PAAS 420 - Chinese Narrative

PAAS 420-23655: A02: Ming-Qing Drama and Fiction in Chinese Society

Term: SPRING 2020
Jan 06, 2020 - Apr 03, 2020, Tuesdays, 4:00 pm - 6:50 pm, David Turpin Building A110

Instructor: Lianbin DAI

Course description:

This course is focused on to what extent and in what way Ming-Qing drama and fiction represented the social and cultural changes from 1500 through 1800. We will discuss the works that ranged from the Peony Pavilion (Mudan ting 牡丹亭) to the Dream of the Red Chamber (Hong lou meng 红楼夢) in the context of late imperial Chinese history, exploring the implied concepts and practice of family, marriage, life style, beliefs, economy, social stratification, sex and gender, law, philosophy, and worldview. By the end of this course, students should be able to discuss in a critical way Ming-Qing drama and fiction and understand their relations with pre-modern Chinese society.

Proposed assignments:
Attendance (10%); participation (10%); mid-term: book review (30%); final-exam: research paper (50%)

Proposed reading list:
We will have an electronic course pack containing selected pages from Ming-Qing drama and fiction in Chinese (of which their English translations are available upon request), and as well some journal articles and book chapters in Chinese or English.