2014

162-01-02 History of Asia

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Xavier University  
HIST 162-01 / 162-02 History of Asia  
Spring 2014  
Tuesday & Thursday 2:30-3:45pm / 4:00-5:15pm  
Instructor: Hsing-yi Kao  
Classroom HAL 1 / SMH 346  
Office: Schott 509  
Office hours: Tue, Thr. 10-11am; or by appointment  
Email: kaoh@xavier.edu

**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 choose 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:

- Class participation / discussion: 25%
- Quizzes: 15%
- Midterm exam I: 20%
- Midterm exam II: 20%
- Final paper: 20%

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
**Week 4**

2/4  Rise of the Manchus / Who are the Manchus?

2/6  The Splendor of High Qing I quiz# 1
Schirokauer, Ch. 15

**Week 5**

2/11  The Splendor of the High Qing II: Social/Cultural Development during the Eighteenth Century
Naquin & Rawski, Ch.2, 3

2/13  Signs of Decay: Chinese Society in the Latter Part of the Eighteenth Century
Naquin & Rawski, p.217-236

**Week 6**

2/18  Japan: Late Tokugawa / Bakumatsu
Schirokauer, Ch. 17 (p.412-424)
Duus, *The Japanese Discovery of America*, p. 57-58; 71-72; 90-106
Arthur Walworth, *Black Ships off Japan*, p.240-258

2/20  Midterm I

**Week 7**

2/25  Meiji Ishin: Restoration or Revolution?
Schirokauer, Ch. 17 (p.426-431)
De Bary, 669-676
*Screening: The Last Samurai* (part) / Discussion

2/27  China: The Opium Wars and the New Era
Schirokauer, Ch.16
Teng, p.24-27; Peyrefitte, p.195-197; p.289-292

**Week 8**

Spring Break

**Week 9**

3/11  Japan: Building A Modern Nation
Schirokauer, Ch. 18
De Bary, p.694-707

3/13  China: A Torturous Path toward Modernity, 1894-1928; quiz #2
Schirokauer, Ch. 19
De Bary, p.280-298; 308-313
Lu Xun, *Short Stories*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>3/18</th>
<th>Japan in the 1930s: Mobilized for Jingoism</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Schirokauer Ch.20</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>De Bary, p.1006-1017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>China in WWII</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 21</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>3/25</td>
<td>Post-War Japan Under US Occupation</td>
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<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 22</td>
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<td>De Bary, p.1023-1032</td>
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<td>Screening: <em>The Grave of the Fireflies</em></td>
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<td>3/27</td>
<td>Post War China: Civil War to Communist Takeover, 1945-1949</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Midterm II</td>
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<td>4/3</td>
<td>China under Mao: What is Maoism?</td>
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<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 23</td>
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<td>Gentzler, p.334-367</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>Cold War Japan</td>
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<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 25</td>
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<td>4/10</td>
<td>Discussion: Japan’s position in new world</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
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<td>Cultural Revolution in film</td>
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<td>Screening: <em>To Live</em></td>
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<td>4/17</td>
<td>Easter Holiday</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Reform and Open-up for PRC</td>
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<td>Schirokauer, Ch. 24</td>
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<td>4/24</td>
<td>Trauma, Memory in Post-War Japan</td>
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<td>Screening: <em>Rhapsody in August</em></td>
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<td>Week 16</td>
<td>4/29</td>
<td>Review session / quiz 3</td>
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