

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2013
 The Culture and Arts of China: From the Song Dynasty to Contemporary
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China from the Outside: China's Impact on Surrounding Cultures

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Four Books (四書/Si shu)

English Title	Chinese	Brief Description
<i>Great Learning</i>	Da Xue 大學	Originally one chapter in the Classic of Rites; consists of a short main text attributed to Confucius and nine commentary chapters attributed to Zeng Zi, one of Confucius's disciples.
<i>Doctrine of the Mean</i>	Zhong Yong 中庸	Another chapter in Classic of Rites, attributed to Confucius' grandson Zisi. Focuses on the Way (道) that is prescribed by a heavenly mandate not only to the ruler but to everyone.
<i>Analects</i>	Lun Yu 論語	A compilation of speeches by Confucius and his disciples, as well as the discussions they held.
<i>Mencius</i>	Mengzi 孟子	A collection of conversations of the scholar Mencius with kings of his time.

Five Classics (五經; Wu jing)

English Title	Chinese	Brief Description
<i>Book of Odes</i> Or <i>Book of Songs</i>	Shi Jing 詩經	A collection of 305 poems divided into 160 folk songs, 105 festal songs sung at court ceremonies, and 40 hymns and eulogies sung at sacrifices to gods and ancestral spirits of the royal house.
<i>Book of Documents</i>	Shu Jing 書經	Also known as the Shang Shu (尚書). A collection of documents and speeches alleged to have been written by rulers and officials of the early Zhou period and before.
<i>Book of Rites</i> Or <i>Book of Ritual</i>	Li Ji 禮記	Describes ancient rites, social forms and court ceremonies.
<i>Book of Changes</i>	I Jing 易經	Consists of permutations of six lines, each of which can be solid or broken, to a total of 64 "hexagrams." These are construed to represent features of the natural and social worlds, and various methods are used to select one for interpretation as the answer to a question.
<i>Spring and Autumn Annals</i>	Chun Qiu 春秋	Historical record of the state of Lu, Confucius's native state, 722–481 BCE, compilation attributed to Confucius (?).

Ranking of occupations: the gentry (*shi* 士) over the peasantry (*nong* 農), the peasantry over the artisans (*gong* 工), and all over the merchants (*shang* 商).

Imperial Exam system. Level 1: District Level (*zhouxianshi* 州縣試 or *fuzhoushi* 府州試). There was no degree at this level. Those who passed were given the status of *tong sheng* 童生 and were allowed to take the prefectural level exam. About 2% of the population had this status. **Level 2a: Prefectural Level** (*tong shi* 童試 or *yuanshi* 院試). Those who passed were awarded the *sheng yuan* 生員 degree. The exam was held two times every three years at the capital of the local prefecture. **Level 2b:** The government also allowed people to buy a *jian sheng* 監生 degree. A person with this degree was allowed to take the provincial level exam. These people were considered lower gentry. **Level 3: Provincial Level** (*xiangshi* 鄉試). People who passed were awarded the *zhuren* 舉人 degree. The exam was held at the provincial capital every three years; during the late Ming approximately 1200 were given the degree at each exam. In the late Ming there were perhaps 15,000 who held this degree at any given time. These people were considered upper gentry. **Level 4: Metropolitan Level** (*huishi* 會試) Successful candidates were awarded the *gong sheng* 貢士 degree. Soon after passing the metropolitan test, the candidate would take the Palace Exams (*dianshi* 殿試) and be conferred the *jinshi* 進士 degree. The exam was given at

Beijing once every three years. There were perhaps 3000-5000 *jinshi* degree holders alive at any one time in late Ming China. Roughly 10% of the male population in late Ming China may have had some level of educational achievement.

Places: Suzhou, Jiangsu Province. Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province. Huizhou, Anhui Province. Jiangnan (area south of the Yangzi River). Jiangbei (area north of the Yangzi River)

