This course will provide students with a basic introduction to the classic poetic traditions of China, Japan, and Korea. We will begin by surveying some of the major poetic traditions of China from antiquity to the Tang, paying particular attention to issues of canonization and classical theories of literature. Our examination of Japanese and Korean vernacular poetry will reach from the beginnings of written culture to the early 19th century, but we will also consider the role that classical Chinese poetry played in each linguistic tradition.

Our class meetings will typically begin with an introductory lecture that will help to put the literary works we read in their historical and cultural context. The focus of each class meeting, however, will be close reading and discussion of the texts. Students are therefore expected to read and reflect upon the assigned materials prior to class and to participate actively in discussion. Brief (one-page) response essays to the weekly readings are required at least three times during the semester. These are to be posted to the online discussion forums on LATTE.

A short paper (about 5-7 pages in length) will be assigned halfway through the term that will provide a chance to explore primary works of the student’s choice in greater analytical depth; suggested topics will be provided but students are welcome to formulate their own questions in consultation with the instructor. As a final project, each student will also be required to submit a comparative final paper (about 8-10 pages in length) that will require students to engage poetic works in two linguistic traditions. Both writing assignments will be evaluated for their coherence, critical argumentation, persuasiveness, and thoroughness of engagement with the material.

Success in this four-credit course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 9 hours of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, papers, discussion sections, preparation for exams, etc.).

Grades will be determined as follows:

- Attendance and class participation: 10%
- Participation in the online discussion forum: 10%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Short Paper: 30%
- Long Paper: 40%

**Instructor:** Prof. Matthew Fraleigh  
Mail: fraleigh@brandeis.edu  
Phone: 6-3229  
Class: M, W 5:00–6:20  
Office: Mandel 115  
Hours: M 1:00–3:00

**Disabilities:**
If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.

**Academic Integrity:**
You are expected to be familiar with and to follow the University’s policies on academic integrity (see http://www.brandeis.edu/studentlife/sdc/ai). All suspected instances of dishonesty will be referred to the Office of Student Development and Conduct. Instances of academic dishonesty may result in sanctions including but not limited to, failing grades being issued, educational programs, and other consequences.
Late Work:
Extensions are not granted except in cases of medical or family emergency. Late work will be penalized one grade per day late; e.g a paper turned that would have earned an A- had it been turned in on time Monday becomes a B+ if turned in Tuesday, a B if turned in Wednesday etc.

Required Textbooks

Week One – Virtual Meeting
Wednesday August 30: Overview of class aims and policies, self-introductions

Week Two –
Monday September 4 (Labor Day): no class

Wednesday September 6: East Asian Poetry and Translation

Week Three – Shi jing (The Classic of Poetry)
Monday September 11
- ABCP, xxxix-lxxii

Wednesday September 13: The Classic of Poetry
- ABCP, 3-12

Week Four – Chu ci (Lyrics of Chu)
Monday September 18: “Jiu ge” (The Nine Songs)
Tao Yuanming and his contemporary Xie Lingyun are both remembered for their love of, attention to, and poetic evocation of nature. Among the High Tang poets, Wang Wei is likewise celebrated for his poetry of
nature. Translations of some further poems by Tao Yuanming and Wang Wei, as well as a selection of the poetry of Xie Lingyun are available on Latte. Choosing two of these poets, discuss the similarities and differences you see in the vision of “nature” that each constructs. Make sure to support your argument with close analytical readings of the poetry.

Week Eight – Japanese Poetry in Chinese: Kanshi (Sinitic Poetry)
Monday October 16:

Wednesday October 18: (short papers due)

Week Nine – Japanese Poetry: The Ancient Age
Monday October 23:
- Carter, pp. 17-43.

Wednesday October 25:
- Carter, pp. 44-72.

Week Ten – Japanese Poetry: The Classical Age
Monday October 30:
- Carter, pp. 73-107.

Wednesday November 1:
Week Eleven – Japanese Poetry: *Renga / Renku*
Monday November 6:
• Carter, pp. 303-326

Wednesday November 8:
• Carter, pp. 331-337

Week Twelve – Japanese Poetry: *Haiku*
Monday November 13:
• Carter, pp. 345-389

Wednesday November 15:
• Carter, pp. 390-422
• Carter, pp. 440-446

Week Thirteen – Korean Poetry in Chinese
Monday November 20:
• Lee, pp. 201-262

Wednesday November 22: {no class}

Week Fourteen – Korean Poetry
Monday November 27: Hyangga and Koryo Songs
• Lee, pp. 7-28
• Lee, pp. 29-56

Wednesday November 29: Sijo (13th to 16th century)
• Lee, pp. 69-109

Week Fifteen – Korean Poetry
Monday December 4: Sijo (17th century to 19th century)
• Lee, pp. 109-147
Wednesday December 6: Conclusion / East Asian Poetry in the West

Final Papers due: Friday December 8