

Asian Studies (Chinese Literature) Intensive Course
アジア研究 (中国文学) 集中講義
Graduate School of Letters



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“Topics in Chinese Narrative Literature of the Late Imperial Period”

後期帝政中国（明清期）における語りの文学の諸問題

From 3rd to 6th August, 2015

Registration deadline for this course is Friday, 10th July, 2015

Narratives are essential to our understanding of the Chinese literary past. By narrative I do not limit it to short stories and novels, but refer to a mode of composing texts. A narrative is an account of an event or a series of events, be it truthful or fictitious. Its functions are more than the telling of a story, as it tries to present ways of making sense of the events, and in extension, ways of seeing the world. By reading a narrative text, the reader takes an empathetic look at its author's mind to conduct a dialogue with the author's rhetoric and sociocultural community, and by doing it, the reader is able to tell a narrative of his own. Ideally, the result of reading is a fusion of horizons. In this course we will read selections of Chinese narrative texts of the late imperial period, centering around the concept of space, which is fundamental to the interpretation of Chinese literature yet has been inadequately addressed in previous studies.