

Course Title:

CURE3126 POPULAR RELIGIONS IN CHINA 中國民間宗教

First Term 2023/24

Lecture: Monday 10:30am -12:15pm Tutorial: Monday 12:30pm - 1:15pm

Venue: Lecture ERB 405 Tutorial: ERB 405 & UCC208

Lecturer: Dr. Lee Chi Shing

Language: C&E

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to introduce the basic contents and characteristics of popular religions in China. It also helps students to understand the differences and connections between popular religions and other major Chinese religious traditions in history and present time. The course will demonstrate the academic definition of popular religions in China, as well as other religious elements such as, pantheons, texts, festivals, divinations, temples, religious institutions, and social contexts etc. In this course, the students will be required to read primary texts of the religious traditions and study the topic by various approaches. They not only need to learn academic theories and discourses, but also need to understand specific religious facts and operating logic.

Learning Outcomes:

- (1) To understand the basic contents and characteristics of Chinese popular religions in religious and historical contexts. Especially the uniqueness of popular religions in China that is different from other religious traditions.
- (2) The students can identify the religious practices of popular religions in China and able to understand the basic religious phenomena of popular religions in Chinese social contexts.
- (3) The students can develop research skills like textual and fieldwork studies and to prepare for interdisciplinary studies in Chinese religions.
- (4) After completing this course, students will have a deeper understanding of the traditional religious culture, beliefs, practices, and customs in China and Hong Kong societies.

Course Content and Schedule:

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Tutorial
1	Sep 11	Course Introduction: Overview	
2	Sep 18	Chinese Popular Religions: Definition and Theory	Grouping
3	Sep 25	Basic Concepts of Chinese Cosmology	
4	Oct 9	Pantheons: Guandi, and Guanyin	
5	Oct 16	Temples and Festivals	Presentation
6	Oct 30	Divinations: Fortune Stick Prediction	Presentation
7	Nov 6	Medium and Spirit Writing	Presentation
8	Nov 13	Literature and Texts	Presentation
9	Nov 20	Popular Religious Sects and Redemptive Societies	Presentation
10	Nov 27	Contemporary Transition	Presentation
11	Dec 4	Course Summary	

Assessment scheme:

Tutorial Presentation and Discussion 30% (Presentation: 15% + Discussion: 15%)
Term Paper 70%

1. Tutorial Presentation and Discussion:

- All students are divided into six groups, and each group need to report on one assigned topic:
 1. One deity in Chinese popular religion (except Guandi and Guanyin).
 2. One temple in Hong Kong.
 3. One set of fortune stick.
 4. Spirit writing text: *Essential Words of Awakening* 醒世要言.
(Download link: <http://www2.siksikyuen.org.hk/cultural-affairs/article-and-classics/inspiring-quotes>)
 5. Villain hitting 打小人 in Hong Kong.
 6. One documentary video on Hong Kong popular religion highlight (time length: 10-15 mins).
- Each tutorial lesson: 20 minutes for presentation; 25 minutes for discussion.
- All scores are calculated on an individual basis, both for presentation and discussion.

2. Term Paper:

Students are required to write a term paper of 5,000 words (either in Chinese or English) on one of topics discussed in lectures, or they can choose their own topics related to the course subject. Papers will be graded according to its content, focus of argument, source of evidence, discussion, and academic writing and referencing style. The purpose of the term paper is for students to demonstrate their learning outcomes in this course and whether they can use the academic concepts and knowledge acquired in the classroom to make a critical analysis of Chinese popular religions.

****Submission deadline of term paper: 11:59 pm, December 11(Monday), 2023 and should be handed in via the VeriGuide as well as in hard copy.**

Delayed submission of assignments without reasonable explanation may result in grade deduction.

Recommended Readings:

