

RLST/GFS/IIS 119
Medieval Religion of East Asia
Spring, 2007
Pitzer College
Electronic reserve number: parker119 (lower case only)
Faculty Website: <http://pzacad.pitzer.edu/%7Ejparkers/>

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COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will survey the folk religions, shamanism, Buddhism, Taoism, Neo-Confucianism and religious syncretism of China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam during the 8th to 15th centuries. Religious texts and institutions will be examined in the context of socio-historical transformations, such as changing gender roles, church-state relations, growing merchant economies, scientific and technological developments, religious rivalries, and foreign relations. The course also emphasizes the religious dimension of medieval East Asian culture, including poetry, theater, and artistic and literary theory. Prerequisite: any one of the following Religious Studies courses: 10, 100, 103, 117, or permission of the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You have successfully completed the course when you:

- a) attend regularly having prepared course readings ahead of time and responding thoughtfully to readings orally in class discussion or in written responses (30%);
- b) write one short (3-4 pages) paper on methodological issues (20%)
- c) in-class final examination (20%);
- d) complete research paper of 20 pages in length, including an initial topic statement, bibliography, and outline with final draft due during final examination period (30%).

Graduate students will be asked additionally to complete the recommended readings, to lead a class discussion on a topic of interest, and to write a longer research paper (between 30 and 50 pages in length) in place of the undergraduate research paper and final examination.

Students who do not give their sources for ideas and information not their own are practicing plagiarism; they will be given one chance to rewrite the paper and correct the problem, and if it is not corrected they will not receive credit for the assignment.

Note: Students with learning or physical disabilities will be given reasonable accommodations. To request accommodations or other assistance, contact the Academic Support Services Office, extension 73553; if additional arrangements are required, please notify instructor in advance.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

All course textbooks and packet readings are both available for purchase and also on reserve at the Honnold Library reserve reading desk; books available at Huntley Bookstore; buy readings packet at King's Copies, 865 W. Foothill, just past gas station by Claremont Camera, 625-2002. Suzanne Cahill, Transcendence and Divine Passion: The Queen Mother of the West, Stanford. Su Tung-po, Selected Poems of Su Tung-po, tr. B. Watson, Copper Canyon. Muso Kokushi, Dream Conversations, tr. T. Cleary, Shambala. Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney, Monkey as Mirror, Princeton University Press. T'aego, A Buddha From Korea: The Zen Teachings of T'aego, tr. C. Cleary, Ingram. Packet of xeroxed course readings.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Readings with asterisks (*) are in textbooks; all others are in course packet. All readings are on reserve at Honnold Library Reserve Reading Desk. Some course packet readings are also available on the web through the Honnold Library Reserve Readings website, using the course electronic reserve number: parker90 (lower case only).

- Jan. 16-18 Course Introduction: Problems in the Study of East Asia.
Readings: Said, Orientalism, 1-28.
Week 1 Zinn & Dill, "Difference and Domination," 3-13.
Pinyin pronunciation.
- Jan. 23-25 Methodological Questions in East Asian Religious Studies.
Readings: Gates/Weller, "Hegemony and Chinese Folk Ideologies," 3-16.
Week 2: Gernet, Daily Life, 59-112.
Recommended Readings: Sangren, "Orthodoxy, Heterodoxy...", 63-89.
- Jan. 30- Popular Medieval Chinese Religion & Social Context of Buddhism.
Feb. 1 Stein, "Household Gods and Altars," 122-46.
Week 3 Li He, handout.
Gernet, Buddhism in Chinese Society, 3-25.
Wawrytko, "Homosexuality," 199-210.
Recommended: Gernet, Buddhism in Chinese Society, 232-47.
- Feb. 6-8 Medieval Chinese Buddhism.
Week 4 Buddha From Korea, 3-26.
Shih Pao-ch'ang, Lives of the Nuns, 1-31 & 80-95.
Recommended: Schafer, "Glory of the T'ang," 7-35.
- Feb. 13-15 Gendering Medieval Buddhist Practice.
Readings: Levering, "The Dragon Girl," 19-35.
Week 5 Whitfield, "Monk's Tale" and "Nun's Tale," 113-37 & 155-73
- Feb. 20-22 Medieval Taoism: Practice and Symbolism.
Week 6 *Cahill, Transcendence, 1-7, 13-24, 32-41, 54-65, 190-200, 213-38.
Feb. 6 Short Paper due.
- Feb. 27-29 Elite Medieval Chinese Religion.
Readings: Cass, Victoria. "Warriors and Mystics." p. 65-85.
Week 7 *Su Tung-po, Selected Poems, p. 3-12, 65-79, 94-98, & 114-23.
Recommended Readings: *Su, 36-55.
- Mar. 6-8 Medieval Korean Religions I.
Readings: *A Buddha From Korea, 26-64.
Week 8 Kim, Women of Korea, 3-24 & 49-58.

Happy Spring Break.

Mar. 20-22 Elite Zen in Medieval Korea.
Week 9 *T'aego, A Buddha from Korea, 64-77, 79-108, 118-22, 165-68.

Mar. 22 RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC STATEMENT DUE.

Mar. 27-29 Elite Medieval Japanese Zen Buddhism.
Week 10 *Muso, Dream Conversations, x-xv, 9-17, 41-3, 56-59, 64-88.
Wawrytko, "Homosexuality," 210-230.

Mar. 29 Guest Lecture?

