video-2: AL on Confucianism Do (optional): Synchronous meeting (time TBA)	IP 1 (Jan 20) CP 1 (Jan 22) Quiz 2 (Jan 23)
3	Jan 24~30	“Big” Idea: Philosophical continuity & alterity II	Read: Mair et al 2005 (Ch. 12 & 13) Wang 2012 (Ch.1) Watch: Video-1: Taoism The Philosophy of Flow Video-2: AL on Taoism	IP 2 (Jan 27) CP 2 (Jan 29) Quiz 3 (Jan 30)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
4	Jan 31 ~ Feb 6	From RoC to PRC	Read: W&C 2018: Ch.3 Watch: Video-1: Ezra Vogel: The Transformation of China Video-2: AL on Chinese government structure	IP 3 (Feb 3) CP 3 (Feb 5) Quiz 4 (Feb 6)
5	Feb 7~13	Economy and livelihood	Read: HBR: China's Economy, in Six Charts WSJ: China's GDP Growth Weakens To 3% Shi 2016 Piketty et al 2019 China's wealth inequality worsened in pandemic Watch: Video: AL on economic life in rural China	IP 4 (Feb 10) CP 4 (Feb 12) Quiz 5 (Feb 13)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
6	Feb 14~20	Population and family	Read: China 2020 Census Britannica: One-child policy NYT: From One Child to Three Global Times: China's gender imbalance CNN: China's 'missing girls' actually exist Watch: Video: Invisible Lives Do (optional): Synchronous meeting (time TBA)	IP 5 (Feb 17) CP 5 (Feb 19) Quiz 6 (Feb 20)
7	Feb 21~27	Citizenship in contemporary China	Read: Chen 2018 (Ch. 4-6) Watch: Video-1: A Look Inside China's Social Credit System	IP 6 (Feb 24) CP 6 (Feb 26) Reflective Paper I (Feb 27)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
			Video-2: AL on the citizenship laws in China	
8	Feb 28 ~ Mar 6	Rural vs. urban divide	Read: Understanding the Chinese Hukou System Keung et al 2007 Reuters: Migrant workers during COVID lockdown Han 2018 NPR: China's Left Behind Children Watch: Video-1: Left-behind Kids Parenting Themselves Video-2: Ted Talk The voices of China's workers (by Leslie T. Chang)	IP 7 (Mar 3) CP 7 (Mar 5) Quiz 7 (Mar 6) Final topic identified (Mar 6)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
			Video-3: AL – Experiencing rural China	
9	Mar 7~13	Social (im)mobility	Read: Bian 2002 Wang and Ge 2020 Reuters: "Ant tribe" poses policy challenge FT: Surging inequality from Covid Watch: Video-1: Ted Talk What does it mean to be a citizen of the world? (by Hugh Evans) Video-2: AL - educational & occupational mobility	IP 8 (Mar 10) CP 8 (Mar 12) Quiz 8 (Mar 13)
10	Mar 14~20	Spring break No Class		



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
11	Mar 21~27	Education (in) equality	Watch: Video-1: The Hardest Test in China Video-2: AL on China's higher education system Read: Lee and Qi 2023 The Economist: Education becoming increasingly unfair NYT: China targets costly private tutoring The Economist: Chinese parents sending kids to study abroad Do (optional): Synchronous meeting (time TBA)	IP 9 (Mar 24) CP 9 (Mar 26) Quiz 9 (Mar 27)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
12	Mar 28~ Apr 3	Gender and marriage	Watch: Video-1: China's "Leftover" Women Video-2: AL on arranged marriage and matchmaking Read: Poston and Glover 2005 Peterson Institute: Gender discrimination at work CNN: Millennials aren't getting married	IP 10 (Mar 31) CP 10 (Apr 2) Quiz 10 (Apr 3) Interim project report (Apr 3)
13	Apr 4~ Apr 10	Internet and social media	Read: Yang 2012 Guo and Wan 2022 LA Times: (Bypassing) Internet censorship Berkeley.edu: Creativity and activism on the Internet Watch:	IP 11 (Apr 7) CP 11 (Apr 9) Reflective Paper II (Apr 10)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
			Video-1: Ted Talk The generation that's remaking China (by Yang Lan) Video-2: AL on linguistic creativity on the Internet	
14	Apr 11~ 17	Culture in workplace	Read: China Daily: Workers' deaths trigger discussion CNN: Jack Ma endorses 996 work culture Reuters: Young Chinese seek safety of civil service NYT: Millennials Are 'Chilling' The Guardian: The rise of "let it rot" Do (optional): Synchronous meeting (time TBA)	IP 12 (Apr 14) CP 12 (Apr 16) Quiz 11 (Apr 17)