Lecture 2: Chinese Popular Religions: Definition and Theory

1. 柯若樸主編：《中國民間宗教、民間信仰研究之中歐視角》。台北：博揚文化事業有限公司，2012。
2. 馬西沙：《中國民間宗教簡史》。上海：上海人民出版社，2005。
3. 復旦大學文史研究院編：《「民間」何在誰之「信仰」》。北京：中華書局，2009。
4. 黎志添主編：《道教與民間宗教研究論集》。香港：學峰文化事業公司，1999。
5. Bell, Catherine. "Religion and Chinese Culture: Toward an Assessment of "Popular Religion"." in *History of Religions*. Vol. 29. No. 1 (Aug.. 1989). 35-57.
6. Clart, Philip. "The Concept of 'Popular Religion' in the Study of Chinese Religions: Retrospect and Prospects." 收入魏思齊編：《輔仁大學第四屆漢學國際研討會「中國宗教研究——現況與展望」：論文集》。新莊：輔仁大學出版社，2007。頁 166-203。
7. —— "Conceptualizations of 'Popular Religion' in Recent Research in the People's Republic of China." 收入王見川、李世偉、洪瑩發主編：《研究新視界：媽祖與華人民間信仰國際研討會論文集》。台北：博揚文化事業有限公司，2014。頁 391-412。
8. Feuchtwang, Stephan. *Popular Religion in China: The Imperial Metaphor*. Richmond: Curzon, 2001.
9. Overmyer, Daniel L.. "Buddhism in The Trenches: Attitudes Toward Popular Religion in Chinese Scriptures Found at Tun-Huang." in *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*. Vol. 50. No. 1 (Jun., 1990). 197-222.
10. Shahar, Meir and Weller, Robert P.. "Introduction: Gods and Society in China."

in Shahaar, Meir and Weller, Robert P.. *Unruly Gods: Divinity and Society in China*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1996. 1-36.

11. Stein, Rolf A.. "Religious Taoism and Popular Religion from the Second to Seventh Centuries." in Welch, Holmes and Seidel, Anna edited. *Facets of Taoism: Essays in Chinese Religion*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1979.
12. Teiser, Stephen F.. "Popular Religion." in *The Journal of Asian Studies*. Vol. 54, No. 2 (May, 1995). 378-395.
13. Guang Xing. "Buddhist Influence on Chinese Religions and Popular Beliefs." in *International Journal of Buddhist Thought & Culture*. February 2012. vol. 18. 135-57.

Lecture 3: Basic Concepts of Chinese Cosmology

1. 李零：《死生有命 富貴在天：《周易》的自然哲學》。香港：中文大學出版社，2013。
2. 楊儒賓：《五行原論：先秦思想的太初存有論》。新北市：聯經出版事業股份有限公司，2018。
3. Cohen, Myron L.. "Souls and Salvation: Conflicting Themes in Chinese Popular Religion." in Goossaert, Vincent edited. *Critical Readings on Chinese Religions*. Leiden: Brill, 2013. 673-697.
4. Shaughnessy, Edward L.. *The Origin and Early Development of the Zhou Changes*. Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2022.

Lecture 4: Pantheons: Guandi, and Guanyin

1. 于君方著；陳懷宇、姚崇新、林佩瑩譯：《觀音：菩薩中國化的演變》。台北市：法鼓文化事業股份有限公司，2009。
2. 于君方：〈寶卷文學中的觀音與民間信仰〉。載民間信仰與中國文化國際研討會：《民間信仰與中國文化國際研討會論文集》。台北：漢學研究中心，1994。頁 333-351。
3. 王見川、蘇慶華、劉文興編：《近代的關帝信仰與經典：兼談其在新、馬的發展》。台北市：博揚文化事業有限公司，2010。
4. 李世偉：〈末劫解救——從觀音救劫善書探討觀音信仰之民間化〉。載《新世紀宗教研究》。第 16 卷第 2 期（2017 年 12 月）。頁 197-230。
5. 蕭登福、林翠鳳主編：《關帝信仰與現代社會研究論文集》。台北市：宇河文化出版有限公司，2013。
6. Haar, B. J. ter. *Guan Yu: The Religious Afterlife of a Failed Hero*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 2017.
7. Mai, Cuong T. Mai. "The Guanyin Fertility Cult and Family Religion in Late

Imperial China: Repertoires across Domains in the Practice of Popular Religion.” in *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. March 2019. Vol. 87. No. 1. 156–190.

Lecture 5: Temples and Festivals

1. 李天綱：《金澤：江南民間祭祀探源》。北京：生活·讀書·新知三聯書店，2017。
2. 李豐楙、朱榮貴主編：《儀式、廟會與社區：道教、民間信仰與民間文化》。台北：中央研究院中國文哲研究所籌備處，1996。
3. 廖迪生：《香港廟宇》。香港：萬里機構，2022。
4. 黎志添：〈「神道設教」：從廣州府地方廟宇碑刻文獻探索明清士大夫對民間神祠廟宇的立場〉。收入陳熙遠主編：《覆案的歷史：檔案考掘與清史研究》。臺北：中央研究院，2013。頁 315-356。
5. Dean, Kenneth. “One Ocean One Temple: Alternative Chinese Temple Networks in Southeast Asia.” in *Global networks*, 2023. Vol.23 (3).633-645.

