



CENTRE FOR CHINA STUDIES

The Chinese University of Hong Kong | 香港中文大學

CCSS3102 Contemporary China: Summer Fieldwork¹ CHES3300 China Summer Field Trip May 17-June 16, 2021

Instructor: Professor GAO, Yunwen (yunwengao@cuhk.edu.hk)
Room 1107, 11/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park, CUHK
Class meetings: 9:00 am -12:00 pm
ZOOM Registration: Link (Use CUHK account ONLY)
Office Hours: By appointment via ZOOM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This field study course is mandatory for students of China Studies. Students should at least have taken three introductory courses offered by the program of Contemporary China Studies in order to enroll in this course. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the field study course is redesigned to prepare students for future fieldwork through the study of the history and contemporary culture of Southern China.

In this course, students will be guided to explore significant issues such as urban development, religious sites and practices, immigration history, preservation of cultural heritage, entertainment culture, gender and marriage in Southern China. Through the case studies of Quanzhou, Xiamen, and Shunde, the course aims to prepare students for future fieldwork in China and other Chinese-speaking communities. For example, as a key historical city, Quanzhou in Fujian province has a rich history of maritime trade. The name of the city, Zayton 刺桐, became worldwide famous since the 11th century. Regarded as the starting point of Maritime Silk Road, the city was visited by travelers like Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta. The diverse population residing in the city also resulted in the co-existence of various religions, Buddhism, Daoism, Hinduism, Christianity, Islamism, Manichaeism, to name just a few. Religious practices are married to local culture in every aspect of life. Nanyin 南音, literally translated as the Music of the South, is an essential component of Buddhist and Daoist culture. Classified as the intangible cultural heritage of humanity by UNESCO in 2009, Nanyin remains popular among the locals regardless of age. As a port city, Quanzhou was also the ancestral homeland of the immigrant population in Taiwan and Southeast Asian countries. The Belt and Road initiative adopted by the Chinese government in 2013 has once again brought government support and public attention to the city. Today, Quanzhou is the home of many domestic manufacturers of clothes and shoes, including Anta, Qipilang, and Tebu.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students should:

¹ This is a working syllabus. Contents are subject to change upon notification.

- Learn about the Chinese culture and society in Southern China, particularly Fujian province and Guangdong province
- Be familiar with the key issues of religious culture and everyday life through the case of Quanzhou, Xiamen, and Shunde
- Be introduced to fieldwork methods
- Be able to prepare coherent presentations and reports
- Learn to work cooperatively in teams

COURSE ASSESSMENT

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| • Participation | 30% |
| • Reading Report (due May 30) | 20% |
| • Final Group Presentation (June 16) | 25% |
| • Research Paper (due June 23) | 25% |

Participation (30%): Students are asked to sign up for **ONE (1)** topic as the leading discussant and **ONE (1)** other topic as the key respondent on two separate days. Leading discussant is responsible for introducing the assigned reading, coming up with examples and group discussion questions to engage the class. The key respondents are responsible for initiating answers to the group discussion questions and coordinating follow-up group discussions. These two days count as **40%** towards the participation points (leading discussant 30% + key respondent 10%). The performance on the remaining eight days counts as **60%** towards the participation points.

Reading Report (20%): Students are required to submit a reflective reading report that critically summarizes the readings from the first week by 7pm, **May 30**. The reading report should synthesize some of the main findings and arguments of the readings. The report should be about **1200 words**, double-spaced within 1-inch margins and in 12-point Times New Roman font.

Final Group Presentation (25%): Students are asked to join a group of no more than **six members** to choose a city in Greater China, or a city with significant connection to Chinese culture to work on for the final presentation and research paper. In the **20-minute final group presentation**, use the theories and methodology you have learned from the class to guide your preliminary research of the city you choose. Audio-visual materials are welcome, and students are encouraged to make PowerPoint slides to accompany the presentation.

Research Paper (25%): The research paper is developed based on the students' final group presentation. Combining course materials and students' research on a key aspect of the city they choose. It should be written in clear and complete sentences and be about **1500-2000 words**, double-spaced with 1-inch margins and in 12-point Times New Roman font.

Students should submit e-copies of reading report and research paper to the Veriguide system, download and sign the **Veriguide** receipt and attach it to the copy they submit to the **Blackboard**. See the website: https://services.veriguide.org/academic/login_CUHK.jsp
Any case of plagiarism will be severely penalized and reported to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, which could result in failure or expulsion from the University.