WK	Date	Topics	Materials	Assessments (Due date)
15	Apr 18~ 24	Chinese culture abroad	Watch: Video: Disney's New Mulan Liu Yifei Read: The Ballad of Mulan Who is Shang-Chi? Song 2018 NYT: How Chinese Sci-Fi Conquered America	Quiz 12 (Apr 24) Final project presentation (Apr 24)
16	Apr 25~ May 1			Final paper (May 1)



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GE Theme course submission worksheet: Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations

Overview

Courses in the GE Themes aim to provide students with opportunities to explore big picture ideas and problems within the specific practice and expertise of a discipline or department. Although many Theme courses serve within disciplinary majors or minors, by requesting inclusion in the General Education, programs are committing to the incorporation of the goals of the focal theme and the success and participation of students from outside of their program.

Each category of the GE has specific learning goals and Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs) that connect to the big picture goals of the program. ELOs describe the knowledge or skills students should have by the end of the course. Courses in the GE Themes must meet the ELOs common for **all** GE Themes and those specific to the Theme, in addition to any ELOs the instructor has developed specific to that course. All courses in the GE must indicate that they are part of the GE and include the Goals and ELOs of their GE category on their syllabus.

The prompts in this form elicit information about how this course meets the expectations of the GE Themes. The form will be reviewed by a group of content experts (the Theme Advisory) and by a group of curriculum experts (the Theme Panel), with the latter having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals common to all themes (those things that make a course appropriate for the GE Themes) and the former having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals specific to the topic of **this** Theme.

Briefly describe how this course connects to or exemplifies the concept of this Theme (Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations)

In a sentence or two, explain how this class “fits” within the focal Theme. This will help reviewers understand the intended frame of reference for the course-specific activities described below.

(enter text here)

Connect this course to the Goals and ELOs shared by *all* Themes

Below are the Goals and ELOs common to all Themes. In the accompanying table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The specifics of the activities matter—listing “readings” without a reference to the topic of those readings will not allow the reviewers to understand how the ELO will be met. However, the panel evaluating the fit of the course to the Theme will review this form in conjunction with the syllabus, so if readings, lecture/discussion topics, or other specifics are provided on the syllabus, it is not necessary to reiterate them within this form. The ELOs are expected to vary in their “coverage” in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

Goal 1: Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and in-depth level than the foundations. In this context, “advanced” refers to courses that are e.g., synthetic, rely on research or cutting-edge findings, or deeply engage with the subject matter, among other possibilities.

Goal 2: Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking.	
ELO 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or ideas within this theme.	
ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.	
ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.	

Example responses for proposals within “Citizenship” (from Sociology 3200, Comm 2850, French 2803):

ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking.	<i>This course will build skills needed to engage in critical and logical thinking about immigration and immigration related policy through: Weekly reading response papers which require the students to synthesize and critically evaluate cutting-edge scholarship on immigration; Engagement in class-based discussion and debates on immigration-related topics using evidence-based logical reasoning to evaluate policy positions; Completion of an assignment which build skills in analyzing empirical data on immigration (Assignment #1)</i>
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	<i>Completion 3 assignments which build skills in connecting individual experiences with broader population-based patterns (Assignments #1, #2, #3)</i> <i>Completion of 3 quizzes in which students demonstrate comprehension of the course readings and materials.</i>
ELO 2.1 <i>Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.</i>	<i>Students engage in advanced exploration of each module topic through a combination of lectures, readings, and discussions.</i> <u><i>Lecture</i></u> <i>Course materials come from a variety of sources to help students engage in the relationship between media and citizenship at an advanced level. Each of the 12 modules has 3-4 lectures that contain information from both peer-reviewed and popular sources. Additionally, each module has at least one guest lecture from an expert in that topic to increase students' access to people with expertise in a variety of areas.</i> <u><i>Reading</i></u> <i>The textbook for this course provides background information on each topic and corresponds to the lectures. Students also take some control over their own learning by choosing at least one peer-reviewed article and at least one newspaper article from outside the class materials to read and include in their weekly discussion posts.</i> <u><i>Discussions</i></u> <i>Students do weekly discussions and are given flexibility in their topic choices in order to allow them to take some control over their education. They are also asked to provide information from sources they've found outside the lecture materials. In this way, they are able to explore areas of particular interest to them and practice the skills they will need to gather information about current events, analyze this information, and communicate it with others.</i> <i>Activity Example: Civility impacts citizenship behaviors in many ways. Students are asked to choose a TED talk from a provided list (or choose another speech of their interest) and summarize and evaluate what it says about the relationship between civility and citizenship. Examples of Ted Talks on the list include Steven Petrow on the difference between being polite and being civil, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's talk on how a single story can perpetuate stereotypes, and Claire Wardle's talk on how diversity can enhance citizenship.</i>
ELO 2.2 <i>Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.</i>	<i>Students will conduct research on a specific event or site in Paris not already discussed in depth in class. Students will submit a 300-word abstract of their topic and a bibliography of at least five reputable academic and mainstream sources. At the end of the semester they will submit a 5-page research paper and present their findings in a 10-minute oral and visual presentation in a small-group setting in Zoom.</i> <i>Some examples of events and sites:</i> <i>The Paris Commune, an 1871 socialist uprising violently squelched by conservative forces</i>

