ANTH 2760/UGEA 2330  China’s Cultural Heritage  
Term 1 2020-2021  
Lecture time: Wednesday 2:30-4:15 pm  
Meeting id: 931 6144 4119  
https://cuhk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcsceisqj8rG91iAFmUZTRjC0Rb2prROgoM  
Language: Cantonese

Instructors:  
Dr. WengCheong LAM  
Office Room 323, Humanities Building, New Asia College  
Office hours: Monday 14-16 pm  
Email: wlam@cuhk.edu.hk  
TA: Chen Yutong  
BeiYuchen@outlook.com

China’s Cultural Heritage

Course description
Cultural heritage has emerged as a new arena of significant conflict and controversy in the global context. This course will examine how cultural heritage calls a growing concern in China and why it is becoming a new social phenomenon. This course will discuss the conservation, management, uses, and social-political issues of China’s cultural heritage. This course will also introduce the cultural and historical background of several types of cultural heritage as well as their long-term impacts on contemporary Chinese society.

Course objectives:
Students taking this course can expect to:

- Gain familiarity with basic concepts and origins of cultural heritage.
- Become acquainted with some essential cultural heritage sites and their social-political importance in contemporary China.
- Understand the meanings and development of Chinese cultures by analyzing tangible and intangible heritage, from capitals, villages, mausoleums, grottos, to rituals, customs, and craftsmanship.
- Explore recent challenges to the management and preservation of cultural heritage in contemporary China and identify possible solution.
- Develop familiarity with critical aspects in heritage studies including debates about the heritage and nationalism, tourism, etc.

Learning outcomes:
After taking this course, students are expected to:
1. Know the major categories and historical background of cultural heritage in mainland China;
2. Be able to evaluate the value of cultural heritage and be inspired to explore issues inherited in the movement of “heritagization”;
3. To identify new methods addressing social issues involved in projects of cultural heritage;
4. Cultivate the abilities of cross-cultural, inter-disciplinary and critical thinking.

**Learning activities**
Two 45 min lectures and one 1-hour tutorial per week for one semester

**Medium of instruction:** Cantonese

**Grade Descriptors**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirements.</td>
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**Course assessment:**

- Lecture activity participation (ureply and vote) 10%
- Lecture discussion participation (raising questions) 15%
- Off-line discussion (after lecture): 15%
- One mid-term exam (on-line, open book) 15%
- Group project presentation (you are welcome to use multi-media to present the project) 20%
- Final response paper 25%

**Submission and academic honesty**

As required by the university, from Sept. 2008, students must submit a soft copy of their computer-generated text assignments to VeriGuide at a specified URL. The system will issue a receipt containing a declaration of honesty statement. Students should sign the receipt, print a hard copy of their assignment, and submit the hard copy and the receipt to teachers for grading.
The university says that assignments without the receipt will not be graded.

Please check the website “Honesty in Academic Works” at:
http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ for more information on plagiarism and on how to submit papers through VeriGuide.

**Weekly Schedule (This Syllabus is Subject to Change. Any Changes Will Be Announced In Class)**

**Week 1** (9th September)
Introduction: Why should we care about China’s cultural heritage?

Other useful resources:
- UNESCO 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (http://whc.unesco.org/archive/convention-en.pdf) (optional)

**Week 2** (16th September)
Concepts and framework of cultural heritage

Reading:

Other useful resources:

**Week 3** (23th September)
Preservation and management of cultural heritage in China

Reading:
- Zhihu temple example: watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPckI1mK26k
- 北京智珠寺改造，是“高档会所”还是文物修缮典范？https://www.thepaper.cn/newsDetail_forward_1296216

External Reading:
China ICOMOS


Other useful resources:
For the basic definition of authenticity, please see:
ICOMOS

1993 THE NARA DOCUMENT ON AUTHENTICITY
(whc.unesco.org/document/9379) (optional)

General policies for heritage conservation:

China ICOMOS

2015 Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China

Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

2002 Cultural Relics Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China (can be downloaded
(http://www.unesco.org/culture/natlaws/media/pdf/china/china_lawprotectionclt_corof) (optional)

Week 4 (30th September)
Utilization of cultural heritage in China: museum and its economic role

Reading:
潘守永

孫華
2019. 遺產價值的若干問題——遺產價值的本質、屬性、結構、類型和評價. 中國文化遺產 2019(1):4-16.

Watch the video about 侗族生態博物館
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaaoP9Nq9KE

Useful sources:
方李莉

Week 5 (7th October)
Big relic sites and management of archaeological sites: a case study of Yinxu

孫華

Wang, Dongdong, and Shin’ichi Nakamura

Useful sources:
中國文化遺産研究院
2016. 大遺址保護行動跟蹤研究. 北京: 文物出版社.

中國社會科学院考古研究所文化遺産保護研究中心
Week 6  (14th October)
Mid-term exam: in-class

Week 7  (21st October)  [prepare for the final paper project]
Mausoleums, burials, and memories
Reading:
Ahn, Yonson
Pak, Yangjin

Week 8  (28th October)
Capitals and urban centers in historical period
Reading:
Zhang, Yue.
Bruno, Debra
2012  Can an ancient Chinese City Pursue Preservation Without Disney-fication? CityLab

Week 9  (4th November)
Villages, local architectures, and rural areas
Guo, Zhan
Lu, Tracey L-D

Week 10  (11th November)
Intangible cultural heritage: basic definition
You, Ziying
烏丙安

Other useful resources:
Intangible Cultural Heritage in China Website [http://www.ihchina.cn/main.jsp](http://www.ihchina.cn/main.jsp)
UNESCO
UNESCO
2005  Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
Week 11  (18th November)
Ian Johnson
2012 “Worse than the Cultural Revolution”: an interview with Tian Qing. *NYR Daily.*
(http://www.nybooks.com/daily/2012/04/07/worse-cultural-revolution-interview-tian-qing/)
Gillette, Maris Boyd
Watch the video:
Making Longquan sword in China
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wq9LuqKr-sw

Week 12  (25th November)
Grottos, Buddhist art, and their roles in ancient China
Reading:
Lamer, Brook
Noyes, Abbey
Fan, Jinshi

Week 13 (03rd December)
Tourism, sustainability and challenges to China’s Cultural heritage
Reading:
Yan, Haiming

Tutorial topics [students should use the discussion board in the blackboard to comment on the reading materials or to raise questions]
Week 1:
No discussion and preparing the reading materials.
Week 2:
Discussion about the concepts of cultural heritage.
Week 3:
Discussion about the concepts of authenticity.
Week 4:
Discussion about the preservation and economic roles of cultural heritage using.
Week 5:
Discussion about the dilemma between the big heritage sites and local residents.
Week 6:
No tutorial.
Week 7:
No tutorial: preparation and finalizing the potential research topic.
Week 8:
Discussion about the challenges for cultural heritage for residents in urban centers.

Week 9:
Discussion about culture preserved in villages and how local people can become agents in the conservation.

Week 10:
What is the best strategy to preserve and utilize intangible cultural heritage?

Week 11:
Project presentation/Debate: whether craftsmanship should be counted in the category of intangible cultural heritage

Week 12:
Project presentation/Debate: Debate about the ownership of Dunhuang “looted” heritage

Week 13:
No tutorial.