

CS 4501 Study Abroad Seminar: China Spring 2012

Patrick S. Cheng
Sherrill 241
pcheng@eds.edu
617-682-1538

Kwok Pui Lan
Sherrill 361
pkwok@eds.edu
617-682-1533

Pre-Trip Sessions, Spring 2012: Feb 2, Feb 23, Mar 22, Apr 19, 6.30-8.30 p.m.
Study tour: May 18-June 2, 2012

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of this travel seminar is to learn about the culture and religions of China, explore the life and witness of the Chinese churches in a rapidly changing society, and study the legacy of the Episcopal mission in China.

Reading, writing, watching videos, and participation in pre-trip sessions will be required as part of the orientation process during the spring semester. Participants will engage in analytical and spiritual reflection before, during and after the trip, which will lead to a final project.

Participants must be able to: (1) participate as a member of a collaborative team; (2) engage with cultural, economic, and social difference on personal, interpersonal, and systemic levels; (3) exercise skills in theological, cultural and social analysis; and (4) be flexible in facing the unexpected. Course fee is USD1,000 to be paid before the trip.

II. COURSE GOALS

Explore the nature of Christian faith and life and witness of the Chinese churches as Christians address poverty, gender and sexuality issues, globalization, state and religion, and the changing roles of China in the world.

- Understand and experience the phenomenal church growth in a socialist country.
- Learn about how the churches interact with other religions in a religiously pluralistic society.
- Explore the complexities of the unique intersection of race, class, gender, and history in China as we meet and learn from and interact with people.
- Develop cultural sensitivity through working with the seminar group and meeting people in China.
- Lay the groundwork for personal praxis in a new multipolar world.

Anti-racism Commitment

This course shares Episcopal Divinity School's commitment to anti-racism and multiculturalism. It is impossible to understand the dynamics of life in present-day China without recognizing China's relations with the outside world, and especially with the USA. The course recognizes that China is undergoing rapid economic, social, and political changes, and encourages students to understand the reality underlying these changes among the people and institutions they will encounter during the trip.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend and participate in pre-trip sessions.
2. Complete assigned readings and post reflections on the course home page prior to each session. Guidelines for postings will be given.
3. A final integrative paper or project to be completed after the trip. Guidelines will be given. Due date: August 2, 2012.

Pass/Fail Option

The Pass/Fail grading system is now:

Pass (B or better)

Marginal Pass (B-)

Fail (lower than B-)

D. Min Students

Course work for all Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) students must demonstrate an advanced understanding of the nature and purposes of ministry, enhanced competencies in pastoral analysis and ministerial skills, and the integration of these dimensions into the theologically reflective practice of ministry. D.Min. students are encouraged to focus their course work on a particular subject germane to their anticipated thesis project.

IV. REQUIRED BOOKS

Bays, Daniel. *A New History of Christianity in China*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

Palmer, David A., Glenn Shive, and Philip L. Wickeri, eds. *Chinese Religious Life*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Ruokanen, Miikka, and Paulos Huang, eds. *Christianity and Chinese Culture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010.

Other articles in the course home page in PowerCampus.

V. COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

February 2 Session One

- Introduction to the Study Abroad Seminar: Norms and expectations
- Cross-cultural understanding
- China, the USA, and the world

Readings:

Zhang, Longxi. "The Myth of the Other," in *Mighty Opposites: From Dichotomies to Differences in the Comparative Study of China*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1998, 19-54.

De Blij, Harm. *Why Geography Matters: Three Challenges Facing America: Climate Change, the Rise of China, and Global Terrorism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005, 125-49.

Ken Miller. "How China Could Sink the Economy." *Time*, October 31, 2011, 32-33

"The Year When the Chinese Economy Will Truly Eclipse America's Is in Sight," *The Economist*, December 31, 2011, 61.

Rofel, Lisa. "Qualities of Desire: Imagining Gay identities," in *Desiring China: Experiments in Neoliberalism, Sexuality, and Public Culture*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2007, 85-110.

Recommended:

Cohen, Warren I. "America in the Age of Chinese Power," in *America's Response to China: A History of Sino-American Relations*, 5th ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010, 263-92 (available as e-book in the EDS library).

February 23 Session Two

- Multireligious understanding
- Religious life in contemporary China
- Chinese religion in global context

Readings:

Palmer, Shive, and Wickeri, *Chinese Religious Life*, ch. 2, 3, 6, 11, 12, 13.

Videos: To be announced.

March 22 Session Three

- Development of the Protestant church in China

- Christian church in a communist society
- Rapid church growth
- Women's leadership and participation

Readings:

Bays, Daniel, *A New History of Christianity in China*, ch.1, 3-7.

Ying, Fuk-tsang. "Mainland China," in *Christianities in Asia*, ed. Peter C. Phan. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2011, 149-70.

