

**CHIN 317-01**  
**Chinese Civilization—The Human-Animal Connection**

**SYLLABUS**

**FALL 2012**

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| <b>Instructor</b>   | <b>Claire Huot</b>                                  |
| <b>EDC 280</b>      | <b>TU, TR: 14:00-15:15</b>                          |
| <b>Office</b>       | <b>Craigie Hall C104</b>                            |
| <b>Consultation</b> | <b>TU, TR: 12:30-13:45<br/>or chuot@ucalgary.ca</b> |

The study of the varied interactions between humans and other animals offers an alternative, environmental way to understand China's civilization and culture. Through the study of working, companion, and commodity animals, the student will get insights into Chinese civilization that are historically based and informed by material culture. The course consists of lectures supported by PowerPoint presentations and based on readings (and one video).

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| <b>Quizzes (3)</b><br><b>10% x 3</b>           | <b>Oct. 2 (TU)</b><br><b>Nov. 6 (TU)</b><br><b>Nov. 27 (TU)</b>   | 20-minute<br>short answer questions<br>based on the material seen up to that date   |
| <b>Midterm exam</b><br><b>20%</b>              | <b>October 23 (TU)</b>  | 60-minute<br>4 paragraph-length answers<br>based on the material seen up to that date   |
| <b>Assignments</b><br><b>(2)</b><br><b>30%</b> | <b>Nov. 15 (TR) 10%</b><br><b>Dec. 4 (TU) 20%</b>                 | 1. Choose one issue studied in class and, basing yourself on the appropriate class texts, write a <u>500-word</u> report<br>2. The second report is based on the first one and is more of an in-depth study. Requires additional references. <u>600-word</u> report |
| <b>Exam</b><br><b>20%</b>                      | <b>Scheduled by the Registrar:</b><br><b>AFTER end of classes</b> | 4 paragraph-length answers<br>based on the material seen since the midterm exam   |

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| <b>Grading Scale</b> | A+     | A     | A-    | B+    | B     | B-    | C+    | C     | C-    | D+    | D     | F    |
|                      | 96-100 | 92-95 | 86-91 | 81-85 | 77-80 | 71-76 | 65-70 | 62-64 | 59-61 | 55-58 | 50-54 | 0-49 |

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| <b>Week 1</b><br><b>Sept. 11 &amp; 13</b> | Introduction<br>1. Human-animal bond in civilization<br>2. animals as cultural beings   | 1. Ritvo, Harriet. "Animal Planet" [CP]<br>2. Cheng, Meiling. "Animalworks in China" [OA]   |
| <b>Week 2</b><br><b>Sept. 18 &amp; 20</b> | The importance of animals and their representations in ancient China:<br>1. representation in writing<br>2. representation in objects       | 1. Chaves, Jonathan. "The legacy of Ts'ang Chieh: The written word as magic" [CP]<br>2. Chang, K. C. "The Animal in Shang and Chou Bronze Art" [OA]                 |
| <b>Week 3</b><br><b>Sept. 25 &amp; 27</b> | Geography and animals:<br>1. physical<br>2. mythical  | 1. Yan, Wen-ming. "Origins of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in China" [CP]<br>2. Blust, Robert. "The Origin of Dragons" [OA]                                     |
| <b>Week 4</b><br><b>Oct. 2 &amp; 4</b>    | <b>Quiz #1 Oct. 2 [10%]</b><br>Philosophical schools and their views on animals:<br>1. Chinese modes of classification<br>2. Confucian view | 1. Sterckx, Roel. "Animal Classification in Ancient China" [OA]<br><br>2. Blakeley, Donald N. "Listening To The Animals: The Confucian View Of Animal Welfare" [OA] |
| <b>Week 5</b><br><b>Oct. 9 &amp; 11</b>   | Philosophical schools and their views on animals (CT'D):<br>1. Daoist view<br>2. Buddhist view  | 1. Goh, Irving. "Chuang Tzu's Becoming-Animal" [OA]<br>2. Gjertson, Donald E. "Rebirth as an animal in Medieval Chinese Buddhism"                                   |
| <b>Week 6</b><br><b>Oct. 16 &amp; 18</b>  | Revision for midterm exam<br>Expansion during the Han dynasty: the crucial importance of the horse  | 1. Olsen, Stanley J. "The Horse in Ancient China and Its Cultural Influence in Some Other Areas" [OA]   |
| <b>Week 7</b><br><b>Oct. 23 &amp; 25</b>  | <b>Midterm exam October 23 [20%]</b><br>Tang cosmopolitanism: wearing furs & feathers from exotic lands<br>Wearing silk                     | 1. Schafer, Edward H. "Furs & Feathers"<br>2. Wood, Frances. "Coiled dragons and filmy fleeces: jade and silk" [CP]   |

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| <b>Week 8</b><br><b>Oct30&amp;Nov1</b>                       | How to write the assignments<br>Urbanism during the Song dynasty   | Gernet, Jacques. "Housing, Clothing, Cooking" [CP]   |
| <b>Week 9</b><br><b>Nov. 6 &amp; 8</b>                       | <b>Quiz #2 Nov. 6 [10%]</b><br>The Yuan dynasty: the bonds between Mongols and their animals, in war and peace   | <i>The Travels of Marco Polo, the Venetian</i> [CP]  |
| <b>Week 10</b><br><b>Nov. 13: no class</b><br><b>Nov. 15</b> | <b>Assignment #1 Nov. 15 [10%]</b><br>Tibetans and their dogs viewing and discussion of the film OLD DOG<br>The demotion of the dog in Chinese civilization                              | Film: OLD DOG by Pema Tsenden (88')<br>Epstein, H. "Dog" <i>Domestic Animals of China</i> [CP]   |
| <b>Week 11</b><br><b>Nov. 20 &amp; 22</b>                    | Animals as pets  | 1. Van Gulik, R. H. <i>The Gibbon in China: An Essay in Chinese Animal Lore</i><br>2. Tuan, Yi-Fu. "Animal Pets: Cruelty and Affection" [CP]   |
| <b>Week 12</b><br><b>Nov. 27 &amp; 29</b>                    | <b>Quiz #3 Nov. 27 [10%]</b><br>Medicine and animals:<br>1. Classification<br>2. Wild animals used for medicine  | 1. Nappi, Carla. Chapter 6 "Transformation: Creatures of Change," <i>Monkey and the Inkpot</i> [OA]<br>2. Mainka, Susan A. & Mills, Judy A. "Wildlife and Traditional Chinese Medicine: Supply and Demand for Wildlife Species" [OA] |
| <b>Week 13</b><br><b>Dec. 4</b>                              | <b>Assignment #2 Dec. 4 [20%]</b><br>Revision for the Final Exam in class (TU); and during extra office hours (TR). There will also be additional office hours after the end of classes. |  |

- N.B:**
1. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.
  2. Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.
  3. If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: [www.efwr.ucalgary.ca](http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca)
  4. Making and receiving calls on cell phones are not allowed in class. During quizzes and exams, no electronic device is allowed.

5. Plagiarism, i.e. the use of other people's work without acknowledging it, will result in a zero.
6. Cheating on quizzes and exams will result in a zero.