Slide list: **1.** Title slide. **2.** Map. **3.** Images of present day Suzhou and the Grand Canal. **4. top:** Fishermen on an Autumn River, by Dai Jin (active 15th century), hand scroll, Freer Gallery of Art. **Right:** Planting rice seedlings, by Mao Dan (or Mao Xiang, dates unknown), hanging scroll, B62D19. **5.** Map. **6-11.** The Qianlong Emperor's Southern Inspection Tour, Scroll Six: Entering Suzhou along the Grand Canal, by Xu Yang (Chinese, active ca. 1750–after 1776), dated 1770, Met. **12.** Suzhou Gardens. **13.** Shen Zhou (1427-1509), **Above:** Portrait, **Right:** Drawings from Life, dated 1494, album, NPM **Far Right:** Lofty Mount Lu, dated 1467, hanging scroll, NPM. **14. Above:** Landscape, by Shen Zhou (1427-1509), handscroll, B75D7, **Below:** Song of the Cursive Script, by Zhang Bi (1425-1487), handscroll, B68D7. **15.** Wen Zhengming (1470-1559) **Above left:** poem, B79D23, **Above center:** landscape, B81D40. **Right:** Discourse in Green Shade, hanging scroll, B68D9. **16. Above:** Early Spring in the Imperial Palace, dated 1507, by Wen Zhengming (1470–1559), handscroll, 2008.68. **Right:** Scholar in landscape, by Wen Zhengming (1470–1559) fan. **17. Top:** Parting by the River Bank, by Wen Jia (1501-1583), handscroll, B68D4. **Center:** Yuan An Lying Down in the Snow, 1553, by Wen Jia, (1501-1583), handscroll, 2008.65. **18. Above:** Poems, flowering plants, and trees, 1537, by Chen Chun (1483-1544), handscroll (2 details), B70D4. **Right:** Qiyun Pavilion over Dragon River, 1553, by Lu Zhi (1496-1576), fan, B78D1. **19.** Flowers, 1615, by Xue Susu (1564-1637), handscroll, B66D2. **20. Top:** The North Sea, by Zhou Chen (ca. 1455-after 1536), handscroll, Nelson Atkins Museum. **Bottom:** Beggars and Street Characters, 1516, by Zhou Chen, handscroll, Cleveland. **21.** Travelers in mountains, by Zhou Chen (ca. 1455-after 1536), B79D11. **22. Left:** Landscape, by Chiu Ying (ca. 1495-1552), hanging scroll, Palace Museum. **Right:** Fisherman's Flute Heard Over the Lake, ca. 1547, by Qiu Ying (1494-1552), hanging scroll, Nelson-Atkins. **23.** Chiu Ying (ca. 1495-1552), Spring Morning in the Han Palace, ca. 1540, handscroll, NPM. **24. Above left:** The Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove by Qiu Ying 1494-1552, fan, B79D5.i. **Above right:** Scholar leaning on a rock, by Qiu Ying, fan, B79D5.f. **Right:** Immortal Flying on a Crane, Qiu Ying, fan, B79D7. **25. Above:** For Master Muchun, by Tang Yin (1470-1523), fan, B81D37. **Right:** Tao Gu Presents a Poem, by Tang Yin, ca. 1515, hanging scroll, NPM. **26.** Tang Yin (1470-1524), **Left:** A beauty playing a flute, hanging scroll. **Right:** Beauty with a fan, hanging scroll. **27. Above:** *Imperial Procession to the Ming tombs*, approx. 1550, handscroll, NPM. **Right:** Court women in the inner palace, attributed to Du Jin (active 1465-1500), hand scroll, Shanghai Museum. **28.** Ming silk textile samples, Palace Museum. **29. Left:** covered vessel, signature of Lu Zigang, nephrite, NPM. **Right:** vessel, nephrite, Ming dynasty, Palace Museum. **30.** Map. **31.** Vessels, late Ming dynasty (approx. 1600-1644), nephrite, Palace Museum. **32. Top left:** cup, B60J429. **Top right:** pins, B86J13. **Bottom Left:** Figure, B60J162. **Bottom Right:** citron, B60J9+. **33. Above:** bed, **Right:** pair of cabinets, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*). **34.** Map. **35.** pair of cabinets, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*). **36. Above:** day bed (*chuang*), **Right:** pair of stools, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*), private collection, Hong Kong. **37. Above:** pair of chairs, **Right:** folding arm chair, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*). **38. Above:** painting table, **Right:** side table, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*). **39. Left:** small chest, **Right:** small chest, approx. 1600-1700, rosewood (*huanghuali*). **40. Above left:** tools. **Above right:** page from Lu Banjing, woodblock print, late Ming edition. **41-43.** examples of joints. **44.** Zhao Zhiqian (1829-1884), Flowers, set of four hanging scrolls. **45.** Map. **46.** The Xu garden, Yangzhou. **47.** Hall of Green Wilderness, 1770, by Yuan Yao (1739-1788), hanging scroll, B70D1. **48.** Yuan Jiang (1698-1735), Fishing villages, 1707, hanging scroll, B60D85. **49.** Orchids, bamboo, fungi, and rock, 1761, by Zheng Xie (1693-1765), hanging scroll, B67D6. **50.** Inscribing a painting while drunk, 1745, by Gao Fenghan (1683-1749), fan, 1998.31.1. **51. Above:** Landscape, 1731, by Hua Yan (1682-1756), fan, B83D2. **Right:** The Pine Spring, 1734, by Hua Yan (1682-1756), hanging scroll, ink on paper, B69D44. **52.** Summer Gathering in a Mountain Villa, by Hua Yan (1682-1756), set of 12 hanging scrolls, ink on gold surfaced paper, B74D4-16.

Suggested readings: Marme, Michael, *Suzhou: Where the Goods of All the Provinces Converge* (Stanford, 2005).

Cambridge History of China, Volume 8, the Ming Dynasty (Cambridge, 1998). Introduction, pp. 1-7; Timothy Brook:

“Communications and commerce,” pp. 579-707. Willard Peterson, “Confucian learning in late Ming thought,” pp.708-770.

Romeyn Taylor, “Official Religion in the Ming,” pp. 840-891.