Lecture 6: Divinations: Fortune Stick Prediction

1. 吉元昭治：《台灣寺廟藥籤研究：道教醫方與民間療術》。台北：武陵出版有限公司，1990。
2. 林國平：《籤占與中國社會文化》。北京：人民出版社，2014。
3. 酒井忠夫、今井宇三郎、吉元昭治編：《中国の靈籤・藥籤集成》。東京：風响社，1992。
4. Lackner, Michael and Zhao, Lu. *Handbook of Divination and Prognostication in China: Part One: Introduction to the Field*. Leiden: Brill, 2022.

Lecture 7: Medium and Spirit Writing

1. 林富士：《巫者的世界》。台北：三民書局，2023。
2. 范純武主編：《扶鸞文化與民眾宗教國際學術研討會論文集》。台北：博揚文化事業有限公司，2020。
3. 陳桂興主編；張家麟等著：《神來一筆：扶鸞的回顧及展望》。台北：宇河文化出版有限公司，2020。
4. 游子安、志賀市子著：《道妙鸞通：扶乩與香港社會》。香港：三聯書店香港有限公司，2021。
5. Goossaert, Vincent. *Making the Gods Speak: The Ritual Production of Revelation in Chinese Religious History*. Cambridge Massachusetts: Harvard University Asia Center, 2022.
6. Wang Chien ch’uan. “Spirit Writing Groups in Modern China (1840–1937):

Textual Production, Public Teachings, and Charity.” in Kiely, Jan, Goossaert, Vincent, Lagerwey, John edited. *Modern Chinese religion. II, 1850-2015*. Leiden: Brill, 2015. 651-684.

Lecture 8: Literature and Texts: Precious Volumes, Novels, and Morality Books

1. Berezkin, Rostislav. “On the Performance and Ritual Aspects of the *Xiangshan Baojuan*: A Case Study of Religious Assemblies in the Changshu Area.” 載《漢學研究》。第 33 卷第 3 期。頁 307-344。
2. Clart, Philip and Scott, Gregory Adam edited. *Religious Publishing and Print Culture in Modern China: 1800-2012*. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2015.
3. Goossaert, Vincent. “Divine Codes, Spirit-Writing, and the Ritual Foundations of Early-Modern Chinese Morality Books.” in *Asia Major* (2020) 3d ser. Vol. 33.1: 1-31.
4. Overmyer, Daniel L.. *Precious Volumes: An Introduction to Chinese Sectarian Scriptures from the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*. Cambridge, Mass.; London: Published by the Harvard University Asia Center: Distributed by Harvard University Press, 1999.
5. Shahar, Meir. *Crazy Ji: Chinese Religion and Popular Literature*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center: Distributed by Harvard University Press, 1998.
6. 尚麗新、車錫倫著：《北方民間寶卷研究》。北京：商務印書館，2015。
7. 游子安：《勸化金箴：清代善書研究》。天津：天津人民出版社，1999。
8. ——：《善書與中國宗教：游子安自選集》。台北：博揚文化事業有限公司，2012。
9. 鄭志明：《中國善書與宗教》。台北：臺灣學生書局，1988。

Lecture 9: Popular Religious Sects and Redemptive Societies

1. Broy, Nikolas. “Syncretic Sects and Redemptive Societies: Toward a New Understanding of “Sectarianism” in the Study of Chinese Religions.” in *Review of Religion and Chinese Society* 2 (2015). 145-185.
2. Chen, Nancy N.. “Healing Sects and Anti-Cult Campaigns.” in Overmyer, Daniel L. edited. *Religion in China Today*. Cambridge England; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003. 199-214.
3. Clart, Philip, Ownby, David and Wang, Chien-chuan. *Text and Context in the Modern History of Chinese Religions: Redemptive Societies and Their Sacred Texts*. Leiden: Brill, 2020.
4. Overmyer, Daniel L.. “Alternatives: Popular Religious Sects in Chinese Society.”

in *Modern China*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (Apr., 1981). 153-190.