Apr. 3-5 Popular Religion in Medieval Japan.
Week 11 Souyri, 181-200.
*Ohnuki-Tierney, Monkey as Mirror, 3-40.

Recommended Readings: Ohnuki-Tierney, 128-59.

Apr. 10-12 Popular Religion in Medieval Japan (cont.).
Week 12 *Ohnuki-Tierney, Monkey as Mirror, 75-100, 209-40.

Video: Sansho the Bailiff

Apr. 10 ANNOTATED RESEARCH PAPER BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE.

Apr. 17-19 Popular Religion in Medieval Japan (cont.)
Readings: Hoff, Song, Dance, and Storytelling, 141-47, 156-64, 168-73 &
Week 13 poems on p. 14-15, 20-21, 34-35, 42-43, and 54-57.
"Layman Selfsame," 138-54.

Apr. 19 RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE DUE.

Apr. 24-26 Medieval Elite Religion: Japan and Vietnam.

Readings: O'Neill, 59-72.

Week 14 Keene, "Introduction," 1-15.
Kan'ami, "Matsukaze," 7-34.
Nguyen, Zen in Medieval Vietnam, 9-23.

May 1-3 Medieval Vietnamese Religion.
Week 15 Readings: Nguyen, Zen in Medieval Vietnam, 56-99.

May 3 IN-CLASS FINAL EXAMINATION.

Wednesday, May 3 Senior Research Papers Due in Class.

Tuesday, May 8, noon. Non-senior and Graduate Research Papers Due.

Course Packet Readings

- Said, Edward, Orientalism, Vintage Books, 1979, p. 1-28.
- Zinn, Maxine Baca and Bonnie Thornton Dill, "Difference and Domination," Women of Color in U.S. Society, Temple U.P., 1994, p. 3-13.
- Hill Gates and Robert Weller, "Hegemony and Chinese Folk Ideologies," Modern China, 13.1 (1987): 3-16.
- Sangren, P. Steven, "Orthodoxy, Heterodoxy, and the Structure of Value in Chinese Rituals," Modern China, 13.1 (1987): 63-89.
- Gernet, Jacques, Daily Life on the Eve of the Mongol Invasions 1250-1276, trans. H.M. Wright, George Allen & Unwin Ltd., 1962 (1959), p. 59-112.
- Stein, Rolf A. "The Chinese House and Household Gods and Altars," The World in Miniature, Trans. Phyllis Brooks. Stanford Univ. Pr., 1990. P. 122-46.
- Li He, Goddesses, Ghosts and Demons: The Collected Poems of Li He (Li Chang-ji, 790-816), trans. J.D. Frodsham, San Francisco: North Point Press, 1983, p.
- Gernet, Jacques, Buddhism in Chinese Society, trans. F. Verellen, Columbia Univ. Pr., 1995 (1956), p. 3-25 & 232-47.
- Wawrytko, Sandra A. "Homosexuality and Chinese and Japanese Religions." Homosexuality and World Religions. Ed. Arlene Swidler. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press Int'l, 1993. 199-230.
- Lives of the Nuns: Biographies of Chinese Buddhist Nuns from the 4th to 6th Centuries, Comp. Shih Pao-ch'ang and ed. Kathryn Ann Tasai, Univ. Hawaii Pr., p. 1-31, 80-95.
- Schafer, Edward H. "The Glory of the T'ang," The Golden Peaches of Samarkand. Univ. of Calif. Pr., 1963, 7-25.
- Whitfield, Susan, Life Along the Silk Road, Univ. Calif. Pr., 1999, p. 13-37 & 155-73.
- Miriam Levering, "The Dragon Girl and the Abbess of Mo-Shan: Gender and Status in the Ch'an Buddhist Tradition," Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, 5.1 (1982): 19-35.
- Victoria Cass. "Warriors and Mystics." Dangerous Women: Warriors, Grannies, and Geishas of the Ming. Boulder: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1999. 65-85.
- Kim, Yung-chung, ed. & trans., Women of Korea: A History from Ancient Times to 1945, Ewha Womens University, 1976, p. 3-24 & 49-58.
- Souyri, Pierre François, The World Turned Upside Down: Medieval Japanese Society, trans. Kathe Roth, New York: Columbia University Press, 2001, p. 181-200.
- Hoff, Frank. Song, Dance, Storytelling: Aspects of the Performing Arts in Japan. Cornell University East Asia Papers, No. 15. Ithaca, NY: China-Japan Program, Cornell University, 1978, and 14-15, 20-21, 34-35, 42-43, 54-57. 141-64 & 168-82.
- "Layman Selfsame." Trans. Royall Tyler. Pining Wind: A Cycle of Nô Plays. Ithaca, NY: China Japan Program, Cornell University, 1978. 138-54.
- O'Neill, P.G. Early Nô Drama: Its Background, Character, and Development. London: Lund Humphries, 1959, p. 59-72.
- Keene, Donald. "Introduction: The Conventions of the Nô Theatre." Twenty Plays of the Nô Theatre. Ed. Donald Keene. Columbia University Press, 1970. p. 1-15.
- Kanze Kan'ami. "Matsukaze." Trans. Royall Tyler. Twenty Plays of the Nô Theatre. Ed. Donald Keene. Columbia University Press, 1970. 17-34.
- Nguyen, Cuong, Zen in Medieval Vietnam, Univ. Hawaii Pr, 1999, p. 9-23 & 56-99.