The World in Miniature: French Studies of Chinese Art, Architecture, and Social Thought
History 310; Anthropology 375
Autumn 2004
Tuesdays 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Robert André LaFleur
Office Hours:
Morse-Ingersoll 111
Tuesday 4:00-6:00
363-2144
Friday 12:00-2:00
lafleur@beloit.edu

Required Books
Durkheim, Emile, Primitive Classification (La classification primitive)
Durkheim, Emile, Selected Writings
Durkheim, Emile, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life (Les formes élémentaires de la vie religieuse)
Granet, Marcel, Chinese Civilization (La civilisation chinoise)
Granet, Marcel, Chinese Thought (La pensée chinoise)
Granet, Marcel, Dances and Legends in Ancient China (Dances et légendes de la Chine ancienne)
Granet, Marcel, Festivals and Songs in Ancient China (Fêtes et chansons de la chine ancienne)
Granet, Marcel, Sociological Studies of China (Etudes sociologiques sur la Chine)
Granet, Marcel, The Religion of the Chinese People (La religion des chinois)
Knoblock, John, The Annals of Lü Buwei (Lùbì chunjì)
Mauss, Marcel, A General Theory of Magic (Essai sur un théorie générale de magic)
Mauss, Marcel, The Gift (Essai sur le don)
Rickett, Allyn, Guanzi: Political, Economic, and Philosophical Essays from Early China
Shaughnessy, Edward, China: Empire and Civilization
Stein, Rolf, The World in Miniature (Le monde en petit)
Stein, Rolf, Tibetan Civilization (La civilisation tibétaine)

Reserve Readings
DeBary, William, Sources of Chinese Tradition
Mauss, Marcel, Seasonal Variations of the Eskimo (Essai sur les variations saisonnières des sociétés Eskimos)
Mauss, Marcel, The Concept of the Person (Une catégorie de l’esprit humain: la notion de personne…)
Mauss, Marcel, Sacrifice: Its Nature and Function
Owen, Stephen, An Anthology of Chinese Literature
Waley, Arthur, The Book of Songs

This seminar will focus on the other studying another—French scholars of the mid-twentieth century who spent their lives trying to make sense of Chinese civilization. French scholarship on China presents a fascinating blend of deep textual analysis and fertile imagination. In particular, we will study the works of three masters of French sinology (Chinese Studies): Paul Demiéville, Marcel Granet, and Rolf Stein. One of the key linking ideas for them is the idea of the microcosm in Chinese art, architecture, and social thought. The perspective this seminar will embrace is that Chinese culture is not a static object merely waiting to be translated by Western scholars. There is a confrontation involved, and the result—at least if it is done well, as by our authors—is a distinctive intellectual and literary creation in its own right. By better
understanding the creative processes of these French sinologists, we might better understand our roles as interpreters of history and culture.

**Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journals and short assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
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*Class attendance and participation is expected. More than one absence will significantly affect your grade. Late assignments will be penalized. All coursework is due on December 10th.*

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**History 310**

**The World in Miniature**

**Autumn 2004**

**Week I (August 31)  春 Le printemps (1)**

Granet, *The Religion of the Chinese People*: 1-29
Maurice Freedman, “Marcel Granet, 1884-1940, Sociologist” 1-29

Edward Schafer: Foreword xvii-xix
Author’s Preface xxi-xxvi
In Memory of Marcel Granet 1-3

Waley, *The Book of Songs*: 1-305

**Week II (September 7)  春 Le printemps (2)**

Granet, *The Religion of the Chinese People*: 33-156

Preface 33-36
Peasant Religion 37-56
Feudal Religion 57-96
The Official Religion 96-119
Religious Revivals 120-143
Religious Sentiment in Modern China 144-156

Stein, *The World in Miniature*: 5-174
Trees, Stones, and Landscapes in Containers 5-48
Survey of Themes 49-119
Dwelling Places and their Physical Details 121-174

