

Grading guidelines KIN4520 spring 2026

If all the criteria below are more or less fully satisfied, the term paper receives an A grade. With obvious weaknesses in one or more of the criteria, the grades B, C, D, and E are given according to the seriousness of the weaknesses. A term paper that hardly fulfils these criteria is given an F.

1. The term paper must be written in English and should have a length of 2500-3000 words plus front page and list of references. Its topic should somehow relate to emotions in early China.
2. The term paper should contain at least:
 - a research question (or a hypothesis)
 - a brief review of important academic literature relating to the research question
 - a presentation of relevant data (primary sources)
 - a discussion/analysis and a conclusion that relate directly to the research question
3. The paper should present a coherent argumentation and have a clear and consistent structure.
4. It can also contain theoretical and, in particular, methodological reflections of relevance to the research question.
5. The paper should build on primary sources in (Classical) Chinese and secondary sources in Chinese and/or English.
6. All quotations from primary or secondary sources (including earlier work by the candidate) should be marked as such, consistently using one of the standard formats for such references, as well as for the list of references at the end.
7. Originality and an interesting, relevant and researchable research question are highly valued, though the paper does not need to have the qualities of a full-fledged research article.
8. The use of AI is allowed in the initial exploration of the topic and in the search for sources, though all AI results need to be checked by the candidate. The use of AI

in the actual analysis and writing of the term paper is not allowed and will be treated as cheating.