

## EARLY CHINESE ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

### Art 370

Dr. Courtney E. Chaffin  
Office: 192 NFAC  
Office Hours: By appointment in 192 NFAC  
Telephone: 3881  
Email: [cchaffin@uwsp.edu](mailto:cchaffin@uwsp.edu)

Course meetings: M/W 2:00-3:15  
Location: 285 NFAC

#### **Course Description**

Art 370 focuses on the art and archaeology of early China, from the Neolithic period through the Qin Dynasty. Special attention will be given to excavated sites that have radically changed our ideas about the art of ancient China. To enhance our understanding of early Chinese art, at times we will also examine the art and archaeology of cultures living to the north and south of ancient China. Relevant texts in translation concerning myth, philosophy, and history will be introduced to further our analysis of the artifacts.

**The primary academic goal for Art 370 is to provide the student with an educated basis for responding to early Chinese art and archaeology.**

#### **Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify significant works of early Chinese art.
- Analyze works of Chinese art utilizing knowledge of aesthetic criteria from the periods in which the works were produced.
- Identify and explain the relationship between specific works of Chinese art and their cultural, social, or historical contexts.
- Develop an understanding, awareness and appreciation of the varying approaches to creative expression in the arts of China and Japan.

#### **Rental Textbook**

Sarah Allan, ed. *Formation of Chinese Civilization: An Archaeological Perspective*. Yale University Press, 2002.

**All other course readings are on electronic reserve.** Each week I may assign readings and these will be posted on the D2L course website.

### **Course Website**

This class uses Desire2Learn (D2L), UWSP's Online Learning Management System. Your course syllabus, study sheets, study images, grades and additional activities can be found here. You can log into D2L at, <https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/>, with your UWSP logon. D2L can also be found on your MyPoint Portal, <https://mypoint.uwsp.edu>, on the Academics tab.

After you have logged in to D2L, look below "My Stevens Point Courses" in the middle of the screen. Click the plus sign in front of the current semester to access the link to our class.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Lecture attendance (attendance will be taken daily)
2. Participation in discussions
3. Reading assignments (posted on D2L)
4. Map quiz
5. Two 75 minute exams
6. Museum exhibition proposal

**Note:** Although I do distribute study sheets for each lecture, I do not make full lecture notes available to students online or in any other fashion. Excellent note taking is essential to success in this course and is a skill that is important to develop. If you need extra help with this course, please see me during office hours or make an appointment to meet with me outside of class. I am more than happy to give extra time to anyone who needs it.

### **Quiz and Exams**

You are required to take a map quiz and two exams.

**The map quiz will be given on Monday, September 13 and will be worth 5% of your final grade.**

**The exams will be given on October 11 and November 29 at the beginning of class and will be worth 60% of your total grade (30% each).** Each exam may consist of slide identification and discussion, term discussion, short and long answer questions, essay, etc.

Please note, it is your responsibility to arrive to class on time for the quiz and the exams. Extra time will not be given to those who are tardy. I do not, as a rule, give make-up quizzes or exams. Please see my policy on make-up exams and quizzes in the *General Policies* section of this syllabus.

September 13: Map Quiz

October 18: Exam I

November 29: Exam II

### **Museum Exhibition Proposal**

For your final semester project, you will be asked to write a museum proposal for an exhibition on early Chinese art. The proposal will include a title for your exhibition, a rationale, and a brief catalogue of objects included in your exhibition. Your exhibition should be related to the course content, but can

include objects beyond those we study in class. For example, students may want to include early Chinese objects found in national or international museum collections in their proposed exhibition. During finals week, you will submit your proposal, including your exhibition title, rationale, and brief catalogue, to the D2L dropbox and then present your rationale to the class with a prepared powerpoint exhibition. You will have no more than seven minutes to present your exhibition proposal to the class. Since we only have a two hour time slot for finals, you will work in pairs on this assignment. One group may have three students depending on whether or not we have an odd number of students in the class. Each team will be responsible for working collaboratively on their exhibition title and rationale. For the catalogue of exhibition objects, each team member should choose three objects to be included in the exhibition. They are responsible for their own catalogue entries and should include the author's initials at the end of the entry.

Your exhibition proposal will be graded on creativity, thoughtfulness, persuasiveness, and professionalism. Your role will be that of a museum curatorial team. In your rationale, you'll want to articulate and describe the theme of your exhibition and explain why your exhibition is special or significant. How do your objects relate to one another and your main exhibition theme? What about your exhibition will draw crowds to the museum or interest the community to attend? You'll want to create an alluring and creative exhibition title and select a significant image to use to advertise your exhibition in your powerpoint presentation. The first slide of your powerpoint should include your exhibition title and main exhibition image, along with your names. This will be followed by labeled slides showing the objects selected for your exhibition.

We will go over a more detailed list of what you need to submit to D2L for this project and what you need to prepare for your in-class presentation later in the semester.

**All exhibition proposals will be due to the D2L dropbox by Friday, December 15 at noon. Presentations will then take place during our designated final exam period on Wednesday, December 20 from 10:15AM-12:15PM. The total project will be worth 30% of your final grade.**

### **Grading**

Attendance and Participation	5%
Map Quiz	5%
Exam I	30%
Exam II	30%
Museum Exhibition Proposal	30%

The grading distribution is as follows:

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

### **General Policies**

1. All classes begin promptly, and attendance will be taken every day. Please do not miss class. Much of the information upon which you will be tested will be derived from lecture notes, not just the text.
2. You must take the quiz, two exams, and complete the museum exhibition proposal to pass the course. Makeup exams and quizzes will be given only in cases of dire emergency (i.e. you were deathly ill and in the hospital) and a note from your physician is required. If you are an athlete and your game schedule conflicts with the exam schedule you must let me know by September 27 to make arrangements. I will not make allowances otherwise.
3. **All electronic gadgets are banned in lectures, including cell phones, laptops, iPods/MP3 players, etc. Please turn off your cell phones in class. Text messaging, tweeting, instant messaging, etc. during class lectures is disruptive and distracting, and is therefore prohibited. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the class if you are engaging in social activities during lecture.**
4. Chitchatting with your classmates during lecture is discourteous. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are disrespectful to the professor or to your classmates. Disruptive behavior, in general, will not be tolerated and may result in class expulsion.
5. The University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. If you have a learning or physical challenge which requires classroom accommodation, please contact the UWSP Disability and Assistive Technologies Office with your documentation as early as possible. They will then notify me, in a confidential memo, of the accommodations that will facilitate your success in the course.
6. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point values academic honesty and integrity. Each student has a responsibility to understand, accept, and comply with the university's standards of academic conduct, as well as policies established by the schools and colleges. Cheating, collusion, misconduct, fabrication, and plagiarism are serious offenses. Violations will not be tolerated and may result in penalties up to and including expulsion from the University.

### **Romanization and Pronunciation**

There are two systems of writing Chinese in Latin letters: *pinyin* and Wade-Giles. *Pinyin*, the official system since 1979, is the system we will use in class. However, some of the older books use the Wade-Giles system.

### **CHINESE PLACE NAMES**

The following words occur in many place names:

he = river	bei = north
hu = lake	nan = south
shan = mountain	dong = east
	xi = west

In place names Chinese word order goes from the larger unit to the smaller:

Hubei Sui Xian Leigudun = Leigudun, Sui county, Hubei province

Shanxi Houma Shangmacun = Shangma village, Houma county, Shanxi province (xian meaning "county" is sometimes omitted)