**Week III (September 14)  春 Le printemps (3)**

Granet, *Festivals and Songs in Ancient China*: 1-239

I The Love Songs of the Shih Ching

Introduction 1-10
How to Read a Classic 11-31
Rustic Themes 31-54
Village Loves 54-89
Songs of the Rivers and Mountains 90-145

II The Ancient Festivals

Local Festivals 147-157
Week IV (September 21) 夏 L’été (1)
Lecture 4:
Durkheim, Selected Writings, 1-268
  Introduction 1-50
  The Field of Sociology 51-68
  Methods of Explanation and Analysis 69-88
  The Science of Morality 89-107
  Moral Obligation, Duty and Freedom 108-122
  Forms of Social Solidarity 123-140
  The Division of Labour and Social Differentiation 141-154
  Analysis of Socialist Doctrines 155-172
  Anomie and the Moral Structure of Industry 173-188
  Political Sociology 189-202
  The Social Bases of Education 203-218
  Religion and Ritual 219-238
  Secularisation and Rationality 239-249
  Sociology of Knowledge 250-268
Durkheim, Moral Education, 1-63 [331]

Short Essays Due by 5:00 p.m. on September 24

Week V (September 28) 夏 L’été (2)
Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life: 1-299
  Introduction 1-20
  Book One: Preliminary Questions
  Definition of Religious Phenomena and of Religion 21-44
  The Leading Conceptions of the Elementary Religion: Animism 45-67
  The Leading Conceptions…: Naturism 68-85
  Totemism as Elementary Religion 84-98
  Book Two: The Elementary Beliefs
  The Principal Totemic Beliefs: The Totem as Name and as Emblem 99-126
  The Principal Totemic Beliefs: The Totemic Animal and Man 127-140
  The Principal Totemic Beliefs: The Cosmological System of Totemism… 141-157
  The Principal Totemic Beliefs: The Individual Totem and the Sexual Totem 158-168
  Origins of These Beliefs: Critical Examination of the Theories 169-189
  Origins of These Beliefs: The Notion of Totemic Principle, or Mana… 190-206
  Origins of These Beliefs: Origin of the Notion of Totemic Principle… 207-241
  The Notion of Soul 242-275
  The Notion of Spirits and Gods 276-299
Week VI (October 5) 夏 L’été (3)
Durkheim and Mauss, Primitive Classification: 3-88
  The Problem 3-9
  The Australian Type of Classification 10-26
  Other Australian Systems 27-41
  Zuni, Sioux 42-66
  China 67-80
  Conclusions 81-88
Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life: 300-448
  Book Three: The Principal Modes of Ritual Conduct
    The Negative Cult and Its Functions: The Ascetic Rites 305-529
    The Positive Cult: The Elements of Sacrifice 330-554
    The Positive Cult: Mimetic Rites and The Principle of Causality 355-375
    The Positive Cult: Representative or Commemorative Rites 374-391
    The Piacular Rites and the Ambiguity of the Notion of the Sacred 392-417
    Conclusion 418-448

Other Année sociologique

Week VII (October 12) 中 Le centre (1)
Granet, Dances and Legends in Ancient China
Stein, The World in Miniature — re-read!
Chavannes, xxx
DeBary, Sources of Chinese Tradition: xx-xx
Short Essays Due by 5:00 p.m. on October 15th

Week VIII (October 19) 中 Le centre (2)
(Lecture 8):

Week IX (October 26) 中 Le centre (3)
Lecture 9:
Other French sinology
Stein, Tibetan Civilization:
Owen, An Anthology of Chinese Literature: xx-xx

Week X (November 2) 秋 L’automne (1)
Lecture 10:
Mauss, A General Theory of Magic: 1-144
  Prologue 7-10
  A Definition of Magic 11-17
  The Elements of Magic 18-90
  An Analysis and Explanation of Magic 91-140
  Conclusion 141-144
Mauss, The Gift: 1-81
  Introductory 1-5
Gifts and the Obligation to Return Gifts 6-16
Distribution of the System: Generosity, Honour and Money 17-45
Survivals in Early Literature 46-62
Conclusions 63-81
Mauss and Hubert, *Sacrifice*: 1-105
  
