Course Outline
New York City College of Technology
Department of Humanities

Course Number: ARTH2200, Section ______
Course Title: Art and Urban Culture in Modern China
Course Credits: 3; Class Hours: 3
Prerequisites: ENG 1101 OR ENG1101CO OR ENG1101ML
Pathways:
Class Note: For online synchronous classes, a working camera and microphone are required. Students must switch both on at instructor’s request.

Instructor: __________________
E-mail: _____________________
Phone: 718-260-5018 ext. ______
Office: Library Building L630
Office Hours:

NYCCT Catalogue Description
Investigates how modern and contemporary Chinese artists and filmmakers respond to the many ways in which China’s accelerated urbanization affects the cultural, social, political and economic life in the world’s new superpower. Topics and themes include city planning, architecture and communal life in the communist regime; environmental art and urban culture in Post-Mao period; architectural designs by foreign architects since the 1990s; and urban life and the politics of consumption in the era of reform and globalization.

Required Textbooks:
(See Bibliography for supplementary texts)

Wang, Meiqing, Urbanization and Contemporary Chinese Art, Routledge, 2016

Recommended Materials

COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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| Learn to use special terminology and critical methods to describe and discuss major impacts of urbanization on Chinese art and urban culture | • Special terms and concepts used in written reports, reviews and papers must be explained with clarity.  
• Critical methods in oral and written discussions must be acknowledged and interpreted in relation to the context of urbanization in China.  
• Satisfactory understanding of the social, political, economic impacts of urbanization |
on art and urban culture must be demonstrated in oral presentations and written assignments.

| Interpret the relationship between modern and contemporary Chinese art and urban culture in their social, political, historical and economic contexts | • A comprehensive understanding of the contexts in which urbanization has been promoted as part of the government’s political and economic agenda should be demonstrated in students’ analysis of artists and filmmakers’ response to the changes in urban culture.  
• An in-depth analysis of artworks and/or films should be conducted with discussion of the contexts in which the works were made.  
• A formal analysis of works should be done with an interpretation of the contextual factors that inspired the making of works. |
| Develop a comprehensive understanding of the formation and transformation of a new urban culture in modern and contemporary China | • Such an understanding will be assessed through written responses to assigned readings, group and class discussions, oral presentations, exams, and research papers.  
• Reading of suggested texts in the bibliography will help students develop a comprehensive understanding of the transformation of urban culture. |
| Demonstrate in writing (research paper) their comprehension of major aspects of Chinese urban culture | • Students’ research papers should demonstrate their mastery of the terminology, critical methods, contexts, and artistic approaches that they have learned through lectures, readings, discussions, written responses and reviews.  
A research paper must follow the format of a publishable article, including citations, footnotes, bibliography, and captioning of images, etc. |

**Teaching Method and Course Structure**

This is an image-based lecture course with assignments of weekly reading and writing report, three film reviews, one 5-page research paper, along with a midterm exam and a final exam. Through lectures, discussions, film screenings, readings and writings, students will develop an in-depth understanding of the impact of urbanization on many aspects of a tradition that is undergoing an unprecedented transformation in the era of globalization.

**Evaluation and Grade Distribution:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Weekly 1-page written responses to questions about reading</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation/group discussion</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three 2-page written responses to questions about film (5% each)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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New York City College of Technology Official Grading Scale

A 93-100 %  
A- 90-92.9%
B+ 87-89.9%  
B 83-86.9%  
B- 80-82.9%
C+ 77-79.9%  
C 70-76.9%
D 60-69.9%
F 59.9% and below
INC Incomplete
WU Unofficial Withdrawal
WF Withdrew Failing

10 Weekly 1-page written responses to questions about reading  15%
3 to 5 questions regarding assigned readings will be posted on the Blackboard and at the end of each lecture. Each student is required to hand in his or her written report typed in Times New Roman 12 and with double space, with information of the author, chapter or article. Each satisfactory report is worth 1.5% of the final 100%.

Class participation/Group discussion  15%
Students are expected to engage in group and class discussions of each class meeting. Each student will rotate to lead in group discussions and oral class reports. Students who miss any one of class participation/group discussion will have 1% deducted from their final grade worth of 100%.

