

COURSE DETAIL

IDEAS AND IMAGES OF THE WEST IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA

Country

Hong Kong

Host Institution

University of Hong Kong

Program(s)

University of Hong Kong

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Asian Studies

UCEAP Course Number

14

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

IDEAS AND IMAGES OF THE WEST IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA

UCEAP Transcript Title

WEST/IMPERIAL CHINA

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

During the late imperial period (17th-19th centuries), China was involved in substantive exchanges with the West in politics, religion, sciences, and arts. They made great impacts on China's later development towards a modern nation. How did the Chinese people perceive and conceptualize the West in textual and visual representations? What factors may have contributed to the creation of diverse ideas and images of the West, including “red-haired barbarians”, “Holy Mother”, “scholars from the West”, “heavenly brothers”, and “foreign masters”? Are there any common characteristics among these ideas and images, and in what ways did they affect China's transition from tradition to modernity? For some special terms like the “foreign devil” (Yang guizi in Mandarin, or Gweilo in Cantonese), why do Chinese continue to use them today to refer to the Westerners? This course searches for answers to these questions through a set of exemplary case studies. Both textual and visual sources are used to analyze the formation and transformation of a certain idea or image of the West, as well as its historical and cultural implications. Important theories in history, comparative literature and cultural studies are introduced to facilitate in-depth discussions and critical reflections.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

CCCH9004

Host Institution Course Title

IDEAS AND IMAGES OF THE WEST IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Common Core: China

[Print](#)