GOALS:
I. To learn how to experience literature more fully – by awakening our senses, our reasoning and our imagination. Literature is concerned with transmitting felt experience: it is an adventure. It is a discovery. The artist leads us there, he or she points to it, but his or her vision can only be created in our eyes.

II. To learn to write with enthusiasm, passion and precision about your literary experience.

III. To investigate how women find their voice within their culture. We will compare American and Chinese women poets and explore how social, cultural, religious and political forces shaped their art.

TEXTS:
2. Li Ch’ing-Chao, *Li Ch’ing-Chao, Complete poems*, ISBN: 978-0-8112-0745-4, $10.95.

ASSIGNMENTS:
August 28 Prepare to read a five minute personal statement: What has happened to me, “up until now”? Have read your group assignment from *Herself, An Author* (handout.) Be prepared for a quiz on your “Herself” material. Bring also *The Selected Poems of Emily Dickinson*; read p. 1-78 for class discussion.


**Handouts**

**September 18** Present reports on Emily Dickinson, p. 160-279.

**Handout Assignments**

_Herself An Author_

I. **Everyone**: "My Thoughts on My Sixtieth Birthday", p. 161-165

II. **Presentations**: Autobiography of Gon Lirou
   - Group 1: p. 9-23, Life Phase 1
   - Group 2: p. 24-32, Life Phase 2
   - Group 3: p. 32-41, Life Phase 3
   - Group 4: p. 41-53, Life Phase 4
   - Group 5: p. 54-61, Literary Vocation of Concubines
   - Group 6: p. 62-73, Literary Agency in the Side Room and Concubines as Poet
   - Group 7: p. 73-84, Modes of Self-Production and The Feminine Subject in the Text
   - Group 8: Teach “My Thoughts on My Sixtieth Birthday”

**September 23** Read _Women Poets of China_, p. 1-60. Prepare draft for first critical paper on Emily Dickinson.

**September 25** **First Critical Paper Due, September 25 at 3:00 p.m.** No electronic submissions accepted. The paper must be a hard copy, presented at the beginning of class.

Use the handout on _Aristotle’s Poetics_ to assist you in preparing an original critical, five-page paper on Emily Dickinson. See handout on the _Poetics_ and on “Paper Objectives.”

**Note:** In this course any paper presented after the beginning of class (3:00 p.m.) on the due date will be penalized two full letter grades. For example a grade of “A” would be reduced to a “C” grade. No paper will be accepted after one week beyond the deadline and an “F” will be recorded as the paper grade. **This late policy applies to all further paper assignments.**


**September 30** Read _Women Poets of China_, p. 61-120. Review p. 1-60. Select eight poems and be prepared to discuss any one of your choices.

**October 7** Read _Li Ch’ing-Chao_, p. 1-82. Read biography and be prepared for a quiz on her poetry and biography and on the poems from _Women Poets of China_. Read _Ariel_, by Sylvia Plath, p. 1-91.

**October 14** Draft a Second Critical Paper.

**October 16** **Second Critical Paper Due, October 16 at 3:00 p.m.**

Submit a five-page literary analysis which compares two of Sylvia Plath’s poems with two by a Chinese poet, selected from _Women Poets of China_ or _Li Ch’ing-Chao_.

Use the terminology developed from our discussion of _Aristotle’s Poetics_. The same deadline requirements and penalties apply.
October 21  Read p. 1-126 *The Bell Jar*. Prepare typed notes to discuss Pluth’s autobiographical novel in class. Bring also *Ariel* poems.

October 28  Read p. 127-243. Bring both *The Bell Jar* and *Ariel* to class. Read p.17-34 and 52-99 from *Women Writers of Traditional China*.

November 4  Re-read p17-34, 52-99 from *Women Writers of Traditional China*.

November 11  Read Adrienne Rich’s poetry (Norton Critical edition) p. 3-37; p. 48-55; p. 77-86. Be prepared to discuss in class and for a short quiz.


November 20  Read draft of Third Critical Paper in class.

November 25  **THIRD CRITICAL PAPER DUE, October 25 at 3:00 p.m.** Submit a five-page literary analysis which compares any one Chinese female author with any female American author who we studied.

This paper is worth 40% of your grade, so deliver your best!

Paper is due on November 25 at 3:00 p.m. Same penalties and submission policies exist. No electronic submissions.

**Note: Two-letter grade late policy. No papers accepted after December 2.** See details enumerated for the First Critical Paper.

December 2  See and discuss excerpts from *The Good Earth* and *Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles*.

**EVALUATION:**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation*</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Essay #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Essay #2</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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*Class participation: Class participation includes more than mere attendance, it involves active class discussion. Failure to provide evidence of participation in at least twenty-five class sessions is an automatic failure in the class. The penalty for plagiarism or using another’s ideas as words without attribution will result in failure of this course.