  Introduction 1-8
  Definition and Unity of the Sacrificial System 9-18
  The Scheme of Sacrifice 19-49
  The General Functions of the Sacrifice 50-60
  The Special Functions of the Sacrifice 61-76
  The Sacrifice of the God 77-94
  Conclusion 95-103
Granet, Marcel, *Sociological Studies of China* (*Etudes sociologiques sur la Chine*)

*Week XI* (November 9) 秋*L’automne* (2)

Lecture 11:
Mauss, *Seasonal Variations of the Eskimo*: 1-80
  
  Translator’s Foreword 1-17
  Introduction 19-22
  General Morphology 23-35
  Seasonal Morphology 36-56
  The Effects of Eskimo Seasonal Variations 57-75
  Conclusion 76-80
Mauss, *The Concept of the Person*: 1-25
  
  The Subject: The “person” (*personne*) 1-4
  The “Role” (*personage*), and the place of the “person” (*personne*) 4-13
  The Latin “persona” 13-14
  The “persona” 14-17
  The “person” (*personne*): a moral fact 18-19
  The Christian “person” (*personne*) 19-20
  The “person” (*personne*): a psychological being 20-22
  Conclusion 22-23
Granet, Marcel, *Sociological Studies of China* (*Etudes sociologiques sur la Chine*)

*Week XII* (November 16) 秋*L’automne* (3)

Lecture 12:
Mauss, Marcel, *Manuel d’ethnographie*
Granet, Marcel, *Sociological Studies of China* (*Etudes sociologiques sur la Chine*)

*Week XIII* (November 23) 冬*L’hiver* (1)

Lecture 13:
Granet, Marcel, *La civilisation chinoise*, 1-132
  
  Introduction 1-7
  First Part—Political History
  Book One: Traditional History
  The Five Sovereigns 9-13
  The Three Royal Dynasties 14-22
  The Epoch of the Leaders and of the Combatant Kingdoms 25-34
Week XIV (November 30)  冬 L'hiver (2)
Lecture 14:
Granet, Marcel, *La civilisation chinoise*, 139-235
  Second Part—Chinese Society
  Book One: The People of the Plains
  Life in the Fields  139-151
  Peasant Customs  152-175
  Book Two: The Foundation of the Chieftainships
  Holy Places and Cities  175-179
  Diffused Powers and Individual Authority  180-184
  Male Gods and Chieftains  185-193
  Rivalries of Brotherhods  194-204
  The Agnatic Dynasties  205-218
  The Increments of Prestige  219-225
  The Principles of Infeudation  226-235
Granet, Marcel, *La pensée chinoise*, xxx
  Book Two: The Directing Ideas
  Time and Space
  Yin and Yang
  Numbers
  The Dao

Ten Page “Lead” Due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 3rd

Week XV (December 7)  冬 L’hiver (3)
Lecture 15:
Granet, Marcel, *La civilisation chinoise*, 237-429
  Book Three—The Seigniorial Town
  The Town  237-246
  The Overlord  247-260
  Public Life  261-309
  Private Life  310-373
  Book Four—Society at the Beginning of the Imperial Era
  The Emperor  377-404
  Social Changes  405-425
  Conclusion  427-429
Granet, Marcel, *La pensée chinoise*, xxx
  Book Three: The System of the World
  The Macrocosm
  The Microcosm
  Etiquette
  Book Four: Sects and Schools
Review Articles Due in my Office on Wednesday, December 8th

Week XVI (December 14) 春 Le printemps redoux
Lecture 16:

Presentations: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

All Late Work Due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8th
No exceptions (see my “late paper” policy).