	<i>Jazz-Age Montmartre, where a small community of African-Americans—including actress and singer Josephine Baker, who was just inducted into the French Pantheon—settled and worked after World War I.</i> <i>The Vélodrome d’hiver Roundup, 16-17 July 1942, when 13,000 Jews were rounded up by Paris police before being sent to concentration camps</i> <i>The Marais, a vibrant Paris neighborhood inhabited over the centuries by aristocrats, then Jews, then the LGBTQ+ community, among other groups.</i>
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Goals and ELOs unique to Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations

Below are the Goals and ELOs specific to this Theme. As above, in the accompanying Table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The ELOs are expected to vary in their “coverage” in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

GOAL 3: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of how cultures and sub-cultures develop and interact, historically or in contemporary society.

GOAL 4: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of differences among societies, institutions, and individuals’ experience within traditions and cultures.

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 3.1 Describe the influence of an aspect of culture (religious belief, gender roles, institutional organization, technology, epistemology, philosophy, scientific discovery, etc.) on at least one historical or contemporary issue.	
ELO 3.2 Analyze the impact of a “big” idea or technological advancement in creating a major and long-lasting change in a specific culture.	
ELO 3.3 Examine the interactions among dominant and sub-cultures.	
ELO 3.4 Explore changes and continuities over time within a culture or society.	
ELO 4.1 Recognize and explain differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, cultures, societies, and/or individuals.	
ELO 4.2 Explain ways in which categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender and perceptions of difference, impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues	

Distance Approval Cover Sheet

For Permanent DL/DH Approval | College of Arts and Sciences

Course Number and Title:

Carmen Use

When building your course, we recommend using the [ASC Distance Learning Course Template](#) for CarmenCanvas. For more on use of [Carmen: Common Sense Best Practices](#).

☐ A Carmen site will be created for the course, including a syllabus and gradebook at minimum.

If no, why not?

Syllabus

☐ Proposed syllabus uses the ASC distance learning syllabus template, includes boilerplate language where required, as well as a clear description of the technical and academic support services offered, and how learners can obtain them.

☐ Syllabus is consistent and is easy to understand from the student perspective.

☐ Syllabus includes a schedule with dates and/or a description of what constitutes the beginning and end of a week or module.

☐ If there are required synchronous sessions, the syllabus clearly states when they will happen and how to access them.

Additional comments (optional):

Instructor Presence

For more on instructor presence: [About Online Instructor Presence](#).

Students should have opportunities for regular and substantive academic interactions with the course instructor. Some ways to achieve this objective:

☐ Regular instructor communications with the class via announcements or weekly check-ins.

☐ Instructional content, such as video, audio, or interactive lessons, that is visibly created or mediated by the instructor.



- ☐ Regular participation in class discussion, such as in Carmen discussions or synchronous sessions.
- ☐ Regular opportunities for students to receive personal instructor feedback on assignments.

Please comment on this dimension of the proposed course (or select/explain methods above):

Delivery Well-Suited to DL/DH Environment

Technology questions adapted from the [Quality Matters](#) rubric. For information about Ohio State learning technologies: [Toolsets](#).