COURSE SCHEDULE

May 17 (MON) Course Overview and How to Conduct Fieldwork

- ◇ Emerson, R. M., Rachel I. F., and Linda L. S. (2011). Chapter 1-3 In *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. (26-87). Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (PDF)
- ◇ Li, R. Q. W. & Cheong, K. C. (2015). "City profile: Quanzhou: Reclaiming a glorious past." *Cities* 50, 168-79. (PDF)

May 19 (WED) Maritime Culture and History of Southern China I

- ◇ Pearson, R. (2001). Port, City, and Hinterlands: Archaeological Perspectives on Quanzhou and its Overseas Trade. In *The Emporium of the World: Maritime Quanzhou, 1000-1400*. (177-206). Leiden: Brill. (PDF)

May 21 (FRI) Maritime Culture and History of Southern China II

- ◇ Finlay, R. (2008). "The Voyages of Zheng He: Ideology, State Power, and Maritime Trade in Ming China." *The Journal of the Historical Society*. VIII (3), 327-47. (PDF)
- ◇ Xu, Q. (1980). "Quanzhou: A Museum of Maritime Trade." *Museum International*. Vol. 32(4), 200-204. (PDF)

May 24 (MON) Religious Life in Southern China I

- ◇ Steinhardt, N. S. (2008). "China's Earliest Mosques." *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*. Vol. 67(3), 330-61. (PDF)
- ◇ Xiao, J. G. (2006). "Muslims of Quanzhou." *New Statesman*. Dec 18, 2006-Jan 4, 2007, 82-3. (PDF)

May 26 (WED) Religious Life in Southern China II

- ◇ Wang, M. (2006). "'Great Tradition' and Its Enemy: The Issue of 'Chinese Culture' on the Southeastern Coast" In *Southern Fujian: Reproduction of Traditions in Post-Mao China*. (1-34). Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press. (PDF)
- ◇ Murray, D. M. (2018). "The City God Returns: Organised and Contagious Networks at the Xiamen City God Temple." *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*. 19(4), 281-97. (PDF)

MAY 28 (FRI) Music and Cultural Heritage in Southern China I

- ◇ Howard, K. (2012). Introduction: East Asian Music as Intangible Cultural Heritage. In *Music as Intangible Cultural Heritage: Policy, Ideology, and Practices in the Preservation of East Asian Traditions*. (1-22). London and New York: Routledge. (PDF)
- ◇ Rees, H. (2012). Intangible Cultural Heritage in China Today: Policy and Practices in the Early Twenty-First Century. In *Music as Intangible Cultural Heritage: Policy, Ideology, and Practices in the Preservation of East Asian Traditions*. (23-54). London and New York: Routledge. (PDF)

MAY 31 (MON) Music and Cultural Heritage in Southern China II

- ◇ Wang, Y. (2012). Lessons from the Past: Nanguan/Nanyin and the Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Taiwan. In *Music as Intangible Cultural Heritage: Policy,*

Ideology, and Practices in the Preservation of East Asian Traditions. (161-180). London and New York: Routledge. (PDF)

- ◇ Xing, W. (2019, April 17). New Generations Tune in to Nanyin. *China Daily*. ([Link](#))

JUN 2 (WED) Leisure Time in Southern China

- ◇ Rolandsen, U. M. (2011). Chapter 1 & 4 In *Leisure and Power in Urban China: Everyday Life in a Chinese City.* (19-37, 69-84). London and New York: Routledge. (PDF)

JUN 4 (FRI) History of Immigration and Contemporary Connections with SE Asia I

- ◇ Yen, C. (2008). Chapter 11 In *Chinese in Southeast Asia and Beyond: Socioeconomic and Political Dimensions.* World Scientific. (285-320). (PDF)

JUN 7 (MON) History of Immigration and Contemporary Connections with SE Asia II

- ◇ Yen, C. (2008). Chapter 13 In *Chinese in Southeast Asia and Beyond: Socioeconomic and Political Dimensions.* World Scientific. (337-59). (PDF)

JUN 9 (WED) Gender and Marriage in Southern China

- ◇ Siu, H. F. (1990). "Where Were the Women?: Rethinking Marriage Resistance and Regional Culture in South China." *Late Imperial China.* 11(2), 32-62. (PDF)

JUN 11 (FRI) Culinary Tourism in Southern China

- ◇ Heitmann, S., Peter R. and Povey G. (2011). Chapter 9 & 17 In *Research Themes for Tourism.* Oxfordshire: Cabi. (114-27, 233-48). (PDF)
- ◇ Documentary: *A Bite of Shunde*, EP1 ([Link](#))

JUN 16 (WED) Final Group Presentations

JUN 23 (WED) Final Paper due

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.