"There is no such thing as a perfect, ideal, or ‘correct’ translation. A translator is always trying to extend his knowledge and improve his means of expression; he is always pursuing facts and words.”

— Peter Newmark, *A Textbook of Translation*

“A translator is a reader, an interpreter, and a creator, all in one.”

— Bijay Kumar Das, *A Handbook of Translation Studies.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Classical or Literary Chinese was the written language of China until the vernacular movement of the early twentieth century. It was also the written language of *East Asia* (and parts of Southeast Asia) until sometime around the middle of the second millennium CE. It remains part of the formal curriculum in Chinese high schools and it is useful for reading modern Chinese newspapers, formal documents, and academic scholarship. This is a reading course designed for students who have had little to no prior exposure to Classical Chinese. The first semester of Classical Chinese introduces common patterns and terms found in late Zhou and Han proverbs, anecdotes, biographies, and in the classics of the master philosophers. Emphasis is on linguistic structures, reading comprehension, and translation. Lessons are intended to introduce basic features of classical Chinese syntax and grammar, but we will spend a majority of our time in class translating classical Chinese text. Lectures and discussions will be conducted in English.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS
[1] The readings, exercises, and translations listed below in the schedule must be completed before the classes for which they are assigned.
[2] Attend all meetings ready to translate and arrive on time (or early).
[3] Regularly, actively, and substantively participate in class.

REQUIRED TEXTS
*All other readings will be accessible online, in handouts, or through our CANVAS site (“Files”).

I recommend that you obtain a copy of at least one of the following two Chinese-Chinese dictionaries. Any edition of either one is fine. Both dictionaries are great reference tools, but they will also help you familiarize yourself with Literary Chinese through use. There are cheap versions available for download online.


GRADED WORK
Translations 60 points (you must turn in 30/40 on time; no exceptions)
Three Tests 30 points
Final Project 10 points

Grading Scale
A = 93+ A- = 90-92.9 B+ = 87-89.9 B = 83-86.9 B- = 80-82.9 C+ = 77-79.9
C = 73-76.9 C- = 70-72.9 D+ = 67-69.9 D = 63-66.9 D- = 60-62.9 E = 0-59.9

-- Please note: An earned grade of “C-” will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen. Ed., Gordon Rule, or basic distribution credit. Also note that for the grades to have a meaning, they must be [1] earned by the student (not ‘given’ by the teacher) and [2] follow the grading scale strictly.
For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

ATTENDANCE
The University of Florida’s attendance policy may be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Attendance, class participation, and conscientious completion of all assigned work in a timely manner are basic elements of classroom education. Accordingly, students’ final grades will be adjusted according to their
attendance, as well as their classroom demeanor and class/homework. Students will be allowed three [3] class hour absences without repercussions. After these three ‘free’ absences, each unexcused absence will result in a two [2] point reduction of the final grade as calculated above. If you miss more than eight [8] classes, you fail.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Any violation of the Honor Code in any assignment for this course will be prosecuted according to UF policy, which may include failing the class or expulsion (see paragraph IX of the Student Conduct Code).

SPECIFICS: Because of the special nature of language as a tool of understanding, simple memorization of translations is not an acceptable substitute for the student’s own understanding and interpretation of a text. When a student translation (into any language) is more than 75% identical in word-choice and structure to another translation (whether that of another student, the instructor, the textbook, an online translation or other published translation), the student will be required to quiz and/or re-translate in order to demonstrate that they have achieved independent understanding of the text.

For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php.

COUNSELING SERVICES
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

--- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/

DISABILITY RESOURCES
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation <0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565> www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

DISCLAIMER
Where information or policy in the syllabus conflicts with official University of Florida Policy regarding this class, University Policy automatically applies with authoritative priority.
SCHEDULE

*This syllabus is provisional. It will be adjusted if the workload turns out to be too heavy or light. Readings and exercises are due at the beginning of the classes for which they are assigned. I expect a hard copy of all turn-in exercises. Write it (legibly) or type it out . . . your choice.

**Wed. Aug. 21**  CLASS 1
Before we meet, please
READ: [1] Syllabus [CANVAS/see “Files”]

**Fri. Aug. 23**  CLASS 2

**Mon. Aug. 26**  CLASS 3
READ: Fuller, “Lesson 1,” pp. 39-46. [CANVAS]
TRANSLATION 1: Fuller, p. 42 (Text 1-4, 1-3), p. 46 (Exercise 2).

**Wed. Aug. 28**  CLASS 4
TRANSLATION 2: Fuller, p. 49 (Text 1-5), pp. 51-53 (Exercises 1-2, 4).

**Fri. Aug. 30**  CLASS 5
READ: Fuller, “Lesson 3,” pp. 54-61. [CANVAS]
TRANSLATION 3: Fuller, p. 55 (Text 1-3), pp. 60-61 (Exercises 3-4).

**Wed. Sept. 4**  CLASS 6
READ: Fuller, “Lesson 5,” pp. 71-78. [CANVAS]
TRANSLATION 4: Fuller, p. 72 (Text 1-5), pp. 77-78 (Exercises 2-4).