- ☐ The tools used in the course support the learning outcomes and competencies.
- ☐ Course tools promote learner engagement and active learning.
- ☐ Technologies required in the course are current and readily obtainable.
- ☐ Links are provided to privacy policies for all external tools required in the course.

Additional technology comments (optional):

Which components of this course are planned for synchronous delivery and which for asynchronous delivery? (For DH, address what is planned for in-person meetings as well.)

If you believe further explanation would be helpful, please comment on how course activities have been adjusted for distance learning (optional):

Workload Estimation

For more information about calculating online instruction time: [ODEE Credit Hour Estimation](#).

- ☐ Course credit hours align with estimated average weekly time to complete the course successfully.
- ☐ Course includes direct (equivalent of “in-class”) and indirect (equivalent of “out-of-class”) instruction at a ratio of about 1:2.

Provide a brief outline of a typical course week, categorizing course activities and estimating the approximate time to complete them or participate:

- ☐ In the case of course delivery change requests, the course demonstrates comparable rigor in meeting course learning outcomes.

Accessibility

For more information or a further conversation, contact the [accessibility coordinator](#) for the College of Arts and Sciences. For tools and training on accessibility: [Digital Accessibility Services](#).

- ☐ Instructor(s) teaching the course will have taken Digital Accessibility training (starting in 2022) and will ensure all course materials and activities meet requirements for diverse learners, including alternate means of accessing course materials when appropriate.
- ☐ Information is provided about the accessibility of all technologies required in the course. All third-party tools (tools without campus-wide license agreements) have their accessibility statements included.

Description of any anticipated accommodation requests and how they have been/will be addressed.



Additional comments (optional):

Academic Integrity

For more information: [Academic Integrity](#).

- ☐ The course syllabus includes online-specific policies about academic integrity, including specific parameters for each major assignment:
- ☐ Assignments are designed to deter cheating and plagiarism and/or course technologies such as online proctoring or plagiarism check or other strategies are in place to deter cheating.

Additional comments (optional):

Frequent, Varied Assignments/Assessments

For more information: [Designing Assessments for Students](#).

Student success in online courses is maximized when there are frequent, varied learning activities.
Possible approaches:

- ☐ Opportunities for students to receive course information through a variety of different sources, including indirect sources, such as textbooks and lectures, and direct sources, such as scholarly resources and field observation.
- ☐ Variety of assignment formats to provide students with multiple means of demonstrating learning.
- ☐ Opportunities for students to apply course knowledge and skills to authentic, real-world tasks in assignments.



Comment briefly on the frequency and variety of assignment types and assessment approaches used in this course (or select methods above):

Community Building

For more information: [Student Interaction Online](#).

Students engage more fully in courses when they have an opportunity to interact with their peers and feel they are part of a community of learners. Possible approaches:

- ☐ Opportunities for students to interact academically with classmates through regular class discussion or group assignments.
- ☐ Opportunities for students to interact socially with classmates, such as through video conference sessions or a course Q&A forum.
- ☐ Attention is paid to other ways to minimize transactional distance (psychological and communicative gaps between students and their peers, instructor, course content, and institution).

Please comment on this dimension of the proposed course (or select methods above):

Transparency and Metacognitive Explanations

For more information: [Supporting Student Learning](#).

Students have successful, meaningful experiences when they understand how the components of a course connect together, when they have guidance on how to study, and when they are encouraged to take ownership of their learning. Possible approaches:

- ☐ Instructor explanations about the learning goals and overall design or organization of the course.
- ☐ Context or rationale to explain the purpose and relevance of major tasks and assignments.

- ☐ Guidance or resources for ancillary skills necessary to complete assignments, such as conducting library research or using technology tools.
- ☐ Opportunities for students to take ownership or leadership in their learning, such as by choosing topics of interest for an assignment or leading a group discussion or meeting.
- ☐ Opportunities for students to reflect on their learning process, including their goals, study strategies, and progress.
- ☐ Opportunities for students to provide feedback on the course.

Please comment on this dimension of the proposed course (or select methods above):

Additional Considerations

Comment on any other aspects of the online delivery not addressed above (optional):

Syllabus and cover sheet reviewed by *Jeremie Smith* on

Reviewer Comments:

Additional resources and examples can be found on [ASC's Office of Distance Education](#) website.



