"One of the most significant features we notice in the practice of archery, and in fact of all the arts as they are studied in Japan and probably also in other Far Eastern countries, is that they are not intended for utilitarian purposes only or for purely aesthetic enjoyments, but are meant to train the mind; indeed, to bring it into contact with the ultimate reality."

Eugen Herrigel, *Zen in the Art of Archery*

**Office hours and Contact Information.**

Office: Boynton 208A
Office phone: (936) 468-2327 [N.B. I cannot return long-distance calls.]
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00-5:00 p.m. and by appointment.
Email address: acsmith@sfasu.edu.

**Course Description**

This course will examine the way in which various forms of martial arts incorporate and express philosophical ideas.

**Program Learning Outcomes**

When presented with a philosophical passage, either theoretical or applied, a student will be able to perform close textual analysis.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- Students will acquire an understanding of Eastern philosophical systems.
- Students will acquire an increased understanding of Eastern philosophy as it is developed experientially in the practice of martial arts.
- Students will be able to discern, analyze, and critique philosophical ideas within cultural products dealing with martial arts.

**Course Materials**


Other texts will be provided through the D2L site for the course.

**Outside Events**

During the semester, there will be three extra-curricular activities that students will be either encouraged or required to attend:

- There will be five sessions offered on different days of the week throughout the semester offering simple martial arts lessons, requiring no previous experience. *Students must attend at least one of these sessions.* Attending additional sessions will earn you extra credit.
- There will be a performance of a set of three one-act plays by Asian playwrights during the week of February 26. Exact dates and times will be available shortly. *Students must attend one performance of this set of plays.*
- One of our guest speakers will be giving a talk to the university community, probably on March 1. The exact date, time, and location will be announced. *Students are strongly encouraged to attend this talk.*
Course Requirements

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<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<td>Test 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
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Tests: There will be a test following each of the first two units, and a comprehensive final at the end of the semester. Material presented by guest lecturers and by students will be on the tests.

Presentations: Each student is required to
- participate in one group presentation on the origins and philosophy of a specific martial art during Unit Two, and to
- make one solo presentation analyzing the depiction of martial arts in a work of popular culture during Unit Three.

Detailed handouts will be provided outlining student responsibilities for each presentation.

Paper: Each student is required to write a paper applying concepts drawn from Eastern Philosophy to the set of Asian plays that the class will be attending. A detailed handout will be provided outlining student responsibilities for the paper.

Tentative Schedule

**Introduction**
January 22-24
Syllabus; General Introduction; Philosophy of Sport

**Unit One**
January 29-31
Confucianism; Buddhism in general; Zen Buddhism; Taoism; The Art of War
February 5-7
February 12-14
February 19-21
February 26

**Unit Two**
March 5-7
March 12-14
March 26-28
April 2-4
April 9

First Examination

**Unit Three**
April 16
April 23-25
April 30-May 2
May 7-May 9

Second Examination

**Thursday, May 16**

Final examination

Guest lecturers will visit the class periodically to explain and discuss the martial arts in which they practice. You will treat these guests with the utmost courtesy, and remember that questions based on the material they present will appear on the examinations.
Additional Policies

- **Attendance is required.** A student who accumulates more than six absences, whether excused or unexcused, will receive a final grade of "F" for the course. The only time you need to present me with paperwork for an excused absence is when you miss a test; otherwise it makes no difference. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own absences and recognizing when their grade is endangered.

- **Missed examinations** must be made up as quickly as possible. Students with a serious and documented excuse may make up tests during the semester without penalty as long as they do so before the next class day. Students without an excuse have one week to make up tests, but there will be a 10% penalty per class day until the test is taken. The final must be taken on its scheduled date.

- **Academic integrity** is the responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism. According to the SFA policy located at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf:

  Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to
  (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a
  component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on
  an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

  Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of
  plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least
  partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from
  an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s
  paper without giving the author due credit.

  Anyone who commits an act of cheating or plagiarism will receive a grade of F for the course. Moreover, the student is
  required to meet with the instructor to discuss the incident, and a formal Report of Academic Dishonesty will be
  submitted to the student's permanent file. If you feel that the instructor's determination of academic dishonesty is in error, there is an appeals process described in full at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/final-course-grade-appeals-by-students-63.pdf.

- **Cell phones**
  - Cell phones and other electronic communication devices must be turned off during class. Any student whose
    cell phone rings during a regular class will be counted absent for that day. Any student who uses a cell phone to
    send or receive text messages during a regular class, or who uses a cell phone or any other electronic device
    in any other disruptive way, will be assessed two absences. Repeated offenses will incur further penalties.
  - Cell phones must be turned off and storeded out of sight during tests. Any student whose cell phone rings during
    a test or quiz or who looks at a cell phone during an examination must turn in whatever work has been
    completed (which will form the basis of the student's grade on that test) and leave the room.
  - Requests for exemptions from this policy will be granted on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the
    instructor.

- **Disability accommodations:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students
  with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-
  3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and
  outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay
  your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

- **Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy (A-54)):** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the
  approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course
  work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of
  the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same
  course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose
  of computing the grade point average.

- **Acceptable Student Behavior:** Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or
  the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-
  34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be
  asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all
  instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full
  discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or
  who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert Program. This program provides
  students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.