Course description
Cultural heritage has emerged as a new arena of significant conflict and controversy in the global context. This course will examine how cultural heritage calls a growing concern in China and why it is becoming a new social phenomenon. This course will discuss the conservation, management, uses, and social-political issues of China’s cultural heritage. This course will also introduce the cultural and historical background of several types of cultural heritage as well as their long-term impacts on contemporary Chinese society.

Course objectives:
Students taking this course can expect to:
- Gain familiarity with basic concepts and origins of cultural heritage.
- Become acquainted with some essential cultural heritage sites and their social-political importance in contemporary China.
- Understand the meanings and development of Chinese cultures by analyzing tangible and intangible heritage, from capitals, villages, mausoleums, grottos, to rituals, customs, and craftsmanship.
- Explore recent challenges to the management and preservation of cultural heritage in contemporary China and identify possible solution.
- Develop familiarity with critical aspects in heritage studies including debates about the heritage and nationalism, tourism, etc.

Learning outcomes:
After taking this course, students are expected to:
- Know the major categories of cultural heritage in mainland China.
- Learn to appreciate cultural heritage.
- Cultivate the abilities of cross-cultural, inter-disciplinary and critical thinking.
Learning activities
Two 45 min lectures and one 1-hour tutorial per week for one semester (tutorials including one fieldtrip in Hong Kong)

Medium of instruction: English

Course assessment:
- Participation and performance 25%
- One mid-term exam 20%
- One fieldtrip report 15%
- Final paper 40%

Submission and academic honesty
As required by the university, from Sept. 2008, students must submit a soft copy of their computer-generated text assignments to VeriGuide at a specified URL. The system will issue a receipt containing a declaration of honesty statement. Students should sign the receipt, print a hard copy of their assignment, and submit the hard copy and the receipt to teachers for grading. The university says that assignments without the receipt will Not be graded.

Please check the website “Honesty in Academic Works” at:
http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academic honesty/ for more information on plagiarism and on how to submit papers through VeriGuide.

Weekly Schedule (THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS) [Only post-graduate students are required to read articles labelled with *]

Week 1  (7th September)
Introduction: Why should we care about China’s cultural heritage?
Other useful resources:
UESCO 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (http://whc.unesco.org/archive/convention-en.pdf) (optional)

Week 2  (14th September)
Concepts and framework of cultural heritage
Reading:

Other useful resources:
UNESCO

Week 3 (21st September)
Preservation and management of cultural heritage in China
Reading:
Shen, Chen, and Chen, Hong
China ICOMOS

*Brandi, Cesare

*Ruskin, John

Other useful resources:
China ICOMOS
Standing Committee of the National People's Congress
2002 Cultural Relics Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China (can be downloaded http://www.unesco.org/culture/natlaws/media/pdf/china/china_lawprotectionclt_corof) (optional)
ICOMOS
1993 THE NARA DOCUMENT ON AUTHENTICITY (whc.unesco.org/document/9379) (optional)

Week 4 (28th September)
Utilization of cultural heritage in China: museum and its economic role
Reading:
Zhu, Yujie
Bingaman, Eveline

*Tao, Wang, and Zan, Luca
Week 5    (5th October)
Big relic sites and management of archaeological sites: a case study of Yinxu
Reading:

Week 6    (12th October)
Mid-term exam: in-class

Week 7    (19th October)
Tradition of casting technology in Ancient China and handicraft heritage
Reading:


Week 8    (26th October)
Capitals and urban centers in historical period
Reading:


Week 9    (2nd November)
Villages, local architectures, and rural areas
Lu, Tracey L-D

*Yan, Haiming*

*Jin, Qiming, and Li, Wei*

**Week 10** (9th November)
Mausoleums, burials, and memories

Reading:
*Ahn, Yonson*

*Philip L. Kohl*

*Han, Xiaorong*

The fieldtrip will be potentially arranged on 12th or 13th Nov. No Tutorial this week.

**Week 11** (16th November)
Grottos, Buddhist art, and their roles in ancient China

Reading:
*Lamer, Brook*

*Noyes, Abbey*

*Fan, Jinshi*

*Cuno, James*

**Week 12** (23rd November)
Intangible cultural heritage and its management

*Liu, Zhuang*

*McLaren, Anne*

*Smith, Laurajane*
2015 Intangible Heritage: A challenge to the authorised heritage discourse? *Revista d’Etnologia de*
Other useful resources:
Intangible Cultural Heritage in China Website [http://www.ihchina.cn/main.jsp](http://www.ihchina.cn/main.jsp)

UNESCO
2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

UNESCO
2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
(http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/142919e.pdf) (optional)

**Week 13 (30th November)**
Tourism, sustainability and challenges to China’s Cultural heritage

Reading:
Harrison, Rodney

*Chirikure, Shadreck, Munyaradzi Manyanga, Webber Ndoro, and Gilbert Pwiti.
2010. Unfulfilled promises? Heritage management and community participation at some of Africa's cultural heritage sites. *International Journal of Heritage Studies* 16 (1-2):30-44. [This article is for a comparative study between China and South Africa]

**Tutorial topics:**
**Week 1:**
No discussion and preparing the reading materials.

**Week 2:**
Discussion about the concepts of cultural heritage.

**Week 3:**
Discussion about the concepts of authenticity and impacts by the Three-Gorges Dam project

**Week 4:**
Discussion about the preservation and economic roles of cultural heritage using the case of Lijiang

**Week 5:**
Discussion about Public Archaeology and rights of local people on archaeological sites

**Week 6:**
Mid-term. No tutorial.

**Week 7:**
Discussion about traditional technology and how we can preserve craftsmanship heritage

**Week 8:**
Discussion about the unique natures of Chinese urban centers

**Week 9:**
Discussion about culture preserved in villages and how local people can become agents in the conservation.

**Week 10:**
**Field trip. No tutorial.** a half-day fieldtrip visiting traditional buildings (Pingshan Heritage Trail) in the new territory, Hong Kong. The dates will be consulted and confirmed after the add-drop period.

**Week 11:**
Debate about the ownership of Dunhuang “looted” heritage

**Week 12:**
Debate: Should we put cultural heritage into market, and what is the best strategy to preserve and utilize cultural heritage?

Week 13:
No tutorial.