Dr. Xie,

I have completed and signed off on the preliminary distance learning review for the ***Chinese 4409 (Counter-)Culture in Contemporary China*** approval proposal. This syllabus includes all required syllabus elements and provides an overview of the course expectations.

This is a well-designed asynchronous course, I have a few *recommendations* that I think will improve the course design, add clarity to the syllabus, and support a successful review by the faculty curriculum committee:

- In the syllabus, I was very confused about the listed goals and ELO's, which seem to be a combination of those for the two different themes. I recommend directly copying and pasting the goals and elos for each theme here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos>. Below this, there should be a brief rationale/explanation on how this course meets each theme's goals/elos (2 different sub sections). This syllabus provides a good example of what the curriculum panel would like to see as far as theme elo rationale: https://asccas.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2023-01/philos_2390_exemplar.pdf
- This being an asynchronous course, the panels that review the course will want specific indications that the course includes the required Direct Instruction for the class. In the Workload Estimation section of the Cover Sheet, you mentioned assigned videos. Are these your lecture recordings? I recommend being more explicit in that section of the Cover Sheet about the kind of activities (and which you will be providing direct instruction) and then condensing this down to a small summary to add to the section of the syllabus related to the pacing of the course (to support transparency of student expectations and metacognition). I think you have a good start on both the Workload Estimation section of the cover sheet and the "Pace of online activities" section of the syllabus. Adding more details to both will help the panels understand your plans for direct instruction and help students anticipate the weekly pacing of the course.
- I like the symbols to indicate individual versus group work, I had not seen that before and found it to be clarifying. I imagine students will feel the same! I also like the idea of the required introduction video to build community in the asynchronous course.
- The description of quizzes needs a bit more details on scheduling due to it being an asynch course. I recommend scheduling and describing the quizzes so that they are consistent and predictable. Here is an example (for after the description you provided): "Every 2 weeks (see schedule for details) we will have a quiz. On quiz weeks, the quiz will open on Tuesday morning at 8 am and close on Thursday evenings at 11:59 pm. You can begin the exam whenever you wish but once you begin, you will have 10 minutes to complete and submit the quiz.
- It is evident you put a lot of thought into how best to structure the group project and the final paper. As I am sure you are anticipating and strategizing how to address, the difficulty structuring group assignments in such a way that feels equitable to students and results in the desired peer learning and collaboration is made more complex in an asynchronous online setting. If I were a student, the line "I will use the evaluations from each student's teammates as a factor in adjusting that student's final project-related

grades, either upward or downward” would cause me anxiety if I was unsure about how my individual contribution would be evaluated. One way to address this is to develop a detailed rubric that creates roles for individual students within groups. The specific topic of structuring group work effectively in online courses [came up in a recent Teaching Forum we hosted](#). Dr. Teston talked about some things she has done to increase the effectiveness and clarity of structured group work (including group writing assignments) that may be helpful to you. In the link above, there is a recording of that ASC Teaching Forum and her comments begin around the 13 minute mark of the video (only about 10 minutes long). I hope this will be helpful.

- The curriculum panels will want to see more details in the schedule about assignments and due dates, especially since this course does not list books/readings required for the course. I think you need not think of this as the definitive list of readings you will use when you teach the course, for example, but the committee will want more details to discern the rigor of the course and its relationship to the goals of the GE Themes (does the course reading list reflect an emphasis on the goals/elo's of both themes?). Here are a few specific suggestions based on what I have seen the curriculum panels send back and require additional revisions before approving:
 - o List assigned readings for each module, as well as names of videos and lectures
 - o Provide specific due dates for assignments. As previously mentioned, I recommend standardizing the schedule for consistency (quizzes on Monday, discussion posts on Wednesday, discussion responses on Friday, for example). I have seen this done as dates or days of the week in the schedule. The panel understands that this shifts to accommodate the actual schedule of the course offering.

The ASC Office of Distance Education strives to be a valuable resource to instructors and departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition to managing the [DL course review](#) process, [hosting ASC Teaching Forums](#), and developing an ever-expanding catalog of [instructor support resources](#), we also provide one-on-one instructional design consultation to ASC instructors interested in redesigning any aspect of their online course. If your department or any of your individual instructors wish to [meet with one of our instructional designers](#) to discuss how we can provide advice, assistance, and support, please do let me know.