

The University of Oklahoma

College of Continuing Education

Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:

Chinese Culture and Communication

Course Number:

CAS 5970-222

Course Description:

This course will provide students an introduction to Chinese culture and how that culture affects Chinese communication styles. An overview of Chinese history and traditional cultural and communication practices will provide a foundation for analyzing and understanding contemporary communication styles. The course will also explore the effects of the rhetoric and policies of the Chinese government and the Communist Party of China on contemporary communication practices, including Chinese media and the Internet. Students will learn to think about Chinese culture and communication styles from a variety of perspectives and to apply what they have learned in practice and to achieve a better understanding of the social and political dynamics at play in the cultural and communication practices in contemporary China.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: November 15-20, 2016

Location: Classes held at Building 2784, Room 301, Kapaun Air Station on Vogelweh Air Base.

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: October 17, 2016

Site Director:

Email: apramstein@ou.edu. Phone: DSN 480-6807, Civilian 06371-47-6807.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Paul B. Bell, Jr.

Telephone Number: 405-325-2077

E-mail Address: pbell@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at <http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home> is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

1. Wasserstrom, J. (2013). *China in the 21st century: What everyone needs to know* (2nd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780199974962.
2. Nisbett, R.E. (2004). *The geography of thought: How Asians and Westerners think differently and why*. New York: Free Press. ISBN 9780743255356.

3. McCormack, J. & Blair, J.G. (2016). *Thinking through China*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. ISBN 9781442247925.
4. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at <http://learn.ou.edu>; enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

Course Objectives:

As a result of readings, lectures and discussions, students who complete this course should be able to:

- Understand the foundations of Chinese culture and its role in creating modern China;
- Understand how Chinese culture has affected the development of Chinese communication practices and how it continues to affect contemporary interpersonal communication;
- Understand the role of the internet in contemporary China;
- Understand the structure and role of Chinese print and electronic media;
- Understand the “Great Firewall of China” and both why and how the Chinese government and the Communist Party of China seek to impose control over Chinese media and the internet.
- Understand how ordinary Chinese respond to, resist and/or bypass government efforts to control Chinese media and the internet.
- Use the internet to access information from and about Chinese media.
- Use resources available on the Internet to obtain information about contemporary communication practices and issues from official and unofficial Chinese and non-Chinese perspectives.
- Engage in informed discussion and debate about China's past, current and future situation.
- Do independent research on topics related to Chinese culture and communication and write an analysis paper on a topic about contemporary Chinese culture and communication of interest to the student.

Course Outline:

All classes will consist of a combination of lecture and discussion, with discussion becoming the dominant element as the course progresses. Students are expected to have read all of the assignments prior to class and to come to class prepared to discuss the material, express informed opinions and ask relevant questions. Class participation will count 25% of the final grade. Topics covered will include:

- A brief overview of 5000 years of Chinese history
- Chinese Culture
- Cultural Basis of Chinese Communication
- Chinese Rhetoric
- Chinese Humor
- Governance of China
- Chinese Media
- The Chinese Internet
- Chinese government's rhetoric and policies governing media and access to information
- Public resistance to controls over access to information

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Pre-Class Assignments

- Read all of the assigned books listed in the syllabus.
- Complete the pre-class assignments listed on the course web site.
- Complete the on-line Chinese newspaper reading assignment described on the course web site.

Assignments during the class week

- Prior to discussing each topic class, read the required articles associated with that class topic and complete the assignment listed on the course web site associated with the readings.
- Prior to each class meeting read at least one article from an online Chinese newspaper (in English) and come to class prepared to report on and discuss the article.
- Submit and get approval for your post-class research paper.

Post-Class Assignments

- Complete the post-class research paper as described on the course web site on the topic approved by the instructor. **Due three weeks after the last day of class – December 11 , 2016**
- Continue reading Chinese newspapers on-line.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Graded Assignments	Percent of Grade
Pre-class essay	5%
Pre-class written assignments based on the readings	25%
Contribution to in-class discussion	25%
Chinese culture exercise	5%
Post-class research paper	40%

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

Paul Burton Bell, Jr., Ph.D.

Education

- 1968 A.B. in Biology, *cum laude*, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
- 1975 Ph.D. in Biology Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- 1974 Post-doctoral Fellowship, Uppsala University, Sweden
- 1974-76 Postdoctoral Fellowship, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

Current Positions

- Dean Emeritus, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- Regents' Professor
- Chairman of the Board, OU Confucius Institute
- Professor of Zoology

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Contemporary China
- Chinese Economic Development
- Chinese Culture and Communication
- Chinese Business Etiquette
- Leadership
- University administration

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Regents' Professor, OU, 2013
- Individual Performance Excellence Award from Confucius Institute Headquarters, Beijing, China, 2012
- Outstanding Civic Leader for the Asia Society of Oklahoma, 2011
- Member of the Board of Directors, Council of Colleges of Arts and Science, 2004-2011
- President-elect, President, and Past-President, Council of Colleges of Arts and Science, 2006 - 2011
- Honorary Doctor of Philosophy, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden 1997
- Special Recognition Award, Oklahoma Academic Advising Association 1995
- Distinguished Lecturer, University of Oklahoma Associates, 1988
- AMOCO Good Teaching Award, 1987
- OU College of Arts and Science Summer Fellowship 1981
- OU Research Council Junior Faculty Summer Fellowship 1980