5. Ownby, David.. “Redemptive Societies in the Twentieth Century.” in Kiely, Jan, Goossaert, Vincent, Lagerwey, John edited. *Modern Chinese religion. II, 1850-2015*. Leiden: Brill, 2015. 685-727.
6. 陳進國：《救劫：當代濟度宗教的田野研究》。北京：社會科學文獻出版社，2017。
7. 曹新宇：《祖師的族譜：明清白蓮教社會歷史調查之一》。台北：博揚文化事業有限公司，2016。
8. 焦大衛、歐大年合著；周育民譯；宋光宇校讀：《飛鸞：中國民間教派面面觀》。香港：中文大學出版社，2005。
9. 歐大年著；劉心勇等譯；周育民、劉昶校：《中國民間宗教教派研究》。上海：上海古籍出版社，1993。

Lecture 10: Contemporary Transition

1. Bosco, Joseph. “Chinese Popular Religion and Hong Kong Identity.” in *Asian Anthropology*. 14:1. 8-20.
2. Chau, Adam Yuet. “Popular Religion in Shaanbei, North-Central China.” in *Journal of Chinese Religions*. 31 (2003). 39-79.
3. ——— edited. *Religion in Contemporary China: Revitalization and Innovation*. Milton Park, Abingdon: Routledge, 2011.
4. ———. *Religion in China: Ties that Bind*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2019.
5. ———. *Miraculous Response: Doing Popular Religion in Contemporary China*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2020.
6. Fan Lizhu. “Popular Religion in Contemporary China.” in *Social Compass*. 50(4). 2003. 449-457.
7. Overmyer, Daniel L.. “From “Feudal Superstition” to “Popular Beliefs”: New Directions in Mainland Chinese Studies of Chinese Popular Religion.” in *Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie*, Vol. 12. (2001). pp. 103-126
8. Palmer, David A., Tse, Martin M. H., Colwell, Chip. “Guanyin’s Limbo: Icons as Demi-Persons and Dividuating Objects.” in *American Anthropologist*. Volume 121. Issue 4. December 2019. 897-910.

Other Readings

1. 《東華籤書精選》。香港：東華三院，2023。
2. 李世瑜：《寶卷論集》。台北：蘭臺出版社，2007。
3. 李志鴻：《閩浙贛寶卷與儀式研究》。新北市：博揚文化事業有限公司，2020。
4. 李喬：《中國行業神崇拜》。北京：中國華僑出版社，1990。

5. 周樹佳：《鬼月鉤沉：中元、盂蘭、餓鬼節》。香港：中華書局香港有限公司，2015。
6. ——：《香港諸神：起源、廟宇與崇拜》。香港：中華書局香港有限公司，2022。
7. 胡小偉：《變理陰陽：關帝靈籤祖本考源及研究》。香港：科華圖書出版公司，2005。
8. 郭漢揚：《車公寶籤細解》。香港：香港中和出版有限公司，2021。
9. 設計及文化研究工作室著；大館古蹟及藝術館策劃：《關公駕到》。香港：三聯書店（香港）有限公司，2019。
10. 彭慕蘭（Pomeranz, Kenneth）：〈上下泰山——中國民間信仰政治中的碧霞元君（約公元 1500 年至 1949 年）〉。載《新史學》。20(4)。2009。頁 169-215。
11. 黎志添、李靜編著：《廣州府道教廟宇碑刻集釋》。香港：三聯書店香港有限公司，2013。
12. 黎志添：《香港廟宇碑刻志：歷史與圖錄》。香港：香港中文大學出版社，2023。
13. 駱慧瑛：《觀心自在：香港觀音誕與觀音信仰探源》。香港：天地圖書有限公司，2020。
14. Dean, Kenneth. “Parallel Universes: Chinese Temple Networks in Singapore, or What Is Missing in the Singapore Model?.” in Veer, Peter van der. *Handbook of Religion and the Asian City: Aspiration and Urbanization in the Twenty-first Century*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2015. 273-296.
15. Goossaert, Vincent edited. *Critical Readings on Chinese Religions*. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill, 2013.
16. Jordan, David K.. *Gods, Ghosts, and Ancestors: The Folk Religion of a Taiwanese Village*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1972.
17. Kang, Xiaofei. *The Cult of the Fox: Power, Gender, and Popular Religion in Late Imperial and Modern China*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 2005.
18. Sun, Yanfei. “Popular Religion in Zhejiang: Feminization, Bifurcation, and Buddhification.” in *Modern China*. 2014, Vol. 40(5) 455–487.
19. Yang C. K.. *Religion in Chinese Society: A Study of Contemporary Social Functions of Religion and Some of Their Historical Factors*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1970.