2014

162-01-02 History of Asia

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Course Description:
This is the second half of the year-long Asian history course. It surveys the history of Asia, primarily East Asia, from the turn of the 16th-17th century to contemporary era. The course traces rise of fall of the last imperial regimes of the region, namely Ming-Qing China and Tokugawa Japan, incorporates within the discussion social and cultural dimensions, and presents both chronological and thematic understandings of Asian history in modern times.

Course Goals:
1. Through reading, lecturing and in-class discussion, students are expected to appreciate a non-Western civilization.
2. To help students build up an overall understanding of how regional societies evolved and transformed through time.
3. To describe and analyze political, social and economic elements contributing to different historical trajectories within the region, especially between China and Japan, since the modern period.

Course Requirements:

Class attendance and participation are mandatory. Students are expected to attend the class fully prepared and participate in discussion. Students who miss three classes will automatically fail the entire course. There are designated group-discussion sessions, but discussion is always encouraged in class as the instructor hopes to make it a more lively class.

Quizzes: There will be three in-class quizzes (5% each) on week four, nine and sixteen. The format of the quizzes will be identification questions. Each quiz takes roughly twenty to thirty minutes.

Exams (Midterm I / Midterm II): The two midterms will be on week six and twelve respectively. The exams will cover lectures and class readings. The exams include multiple choice, identification, and essay questions.
**Final paper**: Students will have to write a paper of **6-8 pages** in length. You can chose your own topic; be sure to consult with the instructor about your topic no later than week ten. On week eleven, you shall submit the outline (at least one page) of your paper. Papers are due on the date of the final exam.

**Percentage:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation / discussion</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam II</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Required Readings**


* Selections of the De Bary reading and others are on Blackboard

**Course Schedule** *(subject to change)*

**Week 1**

1/14 Course Introduction
1/16 Themes (re)captured
   Civilization vis-à-vis Culture
   Tradition vis-à-vis Modernity

**Week 2**

1/21 East Asia at the dawn of Modern Age
   Schirokauer, Ch. 13
   De Bary, p.142-154
1/23 Library research tour

**Week 3**

1/28 *China in the Early 17th Century- An Overview*
   Craig Clunas, *Superfluous Things: Material Culture and Social Status in Early Modern China*, p.91-115
1/30 *Tokugawa Japan: An Overview*
   Schirokauer, Ch. 14
   De Bary, p.143-151
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>The Splendor of High Qing I quiz# 1</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 15</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>The Splendor of the High Qing II: Social/Cultural Development during the Eighteenth Century</td>
<td>Naquin &amp; Rawski, Ch.2, 3</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>2/18</td>
<td>Japan: Late Tokugawa / Bakumatsu</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 17 (p.412-424)</td>
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<td>Duus, <em>The Japanese Discovery of America</em>, p. 57-58; 71-72; 90-106</td>
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<td>Arthur Walworth, <em>Black Ships off Japan</em>, p.240-258</td>
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<td>2/20</td>
<td>Midterm I</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>2/25</td>
<td>Meiji Ishin: Restoration or Revolution?</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 17 (p.426-431)</td>
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<td>De Bary, 669-676</td>
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<td><em>Screening: The Last Samurai</em> (part) / Discussion</td>
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<td>2/27</td>
<td>China: The Opium Wars and the New Era</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch.16</td>
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<td>Teng, p.24-27; Peyrefitte, p.195-197; p.289-292</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>Japan: Building A Modern Nation</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 18</td>
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<td>De Bary, p.694-707</td>
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<td>3/13</td>
<td>China: A Torturous Path toward Modernity, 1894-1928; quiz #2</td>
<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 19</td>
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<td>De Bary, p.280-298; 308-313</td>
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<td>Lu Xun, <em>Short Stories</em></td>
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Week 10
3/18 Japan in the 1930s: Mobilized for Jingoism
   Schirokauer Ch.20
   De Bary, p.1006-1017
3/20 China in WWII
   Schirokauer, Ch. 21

Week 11
3/25 Post-War Japan Under US Occupation
   Schirokauer, Ch. 22
   De Bary, p.1023-1032
   Screening: The Grave of the Fireflies
3/27 Post War China: Civil War to Communist Takeover, 1945-1949

Week 12
4/1 Midterm II
4/3 China under Mao: What is Maoism?
   Schirokauer, Ch. 23
   Gentzler, p.334-367

Week 13
4/8 Cold War Japan
   Schirokauer, Ch. 25
4/10 Discussion: Japan’s position in new world

Week 14
4/15 Cultural Revolution in film
   Screening: To Live
4/17 Easter Holiday

Week 15
4/22 Reform and Open-up for PRC
   Schirokauer, Ch. 24
4/24 Trauma, Memory in Post-War Japan
   Screening: Rhapsody in August

Week 16
4/29 Review session / quiz 3