Kwok, Pui-lan. "Christianity and Women in Contemporary China," *Journal of World Christianity*, 3, no. 1 (2009): 1-17.

April 19 Session Four

- Chinese theology in the making
- Cultural Christians in China
- Preparation and trip logistics

Readings:

Ting, K. H. "Theology Adapting to a Changing Culture," in *God Is Love: Selected Writings by K .H. Ting*. Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications, 2004, 451-56.

Zhuo, Xinping. "Discussion on 'Cultural Christians' in China," in *China and Christianity: Burdened Past, Hopeful Future*, ed. Stephen Uhalley Jr. and Xiaoxin Wu. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2001, 283-300.

Ruokanen and Huang, eds. *Christianity and Chinese Culture*, 3, 7, 13, 15, 16, 19.

China trip: May 18 to June 2, 2012

VI. RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Chinese History and Background

Cohen, Warren I. *America's Response to China: A History of Sino-American Relations*, 5th ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010. E-book.

Fairbank, John King, and Merle Goldman, *China: A New History*, 2nd enlarged ed. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006.

Jacques, Martin: *When China Rules the World: The End of the Western World and the Birth of a New World Order*. New York: Penguin, 2009.

Naisbitt, John, and Doris Naisbitt. *China Megatrends: The 8 Pillars of a New Society*. New York: Harper Business, 2010.

Spence, Jonathan D. *The Search for Modern China*, 2nd ed. New York: Norton, 1999.

Starr, John Bryan. *Understanding China: A Guide to China's Economy, History, and Political Culture*, 3rd ed. New York: Hill and Wang, 2010.

Christianity in China

Bays, Daniel H., ed. *Christianity in China: From the Eighteenth Century to the Present*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999.

Charbonnier, Jean-Pierre. *Christians in China: AD 600-2000*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2007.

Covell, Ralph C. *Confucius, the Buddha, and Christ: A History of the Gospel in Chinese*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1986.

Eber, Irene. *The Jewish Bishop and the Chinese Bible: S .I. J. Schereschewsky (1831-1906)*. Leiden: Brill, 1999.

Gernet, Jacques. *China and the Christian Impact: A Conflict of Cultures*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985.

Gray, G. F. S. *Anglicans in China: A History of the Zhonghua Shenggong Hui*. Episcopal China Mission History Project, 1996.

Hoff, Marvin D, ed. *Chinese Theological Education, 1976-2006*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2009.

Kwok, Pui-lan. *Chinese Women and Christianity, 1860-1927*. Atlanta: Scholars, 1992.

Li, Florence Tim Oi. *Raindrops of My Life: Memoirs of the Reverend Florence Li Tim Oi*. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1996.

Lian, Xi. *Redeemed by Fire: The Rise of Popular Christianity in Modern China*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010.

Lutz, Jessie Gregory. *China and the Christian Colleges, 1850-1950*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1971.

- _____, ed. *Pioneer Chinese Christian Women: Gender, Christianity, and Social Mobility*. Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University Press, 2010.
- Madsen, Richard. *China's Catholics: Tragedy and Hope in an Emerging Civil Society*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998.
- Minamiki, George. *The Chinese Rites Controversy: From Its Beginning to Modern Times*. Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1985.
- Moffett, Samuel Hugh. *A History of Christianity in Asia*, vols. 1 & 2. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1998 and 2005.
- Palmer, Martin. *The Jesus Sutras: Rediscovering the Lost Scrolls of Taoist Christianity*. New York: Ballantine, 2001.
- Richmond, Annette B. *The American Episcopal Church in China*. New York: The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA, 1907.
- Starr, Chlöe, ed. *Reading Christian Scriptures in China*. New York: T. & T. Clark, 2008.
- Tang, Edmond, and Jean-Paul Wiest, eds. *The Catholic Church in Modern China: Perspectives*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1993.
- Ting, K. H. *God Is Love: Collected Writings of Bishop K. H. Ting*. Colorado Spring, CO: Cook Communications, 2004.
- Uhalley, Stephen, Jr., and Xiaoxin Wu, eds. *China and Christianity: Burdened Past, Hopeful Future*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2001.
- Wang, Aiming. *The Church in China: Faith, Ethics, Structure: The Heritage of the Reformation for the Future of the Church in China*. New York: Peter Lang, 2009.
- Whyte, Bob. *Unfinished Encounter: China and Christianity*. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse, 1990.
- Wickeri, Philip L. *Seeking the Common Ground: Protestant Christianity, the Three-Self Movement, and China's United Front*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1989.
- Wilfred, Felix, Edmond Tang, and Georg Evers, eds. *China and Christianity: A New Phase of Encounter*. London: SCM, 2008.

Chinese Theological Review (online)

<http://www.amitynewsservice.org/page.php?page=356>

China Websites

<http://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/history/>

<http://acc6.its.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~phalsall/images.html>