

NEW COURSE

Winter Quarter 2010



CHINESE 370

ANCIENT CHINA

古代中國

5 credits

SLN 19349

MWF 3:30-4:50

Instructor: W Boltz

(M250 Gowen Hall, 543-4926; boltzwm@uw.edu)

This class is intended to introduce students to the study of ancient China, from the beginning of the historical age, around 1200 B.C., down to the unification of the empire by the Qin state and the advent of Buddhism in the Han, altogether a span of nearly a millennium and a half. Among other things, we shall try to understand the early Chinese world-view, why it took the form it did, how and why it changed, and especially what such studies have to offer us for an understanding of the modern world. We shall take particular care to scrutinize and evaluate the sources, both written and archaeological, that reveal to us what the ancient Chinese world was like. Finally, where appropriate we shall include a secondary focus, for comparative and contrastive purposes, on ancient Greece.

Class format: 50 % lecture / 50 % discussion.

Requirements: (a) Attentiveness, thoughtfulness, active participation.
(b) Midterm examination.
(c) Final examination.

Required textbooks:

G.E.R. LLOYD, *Ancient Worlds, Modern Reflections*. (Oxford, 2004)
(available on line from the UW library)

Oliver MOORE, *Reading the Past: Chinese*. (Univ of California Pr/Br. Mus., 2000)
(to be purchased)

A. C. GRAHAM, *Disputers of the TAO*. (Open Court, 1989)
(purchase or library use)

Grading: Each of the three requirements will count in equal measure toward your final grade, *i.e.*, each is “worth” one-third of the course grade.