

# MLC330 Special Lecture on Chinese Culture

3rd and 4th quarters, Junior

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<b>Instructor</b>	NAGAI TAKAHIRO
<b>Style of Class</b>	Lecture
<b>Number of Credits</b>	2
<b>Day and Period</b>	To be advised

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## Course Description

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This course focuses on the early modern period, when traditional China and Western languages and cultures came into contact, and students will learn how Christianity was received in China in terms of the study of cultural Interaction. We will especially examine the Chinese translations of the Bible and English-Chinese dictionaries that were created when 19<sup>th</sup> century Western Protestant missionaries came to China, how they came into being, their background, the style of language used in translation, and the ways in which this language evolved. At the same time, students will come to understand how new concepts and thought were accepted in China. Knowledge essential for considering these matters—Christianity, the Bible, translation studies, and the history of dictionaries—will also be included. Students will also learn how Christian concepts and technical terms translated into Chinese by Westerners came to influence the Japanese language.

## Course Objectives

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1. To learn about Christianity, a major force in Western culture, and its Scriptures
2. To obtain greater understanding of contacts between traditional China and Western civilization and the modernization of China
3. To learn about the translation of the Bible by Westerners and the compilation of English-Chinese dictionaries
4. To consider the influence of Chinese translations of the Bible on Japan

## Prerequisites

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Introduction to Chinese Linguistics

## Class Materials

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### Textbook

Printouts will be distributed.

### Reference Materials

Jia Liyan and Feng, Xuebing (1934), *Hanwen shengjing yiben xiaoshi* (A Brief History of Chinese Translations of the Bible), Guangxuehui.

Miyazaki Ichisada (1993), *Toua no kindai* (The Modernization of East Asia) in *Miyazaki Ichisada zenshuu 16, Kindai* (Collected Works of Miyazaki Ichisada, No. 16, Early Modern Era), Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten.

Zetsche Jost Oliver (1999), *The Bible in China*. Sankt Augustin, Germany: Monumenta Serica.

Ikeda Makoto, Yasui Sankichi, Soejima Shoichi and Nishimura Shigeo (2009), *Zusetsu Chuugoku kin-gendaishi* (Illustrated History of Early Modern and Modern China), Horitsu Bunka Sha.

Liu, Yun (2015), *Yuyan de shehuishi* (The Social History of Language), Shanghai Century Publishing Group.

## Course Method

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This course will be conducted as a lecture course with the use of slides, but occasionally, students will be asked about the material they were assigned to prepare for the class session.

## Evaluation/Assessment

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Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation and a final exam. Class participation includes the student's attitude toward the class and degree of preparation for the sessions.

## Grading

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Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation (40%) and the final exam (60%)

## Course Schedule

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### **Week 1: Course Overview, Christianity**

This first Session will include an orientation to the procedures and evaluation methods for the course. The remaining time will be devoted to an overview of Christianity, one of the major elements of Western civilization.

### **Week 2: What is the Bible?**

This Session will include an overview of the Bible, the Scriptures of Christianity, including its history and formation.

### **Week 3: Western Travelers to the East Before the Early Modern Era and Christianity**

This Session will consider Western travelers to China before the early modern era and the eastward advance of Christianity.

### **Week 4: China's Early Modern Era (The Advent of the Industrial Revolution) and the Eastward Advance of Protestantism**

This Session will consider the beginnings of the early modern era in China and the eastward advance of Protestantism.

### **Week 5: Westerners and the Chinese Language**

This lecture will help students understand English-Chinese dictionaries created by Westerners, mostly missionaries, and the evolution of Westerners' awareness of the Chinese language from translations in these dictionaries.

### **Week 6: The Translation of the Bible into Chinese 1**

This lecture will consider the Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries. Students will gain greater understanding of the Marshman translation and the Morrison translation.

### **Week 7: The Translation of the Bible into Chinese 2**

This lecture will consider the Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries. Students will gain a greater understanding of the Bridgman & Culbertson version, a major example of translations into Chinese High Wenli.

### **Week 8: The Translation of the Bible into Chinese 3**

This lecture will consider the Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries. Students will gain an understanding of the first translation into Mandarin, Medhurst and Stronach's Nanjing Mandarin version and the Beijing Committee's Beijing Mandarin translation, which was widely distributed for a long time until a concord the Union version appeared.

### **Week 9: The Translation of the Bible into Chinese 4**

This lecture will consider the Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries. Students will learn about the versions translated by Griffiths and Schere schewsky into Chinese Easy wenli.

### **Week 10: The Translation of the Bible into Chinese 5**

This lecture will consider the Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries. Students will learn about the Mandarin Concordance Version, which is still being distributed today, and how it came about.

### **Week 11: The Evolution of the Titles Used in Chinese Translations of the Bible**

This lecture will consider the evolution of the titles used in Chinese versions of the Bible translated by Protestant missionaries.

### **Week 12: The Evolution of the Translation of Christian Terminology in the Chinese Bible**

This lecture will consider the evolution of certain terminology, including "God," "Holy Spirit," "baptism," and "cross" in Chinese translations of the Bible by Protestant missionaries, beginning with the early Marshman and Morrison versions down to the Mandarin Concordance Version.

### **Week 13: The Reception of Western Culture as Seen in the Illustrations for the Chinese Version of *Pilgrim's Progress***

John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* was translated into Chinese as *Tianlu licheng* in 1853 by William Chalmers Burns, a Scottish Evangelist and Missionary, and widely distributed in China. We will look at the illustrations from two printings that were issued in different eras in order to understand how Western culture was received in China.

### **Week 14: Missionaries and English-Chinese Dictionaries**

Protestant missionaries not only translated Christianity's sacred book the Bible into Chinese but also compiled English-Chinese dictionaries. We will consider the English-Chinese dictionaries compiled by Walter Henry Medhurst and Robert Morrison.

**Week 15: The Influence of Chinese Translations of the Bible on Japan**

This lecture will consider the story of how Chinese translations of the Bible influenced Japan. We will look at how the translations of terminology such as "God" and "Holy Spirit" evolved in Japanese translations of the Bible over time. We will also look at how missionaries who worked in China influenced Japan (metal type, etc.)

**Week 16: Final Exam**

Written exam with a time limit of 80 minutes

**Preparation and Follow-up**

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Students should study the terminology in the handouts and the topics indicated by the instructor ahead of time. They should also note any points that are unclear. After the class, they should review the content of the lecture in order to make sure they know it well and recheck the points that were unclear when they were preparing.