

## Modern Chinese: Contemporary Chinese Literature (A005122)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 6.0**

**Study time 180 h**

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Chinese

Gent

practical

### Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Liu, Jun

LW21

staff member

Matthyssen, Mieke

LW21

staff member

Dessein, Bart

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Master of Science in Teaching in Languages\(main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures\)](#)

**crdts**

6

**offering**

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China\)](#)

6

A

[Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures](#)

6

A

### Teaching languages

Chinese

### Keywords

Contemporary China, literature

### Position of the course

Being able to read the literature of contemporary China and being able to place literature in the Chinese literary history, as well as in its economic, political and social context. Being able to deduce information concerning modern China from Chinese literature and academic publications. Being able to express oneself orally and in written form on the topics that are the subject of the discussed literature. Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

### Contents

The course is built around a selection from the literature (prose, poetry, drama) of contemporary mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. This selection is made in function of a specific topic. Appealing to the students' knowledge, academic publications, and of video fragments and interviews with the selected authors, the oeuvre of these authors is discussed and interpreted. The students learn to express themselves orally about the topics that are represented in the selected literature. The students are also trained in expressing themselves individually about the topics through oral presentations and written papers.

### Initial competences

'Modern Chinese: Contemporary Chinese Literature' requires a good knowledge of Modern Chinese (level BA3) and a basic knowledge of Classical Chinese (level BA2). Further required are the knowledge of 'Oriental literatures: China', 'Method and Research: South and East Asia', 'East Asian Philosophies' and 'Society and Contemporary Issues: China'.

### Final competences

- 1 Knowing the most important authors and their works, and being able to place these in the literary history;
- 2 Being able to interpret modern Chinese literature as a reflection of the political, economic and social developments in contemporary China;

- 3 Being able to apply the knowledge gained on the economic, political and social history of China to the contemporary Chinese literature;
- 4 Being able to translate extracts from modern and contemporary Chinese authors to Dutch/English;
- 5 Being able to express oneself orally concerning topics that relate to Chinese society.
- 6 Being able to express oneself in written form concerning topics that relate to Chinese culture

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

#### **Teaching methods**

Practical

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

In practical classes, selected authors and their works are discussed and translated. Academic publications, interviews, and video fragments are discussed in class. Composition exercises are discussed individually.

#### **Study material**

Type: Handouts

Name: handouts

Indicative price: € 10

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Pages : 40

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : one-time

#### **References**

not applicable

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Group discussions guarantee a direct feedback. The individual composition exercises are, after correction, discussed with each student individually.

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Oral assessment, Written assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Oral assessment, Written assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Written assessment

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

50 % continuous assessment:

- during the semester, the students are trained in making translations of literary works

- during the semester, the students have to give four oral presentations, and write two papers.

The students are evaluated by the teachers on the quality of their individual presentations and written papers.

50 % end-of-term assessment: written examination that consists of the translation

and discussion of literary works in the genre of, or of one of the authors discussed in the classes (25 % of the total), and an examination essay (1000 words in Dutch/English) based on an oral recorded fragment about a topic that was discussed in the classes (25 % of the total).

The students have to pass for both the part continuous and end-of-term assessment. If a student does not pass for the whole of the continuous and the end-of-term assessment, there is a possibility to do a resit exam in the second examination period. This exam consists of the continuous assessment and the end-of-term assessment.

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

50 % continuous and 50 % end-of-term assessment

Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation or obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of its parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (=9).

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

##### **Facilities:**

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours

##### **Extra information:**

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy