

Course Form for PKU Summer School International 2024

Course Title	Title in English: Formation of Chinese Civilizations: an Archaeological Perspective
	Title in Chinese: 中华文明形成的考古学探索
Teacher	秦岭 QIN Ling
First day of classes	July 15, 2024
Last day of classes	July 26 2024
Course Credit	3 credits
Course Description	
Objective:	
<p>This course will explore key issues in the archaeology of later Prehistoric and Early Historic China, with a particular focus on the understanding of the rises of early civilizations and the formation of early states, as revealed through archaeological evidence from excavations and objects.</p> <p>The period covered will range from the upper Paleolithic period, to early agricultural societies of the neolithic, till the formation of early states in China from late neolithic to early bronze age (20000-1000 BC). Major themes will include the emergence of social complexity, craft production and trade, agriculture and landscape, comparisons of early states. In addition, the course will include an overview of the major categories of material culture, including ceramics, jades and bronzes in terms of their production, stylistics and exchange.</p>	
Pre-requisites /Target audience	
<p>Chinese language and background knowledge of archaeology are advantages, but not essential prerequisites for this course.</p> <p>All students interested in early China or in archaeology generally. The proportion of archaeological science in the curriculum can be adjusted according to the overall knowledge structure background of the enrolled students.</p>	
Proceeding of the Course	
<p>Sessions will combine lectures, seminar discussion. One archaeology site visit and one hand-on session at Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology at Peking University will be arranged accordingly .</p>	
Assignments (essay or other forms)	
<p>One Essay submitted by the end of the course</p>	
Evaluation Details	

One essay of 2000-3000 words, which will constitute 80% of the final grade for the course; Final discussion and participation during the course, which will constitute 20% of the final mark of the course.

Text Books and Reading Materials

Underhill, A.P. (ed.) 2013. *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology*. Malden: WileyBlackwell.

Li Liu and Xingcan Chen 2012. *The Archaeology of China: From the Late Paleolithic to the Early Bronze Age*. Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Yuan Xingpei, Yan Wenming, Zhang Chuanxi and Lou Yulie 2012. *The History of Chinese Civilization*. Vol.1. Cambridge University Press.

Loewe, M. and L.E., Shaughnessy (eds.) 1999. *The Cambridge History of Ancient China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Academic Integrity (If necessary)

Do not use or distribute course material without permission. Do not use unpublished archaeological materials mentioned in the course. Strictly abide by relevant regulations when visiting sites and observing cultural relics. The course essay conforms to the norms of Chinese archaeological research publication.

CLASS SCHEDULE

(Subject to adjustment)

Session 1: **China before China: Introduction to the course: theories, approaches and the environment settings**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Underhill, A.P. (ed.) 2013. *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology*. Malden: WileyBlackwell. (browsing)

Smith, M.E (ed.). 2012. *The Comparative Archaeology of Complex Societies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2.

Trigger, B.G. 2003. *Understanding Early Civilizations: A Comparative Study*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Introduction chapter.

Feinman, G. & J. Marcus. 1998. *Archaic States*. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press. Introduction Chapter.

Campbell, R. (ed.). in press. *Violence and Civilization: a Deep Historical View*. Available from:

https://www.academia.edu/2234835/_Violence_and_Civilization_a_Deep_Historical_View

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 2: **Origin of modern humans in East Asia**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Klein, R. G. (2008). Out of Africa and the evolution of modern behavior. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 17:267–281.

Klein, R. G. (2009). *The Human Career: Human Biological and Cultural Origins*, 3rd ed., University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Qu, TL. et al. (2013). The Chinese Upper Paleolithic: Geography, Chronology, and Techno-typology. *Journal of archaeological research* 21:1-73.

Wang, Y. (2005). *The Roots of Pleistocene Hominids and Cultures in China* (in Chinese), Science Press, Beijing.

Wu, X. (2004). On the origin of modern humans in China. *Quaternary International* 117: 131–140.

