This two-semester course proposes a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of Chinese cultural history conceived of as a succession of modes of rationality (philosophical, bureaucratic, and economic processes of rationalization). The focus will be on the moments of paradigm shift from one mode of rationality to another. For each of these moments, cultural facts and artifacts—thought, literature, ritual—will be examined in relationship to changing social, political, and economic systems. This semester will focus on the emergence of modern China in the Song-Yuan (960-1368) and of today’s China 1850 to the present. We will see how the modern attack on religion, redefined as "superstition", led not only to religious reform movements but also to a society in which science and the nation became the primary value systems promoted by the state.

**Topic 1 Religion and Thought in the Song, Jin, and Yuan**

All required readings are from *Modern Chinese Religion I: Song-Liao-Jin-Yuan* (960-1368 AD)

Lecture 1 January 11 “Modern China”

Lecture 2 January 18 State Religion
*Tutorial reading*: *Patricia Ebrey, “Song Government Policy,” Modern Chinese Religion I*, pp. 73-137 (double credit)

Lecture 3 January 25 Local Society
Fu-shih Lin, “‘Old Customs and New Fashions’: An Examination of Features of Shamanism in Song China,” *Modern Chinese Religion I*, pp. 229-282

Lecture 4 February 1 Daoism in the Song and Jin

February 4-9 Lunar New Year Holiday

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1 An asterisk* indicates required reading for all. All other items are additional suggested readings on which students may also prepare oral presentations on the day indicated.
Lecture 5 February 15 Buddhism in the Song

Lecture 6 February 22 Confucianism in the Song (1)

Lecture 7 March 1 Confucianism in the Song (2)

**Topic 2 Structuring Values 1850-2015**
All readings are from *Modern Chinese Religion II: 1865-2015*

Lecture 8 March 8 Contemporary China

Lecture 9 March 15 Economics (and Art)
  Walter Davis, “Art, Aesthetics, and Religion in Modern China,” *Modern Chinese Religion II*, pp. 197-257

Lecture 10 March 22 Science

Lecture 11 March 29 The Woman Question (and Marxism)

April 5 Qing Ming

Lecture 12 April 12 Spirit Writing and Charity
Lecture 13 Date to be announced Religions Transformed


Sébastien Billioud, “The Hidden Tradition: Confucianism and Its Metamorphoses in Modern and Contemporary China,” Modern Chinese Religion II, pp. 767-805

Ji Zhe, “Buddhist Institutional Innovations,” Modern Chinese Religion II, pp. 731-766

Course Assessment

CCS3411
1. 15-minute oral presentation of two tutorial readings: 20% each
   Students should prepare a powerpoint presentation, with a hard copy for the professor.
2. 2 take-home tests, to be handed in on March 8 and April 25: 30% each
   The questions to be answered will be distributed two weeks in advance and will be based entirely on the required readings: they are designed to test your understanding of these readings.

CHES6002
1. 15-minute oral presentation of two tutorial readings: 20% each
   Students should prepare a powerpoint presentation and a one- or two-page handout for the professor.
2. 2 take-home tests, to be handed in on March 8 and April 25: 30% each
   The questions to be answered will be distributed two weeks in advance and will be based entirely on the required readings: they are designed to test your understanding of these readings.

Course assignments: please follow the CUHK rules concerning submission:
1. Each student must upload a soft copy of each completed assignment to the plagiarism detection engine CUPIDE, at the URL: http://cupide.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/student
2. The system will issue a receipt which also contains a declaration of honesty, which is the same as that in http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/p09.htm. The declaration should be signed, and the receipt stapled to a hard copy of the assignment, which should be handed in during class on March 9 (test 1) or placed in the professor’s mailbox by April 27 (test 2).