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Course Website: <https://cultivatedcity.hosting.nyu.edu/>

<p>Course Description</p>	<p>This class examines the idea and practices of ‘cultivation’ in relation to the challenging environment of the 21st century city. Through field trips, readings and discussions, the class explores the concept of cultivation, and how it can be used as a basis for researching the urban ecology of Shanghai, both as a past and future city. The class incorporates a major project in the digital humanities, in which students use the tools of interactive media (audio, video and cartographic technologies) to research, map and narrativize the ways in which architects, designers, artists and intellectuals engage with the traditions of cultivation in order to imagine and recreate the future metropolis.</p> <p>Cultivated City focuses on Chinese cultural history and its changing attitudes to nature and the environment. This term it does so within the context of planting an urban garden at NYU Shanghai's new campus in Qiantian. Students will work on group projects designed to help build community and participate in the creation of an inspiring outdoor landscape for our future home.</p>
<p>Course Overview And Learning Outcomes</p>	<p>Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely read and analyze complex texts. • Understand how the concepts of ‘nature’ and ‘environment’ have operated in different historical contexts in China. • Comprehend the idea of ‘cultivation’ and how it might relate to the problem of urban nature in the 21st century city. • Engage in a community learning project. • Use the tools of digital humanities to present research findings.
<p>Course Requirements</p>	<p>Class Participation [10%] Voice Thread Reading Assignments [20%] Midterm Presentation [20%] Final Presentation [20%] Final Project [30%]</p>

Course Schedule

Part 1. Nature and Environment in Premodern China

Week 1

9/2

Introduction

Planting the New Campus at Qiantian

Dean's Service Scholar - Community Engaged Learning

The Cultivated City

Week 2

9/9

The Idea of Cultivation in the 21st century

We introduce the concept of cultivation and explore how it continues to exist in the park life of the contemporary city.

Readings:

Zito, Angela. "Writing in Water, or, Evanescence, Enchantment and Ethnography in a Chinese Urban Park." *Visual Anthropology Review* 30, no. 1 (2014): 11-22.

Greenspan, Anna, and Francesca Tarocco. "An Enchanted Modern: Urban Cultivation in Shanghai." *International Quarterly for Asian Studies* 51, no. 1-2 (2020): 223-242.

Assignment:

Voice Thread Assignment

Week 3

<p>9/16</p>	<p>Nature and the environment in early modern China: Buddhism, Daoism and Neo Confucianism</p> <p>We analyze the relationship between Buddhism, Daoism, Neoconfucianism and the environment.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Miller, James. <i>China's Green Religion: Daoism and the Quest for a Sustainable Future</i>. Columbia University Press, 2017.</p> <p>Callicott, J. Baird, and James McRae, eds. <i>Environmental Philosophy in Asian Traditions of Thought</i>. Suny Press. Accessed 15 April 2022.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<p><i>Week 4</i></p>	
<p>9/23</p>	<p>Field Trip/ Guest Lecture -Amanyangyun</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Kohn, Eduardo. <i>How Forests Think: Toward an Anthropology Beyond the Human</i>. 1st edition. University of California Press, 2013.</p> <p>Preston, Yan Wang. 'FOREST IMAGES -'. https://www.yanwangpreston.com/projects/forest-images.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<p><i>Week 5</i></p>	

9/30	<p>Garden Cultures and Fengshui in early modern China</p> <p>Who owned gardens? Who visited them? How were they represented in words, in paintings and in visual culture generally, and what meanings did these representations hold at different levels of Chinese society? We look at the garden's role in social life.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Clunas, Craig. <i>Fruitful Sites: Garden Culture in Ming Dynasty China</i>. First Edition. Durham: Duke University Press Books, 1996. (Extracts)</p> <p>Xu, Ping. "Feng-shui Models Structured Traditional Beijing Courtyard Houses" <i>Journal of Architectural and Planning Research</i> (1998): 271-282.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<i>Week 6</i>	
10/14	<p>Field trip Zuibaichi</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p>Bryant, Shelly. 'Zuibaichi'. In <i>The Classical Gardens of Shanghai</i>, 1st edition. Hong Kong University Press, 2016.</p>
<i>Week 7</i>	
10/21	<p>Midterm Presentations (The Tree & the Campus Quad)</p>
<i>Part 2. The Modern City</i>	
<i>Week 8</i>	

10/29	<p>Invisible Gardens. NYU Shanghai. ICA Guests: Michelle Hyun & Zheng Bo</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Zheng, Bo, and Sohl Lee. "Contemporary art and ecology in East Asia." <i>Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art</i> 3, no. 3 (2016): 215-223.</p> <p>Greenspan, Anna, and Francesca Tarocco. "An Enchanted Modern: Urban Cultivation in Shanghai." <i>International Quarterly for Asian Studies</i> 51, no. 1-2 (2020): 223-242.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<i>Week 9</i>	
11/4	<p>Environmental Culture in the post-Mao era 1 We look at nature tourism, anti-pollution movements, and environmental policy and implementation to show how the global spread of western ideas about nature has interacted with Chinese traditions.</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p>Weller, Robert P. <i>Discovering Nature: Globalization and Environmental Culture in China and Taiwan</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<i>Week 10</i>	
11/11	<p>Field trip. Urban Agriculture 1. Tongji University. Cloverfield.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Kou, Huaiyun, Sichu Zhang, and Yuelai Liu. "Community-engaged research for the promotion of healthy urban environments: A case study of community garden initiative in Shanghai, China." <i>International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health</i> 16, no. 21 (2019): 4145.</p> <p>Shi, Yan, Cunwang Cheng, Peng Lei, Tiejun Wen, and Caroline Merrifield. "Safe food, green food, good food: Chinese Community Supported Agriculture and the rising middle class." <i>International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability</i> 9, no. 4 (2011): 551-558.</p>
<i>Week 11</i>	

11/14	<p>Field trip. Urban Agriculture 2. Biofarm or Chongming Island</p> <p>Readings: Sun, Yunfan and Leah Thompson. 2013. <i>Down to the Countryside: The Emerging Back-to-the-land Movement in Bishan Village</i>. Documentary film on Bishan Commune, 30. min. A shorter version of the film is available from the ChinaFile website: https://www.chinafile.com/multimedia/video/down-countryside</p> <p>Ding, Dang, Pingyang Liu, and Neil Ravenscroft. "The new urban agricultural geography of Shanghai." <i>Geoforum</i> 90 (2018): 74-83.</p> <p>Merrifield, Caroline. "Seeing and Knowing: Sourcing Safe Food in Zhejiang." <i>Journal of Current Chinese Affairs</i> 48, no. 3 (2019): 281-300.</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<i>Week 12</i>	
11/18	<p>Environmental Culture in the post-Mao era 2</p> <p>Reading: Li, Yifei, and Judith Shapiro. <i>China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet</i>. 1st edition. Cambridge, UK ; Medford, MA: Polity, 2020. Guest. Yifei Li</p> <p>Assignment: Voice Thread Assignment</p>
<i>Week 13</i>	
12/2	Final Presentations: Urban Farm
<i>Week 14</i>	
12/9	Final Project Due