Wu, X., and Poirier, F. E. (1995). *Human Evolution in China: A metric description of the fossils and a review of the sites*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 3: **Origins and development of agriculture in East Asia**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Fuller, DQ, Emma Harvey and Ling Qin (2007) Presumed domestication? Evidence for wild rice cultivation and domestication in the fifth millennium BC of the Lower Yangtze region. *Antiquity* 81: 316-331

Fuller, Dorian Q & Qin, Ling (2009) Water management and labour in the origins and dispersal of Asian rice. *World Archaeology* 41(1): 88-111

Cohen, David Joel. 2011. The beginnings of agriculture in China: a multiregional view. *Current Anthropology* 52(suppl. 4):S273–S293.

Zhao, Z.J. 2011. New Archaeobotanic Data for the Study of the Origins of Agriculture in China. *Current Anthropology*, Vol. 52, S4.

Guedes JA. 2011. Millets, rice, social complexity, and the spread of agriculture to the Chengdu Plain and Southwest China. *Rice*. 4: 104-113

Zhang C, Hung H-C. The Neolithic of Southern China: origin, development and dispersal. *Asian Perspective*. 2008;47(2):299–329

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 4: Power and belief: craft production and early complex societies in Neolithic China (part 1: pottery)

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Underhill, A.P. 2002. *Craft Production and Social Change in Northern China*. New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers. Chapter one.

Hung, L.Y. 2011. *Pottery Production, Mortuary Practice, and Social Complexity in the Majiayao Culture, NW China (ca. 5300-4000 BP)*. PhD dissertation. Washington University in St Louis. Sections 1.4 & 5.3. Available online.

Qin, L. 2013. The Liangzhu culture. In Underhill, A.P. (ed.) *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology*. Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.

So, J.F. & J., Douglas. 1998. Understanding and identifying jades from the Hongshan culture. In Tang, C. (ed.). *East Asian Jade: Symbol of Excellence*. Vol. 1. Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Hai Zhang, Andrew Bevan and Dashun Guo 2013. The Neolithic ceremonial complex at Niuheliang and wider Hongshan landscapes in North-eastern China. *Journal of World Prehistory* 26: 1-24.

Teng, S.P. 2004. Incised emblems on ritual jades of the Liangzhu culture. In Yang, X.N. (ed.). *New Perspectives on China's Past, Chinese Archaeology in the Twentieth Century*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Rawson, J. 2000. Cosmological systems as sources of art, ornament and design. *Bulletin-Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities*, (72), 133-189.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 5: **Power and belief: craft production and early complex societies in Neolithic China (part 2: jade)**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Underhill, A.P. 2002. *Craft Production and Social Change in Northern China*. New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers. Chapter one.

Hung, L.Y. 2011. Pottery Production, Mortuary Practice, and Social Complexity in the Majiayao Culture, NW China (ca. 5300-4000 BP). PhD dissertation. Washington University in St Louis. Sections 1.4 & 5.3. Available online.

Qin, L. 2013. The Liangzhu culture. In Underhill, A.P. (ed.) A Companion to Chinese Archaeology. Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.

So, J.F. & J., Douglas. 1998. Understanding and identifying jades from the Hongshan culture. In Tang, C. (ed.). East Asian Jade: Symbol of Excellence. Vol. 1. Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Hai Zhang, Andrew Bevan and Dashun Guo 2013. The Neolithic ceremonial complex at Niheliang and wider Hongshan landscapes in North-eastern China. *Journal of World Prehistory* 26: 1-24.

