## THE NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR TEACHING ABOUT ASIA THE PROGRAM FOR TEACHING EAST ASIA UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Winter 2021 Online Course

Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 in China and the U.S. through Literature and Writing January 12–May 3, 2021

A Professional Development Course for Colorado Secondary Teachers



Wuhan Diaries is a compilation of daily entries Fang Fang posted to the online platform WeChat as the city went into lockdown in early 2020. Compiled and translated into English by Michael Berry, this book now gives American readers an entry into the early days of the pandemic in China. Fang Fang's evewitness accounts not only reveal her personal observations but are also a testimony to societal anxieties and fears about the pandemic and its handling by local authorities. As she describes personal losses, she also gives voice to health care workers on the front lines as well as city dwellers tackling social distancing and isolation. Parts of her work have been read as critical of the government's response. The book also shows the reach of the internet in combatting the restrictions - both physical and political - of the time.

Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 in China and the U.S. through Literature and Writing will work with a group of ten Colorado secondary teachers to introduce them and their students to the book *Wuhan Diaries: Dispatches from a Quarantined City,* by the accomplished Chinese author Fang Fang. Participating teachers will first work to understand different cultural and social values as they relate to lived experiences during the pandemic; the "global" aspect of this pandemic; and how racial issues have arisen from the pandemic. They will then work with their students on a **required** classroom reading and writing implementation project.

**Course Format and Expectations:** The seminar will be conducted online through four asynchronous week-long modules, each consisting of readings of *Wuhan Diaries*. The course will include two webinars by CU-Boulder faculty, resources, and participant discussion forums on content and pedagogy. The course begins January 12, 2021, with online introductions. The first module will begin January 19, and the final module will conclude on February 15, 2021. A short Curriculum Implementation Plan (CIP) and evaluation will be due March 8, 2021 and will be followed by a student component in which teachers will bring the book into the classroom, engaging students in a project about layers and dimensions of impact of COVID-19 in their communities, the U.S., and China.

**Eligibility and Selection:** Colorado secondary teachers are invited to apply. Admission is selective, and priority will be given to social studies, literature and humanities; contract teachers whose required curriculum includes modern and contemporary China; and teachers who are not enrolling in another winter NCTA online seminar. Enrollment is limited to 10 teachers; applications close January 8, 2021 or when course is full.

## Participation is free. Participants will

- Purchase Wuhan Diaries, available online;
- Receive access to all materials online or via download;
- Have the opportunity for discussion with Chinese literature studies specialist and fellow educators;
- Participate in two webinars with CU Boulder faculty;
- Receive a completion award and certificate of completion for 10 hours;
- Receive \$185 upon completion of the student component.

Apply online at https://www.colorado.edu/ptea/content/WuhanDiaries

For more information, contact course leader Lynn Kalinauskas at <u>lynn.kalinauskas@colorado.edu</u> or 303-394-4627 This course is made possible through funding from the Freeman Foundation to the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia at the Program for Teaching East Asia, and the Office of Outreach and Engagement, University of Colorado Boulder