Spring 1-15-2009

ENG 3009G-002: Myth and Culture

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Recommended Citation
Versions of the Dao

The *Dao De Jing* is one of the world’s most translated books, embodying teachings about nature and human life that have been of perennial interest and which remain compelling today. This course looks at Laozi’s classic in its original setting and explores its influence upon other cultures—Vietnamese, Japanese, and American.

**Required Texts**
Abe, *Box Man*
Barnhill, *Basho's Journey*
Gao Xingjian, *Soul Mountain*
D.C. Lau, *Tao Te Ching*
Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
Thong (Trans.), *The Tale of Kieu*
Burton Watson, *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings*

**Online Reading and Sources**
Robert Huey (Trans.) *Journal of My Father's Last Days: Issa's Chichi no shuen nikki.*
<http://www.jstor.org/view/00270741/99p0069s/0/>
Zhongwen.com <http://www.zhongwen.com/>

**Material to print out for class**
A) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/classicofpoetry.doc
B) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/yijingassignment.doc
C) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/confuciusanalects.doc
D) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/laoziterms.doc
E) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/translation.doc
F) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/buddhismconceptsandsutras.doc
G) http://ux1.eiu.edu/~jpmartone/3009/chiyoni.doc

**Schedule**

**January**
12, 14, 16: Introductory; *Classic of Songs* (printout A)
[12 MLK Birthday: No class] 14, 16: *The Yijing* (printout B)
19, 21, 23: Confucius, *The Analects* and *Book of Rites* (printout C)
26, 28, 30: D.C. Lau, *Tao Te Ching* (Printout D)

**February**
2, 4, 6: *Tao Te Ching*, cont’d. Translation assignment (printout E)
9, 11, 13: Watson, *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings*
16, 18, 20: Buddhism (printout F)
23, 25, 27: *The Tale of Kieu*

**March**
9, 11, 13: *Basho's Journey.*
[16, 18, 20: Spring Break]
30, April 1: Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
6, 8, 10: Kingston, cont'd.
13, 15, 17: Gao, *Soul Mountain* (excerpts)
20, 22, 24: Abe, *The Box Man*
17, 29, May 1: Abe, *The Box Man*; conclusions

Requirements and Evaluation

Please note: This is a **reading** intensive class that requires extended and careful attention to challenging texts.

- Reading quizzes: 15 points
- Yijing Assignment: 5 "
- Laozi translation: 10 "
- Hourly examination (March 6): 30 "
- Practicing Basho: 10 "
- Final Examination: 30 "

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