Spring 1-15-2007

ENG 3009G-001-003: Myth and Culture: From Dao to Matrix

John Martone
Eastern Illinois University

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Professor John Martone  
English 3009G  
Myth and Culture: From Dao to Matrix

Office: CH3751  
email: jpmartone@eiu.edu  
Hours: MWF 12:00-1:00

Texts
Kobo Abe, *The Box Man*  
A. C. Graham, *Chuang Tzu: The Inner Chapters*  
Donald Keene, *Anthology of Japanese Literature*  
D. C. Lau, *Tao Te Ching*  
Stephen Owen, *An Anthology of Chinese Literature*

Overview
Discussion of selected texts from Chinese and Japanese traditions as well as several contemporary works. Attention to notions of cosmology, society, and human nature; as well as the themes of tradition and innovation.

Requirements
Weekly quizzes and/or in-class writing assignments.  
Two translation exercises and one film review.  
One 3-5 page essay  
Final examination

Schedule
1. January 8, 10, 12

**Part I: China**
Introduction, The Confucian Classics.
Confucius: *The Analects* (*Lunyu*, 論語)
Selections at http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/confucius.htm
Complete text of *The Analects* at http://www.confucius.org/lunyu/lange.htm

2. January 17, 19
Confucian Classics, cont’d.
Begin *The Book of Songs* (*Shijing*, 時經* in Owen, 10-27, 30-32, 34-57)

3. January 22, 24, 26
Confucian Classics, cont’d.
Finish *Songs.*
*The Book of Change* (*Yijing*, 易經) readings TBA

4. January 29, 31, February 2
Daoism
Lau, *Tao Te Ching* (道徳經)
Translation assignment 1: Take at least four lines (your favorites!) from the *Tao Te Ching* and, using the tools below, in no more than two pages 1.) do your own translation and 2.) discuss the difficulties you encountered and discoveries you made. The assignment is due February 19.
Your starting place is http://www.zhongwen.com/
For a character-by-character gloss of the Laozi, go to http://zhongwen.com/dao.htm
To incorporate Chinese characters into your text: http://www.inputking.com

5. February 5, 7, 9
*Tao Te Ching*, cont’d.
Translation Assignment due February 19

6. February 12, 14
Zhuangzi (莊子)
Chambers, *Chuang Tzu: The Inner Chapters*
7. February 19, 21, 23
Buddhism. (Lecture and handouts.)

8. February 26, 28, March 2
Tang Poetry: Wang Wei (Owen 385-395)
Translation Assignment 2: Choose a poem from the handout I will provide, and translate as in assignment 1. above. Assignment due March 2.

9. March 5, 7, 9
Part 2. Japan
The Ancient Period (Keene 33-60)

10. March 12, 14, 16
Spring Break

11. March 19, 21, 23
Sei Shonagon, The Pillow Book (Keene, 137), Kamo no chomei, An Account of My Hut (197); Yoshida Kenko, Essays in Idleness (231)

12. March 26, 28, 30
Basho, Oku no hosomichi
Keene, 363, 374, 384

13. April 2, 4, 6
Issa Kobayashi, in Keene and from http://haikuguy.com/issa/

14. April 9, 11, 13
Part 3. Modern Times
The response to Hiroshima: Black Rain

15. April 16, 18, 20
Two Contemporaries
1. From Japan: Kobo Abe, The Box Man
Zielenziger, Shutting out the Sun (on reserve)

16. April 23, 25, 27
Two Contemporaries
2. From China: Xubing (http://www.xubing.com)