**Fri. Sept. 6**  CLASS 6
READ: Fuller, “Lesson 6,” pp. 79-86. [CANVAS]
TRANSLATION 5: Fuller, p. 82 (Text 1-4), pp. 85-86 (Exercise 1, a-e [just translate]).

**Mon. Sept. 9**  CLASS 7
READ: Fuller, “Lesson 7,” pp. 87-93. [CANVAS]
TRANSLATION 6: Fuller, p. 89 (Text 1-4), pp. 92-93 (Exercise 1).

**Wed. Sept. 11**  CLASS 8
TRANSLATION 7: Eno, p. 8 (Written Exercise 1-13). <In class: Eno, p. 1.>
Fri. Sept. 13  CLASS 9
TRANSLATION 8: p. 4 (Text #1-3).
<br>In class: pp. 9 (PRACTICE 1-5); p. 10 (PRACTICE 1-3).>

Mon. Sept. 16  CLASS 10
TRANSLATION 9: p. 12 (Text #1-2).

Wed. Sept. 18  CLASS 11
<br>In class: pp. 31-32 (PRACTICE 1-7, 1-7).p. 32 (PRACTICE 1-5)> + REVIEW.

Fri. Sept. 20  CLASS 12  TEST 1

Mon. Sept. 23  CLASS 13
READ: Eno, pp. 1-21 <http://www.iub.edu/~g380/1.7-Spring_Autumn_Narrative-2010.pdf>

Wed. Sept. 25  CLASS 14
TRANSLATION 12: p. 34.
<br>In class: pp. 42-43 (PRACTICE 1-5, 1-5).>

Fri. Sept. 27  CLASS 15
TRANSLATION 13: pp. 50-51 (PRACTICE 1-5, 1-5, 1-5).
<br>In class: p. 52 (PRACTICE 1-5), pp. 53 (PRACTICE 1-7).>

Mon. Sept. 30 CLASS 16
TRANSLATION 14-15: pp. 44.

Wed. Oct. 2  CLASS 17
TRANSLATION 16-17: p. 55 (all).

Mon. Oct. 7  CLASS 18
READ: Lesson 6, pp. 57-66.
TRANSLATION 18-19: p. 57
<br>In class: p. 64 (PRACTICE 1-5), p. 66 (PRACTICE 1-5).>

Wed. Oct. 9  CLASS 19
READ: Lesson 7, pp. 67-78.
TRANSLATION 20: p. 78 (PRACTICE 1-5, 1 and 4). <In class: p. 75 (PRACTICE 1-5, 1-5, 1-5).>
Fri. Oct. 11      CLASS 20
REVIEW

Mon. Oct. 14     CLASS 21     TEST 2

Wed. Oct. 16     CLASS 22
READ: Lesson 8, pp. 79-86.

Fri. Oct. 18     CLASS 23
TRANSLATION 24-25: p. 79.

Mon. Oct. 21     CLASS 24
READ: Lesson 9, pp. 87-95.
TRANSLATION 26: p. 94 (PRACTICE 1-12).

Wed. Oct. 23     CLASS 25
READ: Lesson 10, pp. 96-105.
TRANSLATION 27: p. 96. (at least to the question in line 5)

Fri. Oct. 25     CLASS 26
TRANSLATION 28: finish p. 96.
<In class: p. 104 (PRACTICE 1-5)>

Mon. Oct. 28     CLASS 27
TRANSLATION 29: p. 106 (all Chinese to English).
REVIEW

Wed. Oct. 30     CLASS 28

Fri. Nov. 1      CLASS 29     TEST 3

Mon. Nov. 4      CLASS 30
READ: Lesson 11, pp. 111-121.
TRANSLATION 30: p. 113 (first five lines).
<In class: p. 120 (PRACTICE 1-5).>

Wed. Nov. 6      CLASS 31
TRANSLATION 31: p. 122 (first five lines)
Fri. Nov. 8        CLASS 32
TRANSLATION 32: p. 122 (remainder)

Wed. Nov. 13      CLASS 33
READ: Lesson 13, pp. 132-141
TRANSLATION 33-34: p. 132 (lines 1-6).

Fri. Nov. 15      CLASS 34
TRANSLATION 35: p. 132 (2nd half; lines 6-11).

Mon. Nov. 18      CLASS 35
READ: Lesson 19, pp. 192-206.
TRANSLATION 36-37: p. 192 (lines 1-7).

Wed. Nov. 20      CLASS 36

Fri. Nov. 22      CLASS 37
TRANSLATION 40: p. 192 (lines 14-21).

Mon. Nov. 25      CLASS 38
Translation and Annotation

Mon. Dec. 2       CLASS 39
Translation and Annotation

Wed. Dec. 4       CLASS 40
Translation and Annotation
Conclusions/Evaluations

FINAL EXAM = Final Annotated Translation
Due Dec. 11 by 1pm