

# ***Huainanzi* assignment**

Each of you will be participating in a group project and writing an individual paper about *Huainanzi*.

## **Group project**

Each of you will form a group of 1-3 students and write a summary of and present on one of the chapters in *Huainanzi*. The paper should summarize the main points of the chapter, and the oral presentation should briefly do the same and explain to your fellow students how this chapter fits into the whole work and how it might be useful for your final papers. You will almost certainly have to draw from the full chapter in the full version of *Huainanzi*.

-Papers should be about 1000 words (four pages double spaced) and include one quote that students could use for their papers.

-Presentations should be about 5 minutes. Be sure to explain your quote and how to use it. Be ready for questions.

## **Final paper**

You will write this on your own, drawing on your reading of *Huainanzi* and what you got from other student's presentations. Here is the question.

*Huainanzi* is intended as a guide for emperors. What are the most important things an Emperor needs to know understand and/or do, according to this text?

Your paper should be about 2000 words (8 pages double spaced), and have a real title and a clear thesis. This is a fairly broad question, so you are going to have to think about how you want to focus your answer. **You can focus your essay however you want. If you want to argue that the most important thing for a ruler to understand is Confucianism, or rhetoric, or the military, or the Ideal Man or whatever that is fine.** The point is not to just list things from the book, but to write an essay that answers the question. Your grade will be based on the clarity of your argument and how well you support it with evidence.

## **Grades and due dates**

You should form a group and **pick a chapter** as soon as you can. You should post the names of all your group members and your chapter to the D2L discussion on this. The deadline for picking a chapter is. Claiming chapters is first come first served. The deadline for picking a chapter is February 28. Forming a group of 1-3 students and picking a chapter is worth 20 quiz points. *You should put some thought into this. Glance through the chapters, figure out which ones you would find most interesting and the easiest to deal with.*

Your **presentations and group papers** are due the week of 3/8. These are worth 50 quiz points each

Each of you will **assess the presentations** of four other groups. This is due 3/12 and is worth 50 quiz points.

Final papers are due 3/23 and are worth 15% of your final grade.