Teng, S.P. 2004. Incised emblems on ritual jades of the Liangzhu culture. In Yang, X.N. (ed.). New Perspectives on China's Past, Chinese Archaeology in the Twentieth Century. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Rawson, J. 2000. Cosmological systems as sources of art, ornament and design. *Bulletin-Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities*, (72), 133-189.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 6: The development of early “city”(walled town): diversified tracks towards regional prehistoric complex societies from north to south (part 1: Liangzhu and Shijiahe, Yangzte civilizations)

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Liu, L. 2004. *The Chinese Neolithic: The Trajectories to Early States*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Li Liu and Xingcan Chen. *The Archaeology of China: From the Late Paleolithic to the Early*

Bronze Age. Cambridge University Press, 2012

Yuan Xingpei, Yan Wenming, Zhang Chuanxi and Lou Yulie 2012. The History of Chinese Civilization. Vol.1. Cambridge University Press.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 7: **The development of early “city”(walled town):
diversified tracks towards regional prehistoric complex
societies from north to south (part 2: Shimao, Taosi and
Shandong Longshan culture, Yellow River civilizations)**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Liu, L. 2004. The Chinese Neolithic: The Trajectories to Early States. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Li Liu and Xingcan Chen. The Archaeology of China: From the Late Paleolithic to the Early Bronze Age. Cambridge University Press, 2012

Yuan Xingpei, Yan Wenming, Zhang Chuanxi and Lou Yulie 2012. The History of Chinese Civilization. Vol.1. Cambridge University Press.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 8: **Erlitou: the Beginning of the Bronze Age**

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Robert Bagley, “Shang Archaeology,” chapter 3 in Michael Loewe and Edward Shaughnessy, eds., *The Cambridge History of Ancient China* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999), pp. 124-165.

Liu Li and Chen Xingcan, *The Archaeology of China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp. 253-278, 322-337.

Xu Hong, “The Erlitou Culture,” chapter 15 in Anne Underhill ed., *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology* (Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), pp. 300-322.

【Assignments for this session (if any)】

Session 9: Anyang and the Shang dynasty

Date:

【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)

【Questions】

【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】

Bagley, “Shang Archaeology,” pp. 226-231.

Jing Zhichun et al., “Recent Discoveries and Some Thoughts on Early Urbanization at Anyang,” chapter 17 in Underhill ed., *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology*, pp. 343-366.

Fang Hui, “The Eastern Territories of the Shang and Western Zhou: Military Expansion and Cultural Assimilation,” chapter 23 in Underhill ed., *A Companion to Chinese Archaeology*, pp. 473-493.

Cao Dazhi, “Introduction,” Princeton dissertation, 2013.

Robert Bagley, “Anyang Writing,” chapter 7 in Stephen Houston ed., *The First Writing* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), pp. 190-249.

Wang Haicheng, “Writing and the City in Early China,” chapter 7 in Norman Yoffee ed., *The Cambridge World History, Volume III, Early Cities in Comparative Perspective, 4000 BCE – 1200 CE* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015), pp. 131-157).

【Assignments for this session (if any)】	
Session 10: <u>Site Vist- Liulihe City site of Western Zhou period</u>	Date:
【Description of the Session】 (purpose, requirements, class and presentations scheduling, etc.)	
【Questions】	
【Readings, Websites or Video Clips】	
【Assignments for this session (if any)】	

Dr. QIN, Ling 秦岭

Associate Professor of Neolithic Archaeology and Archaeobotany at the School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University, Beijing.

Dr. QIN, Ling completed her PhD on Neolithic social complex in the lower Yangtze River area. Her main research areas include Chinese Neolithic archaeology, field archaeology methods and techniques, plant archaeology, archaeological theory and methodology, etc

She has worked extensively on Neolithic excavations and material cultures in China, jointly directing field-work in many sites of Zhejiang, Shandong, Shaanxi and Henan. Since 2022, she is the project leader of Tonglin city site at Linzi of Shandong province.

Currently, she is leading the national key research project "Research on the Origin of Chinese Civilization" in the sub-project "Livelihood, Resources, and Technology in the Process of the Origin of Chinese Civilization." She is also involved in several national-level key projects, including the major project of the Ministry of Education's Key Research Base in Humanities and Social Sciences, "Technology and Civilization: Exploring the Formation of Prehistoric Chinese Civilization through Jade Handicraft Industry," etc.

Her current research interests include the scientific research on Neolithic jades in Eastern China, early agriculture developments in China, as well as the theory and practice of early civilizations study in a comparative perspective around East Asia.