

Mothering China: From the Womb to the Nation

Study Load

| Activities | Number of hours |
|---|-----------------|
| Lectures | 24 |
| Tutorials | 8 |
| Reading / Self-study | 38 |
| Assessment: Group video production and presentation | 40 |
| Assessment: Reflection writing | 10 |
| Total: | 120 |

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze the historical role of the state in institutionalizing motherhood.
2. Evaluate the consequences of state-initiated propaganda campaigns, women's health and population programmes on mothers' status.
3. Examine how mothers in China conformed and resisted to the state's intervention of their sexual, reproductive and mothering experience at different historical points.
4. Assess how China's twentieth-century reforms and revolutions shaped mothers' changing image and experience.

Assessment Tasks

| Assessment Method | Weighting |
|---|-----------|
| Continuous assessment and task focused activities | 40 |
| Reflective writing | 20 |
| Video production | 40 |

Course Content and Topics

- 1 – Introduction
- 2 – Motherhood and National Salvation in Late Qing China
- 3 – Scientific Motherhood: Hygiene and Fetal Education (taijiao) in Republican China
- 4 – National Reproduction in Republican China
- 5 – Employment, Housework and State-sponsored Motherhood in the early PRC
- 6 – Socialist Androgyny During the Cultural Revolution
- 7 – Birth Counts: The Origins and Legacy of the One-child Policy
- 8 – The Taboo of Unmarried Motherhood
- 9 – Childless Stigma, Surrogacy and Reproductive Technologies (Part 1)
- 10 – Childless Stigma, Surrogacy and Reproductive Technologies (Part 2)
- 11 – Tiger Mothers: Theorizing Chinese Modern Parenting
- 12 – A World Without Mothers: Family Politics in the 21st century and beyond