Three 2-page written response to questions about film (5% each)  15%
This course will have three film screenings, each followed by a discussion. As part of the course requirements, each student will hand in a 2-page film review in the following week. A guideline for writing a film review will be discussed in class and posted on the Blackboard.

Midterm Exam  15%
A midterm exam will be given in the first session of the class in Week 7. It is composed of four questions based on the assigned readings and lectures. For each question, students will write a short essay of about 250-300 words. A midterm review will be given the week before the exam.

One 5-page term paper  20%
A 5-page term paper will be due before class in Week 12. Students can write on any topic and theme discussed in class, but with the instructor’s approval before they start working on the writing. A guideline for the term paper writing will be given in class and posted on the Blackboard at least three weeks before the due date.

Final Exam  20%
The final exam will be given on the last day of class meeting. There will be five questions based on the assigned readings and lectures since the midterm exam. For each question,
students will write a short essay of 300 words. A final exam review will be given in class one week before the final exam.

**Weekly Course Outline**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>From the Countryside to the City</td>
<td>Wang, Chapter 2, “From the Countryside to the City”, pp. 29-75; Campanella, Chapter 6, “The Country and the City”, pp. 172-187.</td>
<td>Weekly reading report 4: 1-page written response to questions about reading.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Demolition and the Shattered Old Communities (Film screening: Shower)</td>
<td>Campanella, Chapter 5, “City of Chai”, pp. 144-171</td>
<td>Reading report 5: 2-page written response to questions about reading.</td>
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| 8 | **Mid-term Exam.**  
| 9 | Urban Life and Consumerism  
(Film Screening: *A Beautiful New World*) | Campanella, Chapter 9, “Theme Parks and the Landscape of Consumption”, pp. 240-279 | Reading report 8: 2-page written response to questions about the film. |
| 11 | Beijing: The Political Space and the 2008 Olympics | Campanella, Chapter 4, “Capital Improvements”, pp. 120-143 | Weekly 1-page written response to questions about reading. |
| 12 | **Term paper due.**  
| 13 | Shanghai: The Metropolis and the 2010 World Expo | Campanella, Chapter 2, pp. 56-91 | Weekly 1-page written response to questions about reading. |
| 14 | Digital Landscape as Dreamland: Art and Technology | Wang, Chapter 4, “From Landscape to Urbanscape”, pp. 119-160 | Weekly 1-page written response to questions about reading. |
| 15 | **Final Exam** | | |

**Library Sources and Bibliography**

**General History of Modern China**

**Urban China**


Rowe, Peter G. *Architectural Encounters with Essence and Form in Modern China*, MIT Press, 2004.

Rowe, Peter G. *East Asia Modern: Shaping the Contemporary City*, Reaktion Books, 2005.


*Urban Beijing*


**Urban Shanghai**


**COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT POLICIES**

**NYCCT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

“Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately
to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion.” (See pp. 73-76 in the Student Handbook.)

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT
City Tech is committed to supporting the educational goals of enrolled students with disabilities in the areas of enrollment, academic advisement, tutoring, assistive technologies and testing accommodations. If you have or think you may have a disability, you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments as provided under applicable federal, state and city laws. You may also request services for temporary conditions or medical issues under certain circumstances. If you have questions about your eligibility or would like to seek accommodation services or academic adjustments, you can leave a voicemail at 718 260 5143, send an email to Accessibility@citytech.cuny.edu or visit the Center’s website http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/accessibility/ for more information.

N.B., Students who miss a scheduled presentation or exam due to illness or medically-related emergencies will be referred to the Center for Student Accessibility. The CSA will review any documentation requested and give the student a letter to share with the relevant instructor if accommodations need to be made.

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE POLICY
It is the conviction of the Humanities department that a student who is not in a class for any reason is not receiving the benefit of the education being provided. Missed class time includes not just absences but also latenesses, early departures, and time outside the classroom taken by students during class meeting periods. Missed time impacts any portion of the final grade overtly allocated to participation and/or any grades awarded for activities that relate to presence in class.

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT COMMITMENT TO STUDENT DIVERSITY
The Humanities Department complies with the college wide nondiscrimination policy and seeks to foster a safe and inclusive learning environment that celebrates diversity in its many forms and enhances our students’ ability to be informed, global citizens. Through our example, we demonstrate an appreciation of the rich diversity of world cultures and the unique forms of expression that make us human.

Updated March 2021
Zhijian Qian