

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

HIS 216-01: Civilizations of Asia

Spring Semester 2009

MW 9:00-9:50 a.m. MCVR 028

Instructor: James A. Anderson

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Course web site: <http://www.uncg.edu/~jaander2/HIS216>

Office Hours: M 10:00-10:50am, W 11:00-11:50am and by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Keri Petersen, E-mail: ktpeters@uncg.edu

Discussion Sections: HIS 216-02 (F 9:00-9:50am) in MHRA 1207, HIS 216-04 (F 10:00-10:50am) in MHRA 1209

Joseph Moore, E-mail: jsmoore3@uncg.edu

Discussion Sections: HIS 216-01 (F 8:00-8:50am) & HIS 216-03 (F 9:00-9:50am) in MHRA 1206

Introduction:

How is Modern East Asia “modern”? What do we mean by this term? Can we understand the recent history of the region, if we focus exclusively on the Asian response to the arrival of Western powers in the region? This course will examine political change, specifically the emergence of anti-colonial nationalist and communist movements, as well as related intellectual and social developments in East Asia since ca. 1800.

Students taking this course should reach the following goals by the end of the semester:

- Construct persuasive written arguments concerned with historical topics.
- Utilize the latest methods of Web-based technology to communicate with fellow students.
- Study historical developments in China, Japan, Korea, and Viet Nam from ca. 1800 to the present day.
- Understand better the effect the recent past has had on the modern world.
- Exhibit self-motivation and self-expression by exploring and asking questions regarding historical topics beyond personal life experiences.

Course Requirements:

There will be a take-home final exam, six in-class “half-hourly” quizzes (including an ungraded skills quiz), and a 6-8 page (12-point font *Times New Roman* font, double-spaced, 1” margins, paginated) “Think Piece” paper. The paper will be due in class on **Wednesday, 13 April**. The schedule for the six in-class quizzes is noted in the lecture schedule. The take-home final exam will be handed out in class on **Monday, 4 May** and it must be turned in to me no later than 3 p.m. on **Monday, 11 May**. Attendance at **all** lecture and discussion sections is expected; an

attendance list may be compiled at the start of each class meeting. **The completion of all required written assignments is necessary for a passing grade.**

E-mail Accounts:

I will require that **all** students establish e-mail accounts with Internet access. This course will occasionally involve interaction between the instructor and students outside of the lecture period. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Grading:

Skills Quiz	<i>Ungraded</i>
5 Graded Quizzes	30%
Class Participation (film responses, group discussion, general participation)	30%
Paper	20%
Final Exam	20%

Quizzes:

The quizzes will cover materials from the assigned readings, lectures, films, and other in-class presentations. All assigned readings will be addressed, either during lectures or during discussion sections. You are responsible for anything that is covered in class, whether or not you were present for a given class period. **No make-up quizzes will be offered for this class.** Instead, your lowest quiz grade will automatically be dropped from your cumulative course score, **only** if you have taken the ungraded skills quiz at the beginning of the semester. Once the first quiz is dropped, all subsequent missed quizzes will be graded at 0% credit. Quizzes will be evaluated by the Teaching Assistants.

Film Responses:

Six in-class film screenings will take place during Monday or Wednesday class meetings throughout the semester. Prior to each screening, you will receive film-guide handouts featuring questions which address the film in terms of weekly course readings. You are expected to prepare well-written and thoughtful responses to each film guide, taking care to thoroughly answer all questions. A thorough response requires a minimum of one well-developed paragraph for each of 3-5 questions present. **These responses must be posted to the appropriate forum on Blackboard by the following Thursday at midnight.** These due dates are listed on the course schedule and on the Blackboard forums themselves. Film Responses will be evaluated by the Teaching Assistants. **Late film responses will be penalized half a letter grade for each day beyond the original due date. All film responses are required assignments.**

*If you miss an in-class film screening, the films are located on reserve at the Teaching and Learning Center in McIver Hall.

Discussion Questions and Discussion Reflections:

Each Friday you will splinter into several smaller classes to discuss primary sources illustrative of themes in this course. In preparation for these activities, you are expected to read the assigned primary sources and prepare two well-considered discussion questions for presentation in class. **These questions must be posted to the appropriate forum on Blackboard by the preceding Thursday at midnight. Print and bring these questions with you to present the following morning among your discussion group.**

Following each discussion you are responsible for submitting a one-paragraph (3-5 sentences) discussion reflection or summary. **These reflections must be posted to the appropriate forum on Blackboard by the following Sunday at midnight.** Were there points in the text that you wish had been discussed or elaborated upon in greater depth? Have you come to a new understanding of the text since the Friday meeting? If so, please feel free to note those points here.

Discussion Questions and Reflections will be evaluated together as one assignment by the Teaching Assistants. **Late submissions will receive no credit. You are required to submit at least 10 (ten) Discussion Questions and Reflections during the semester to receive a passing grade.**

*If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard, it is your responsibility to learn to use this online learning tool.

“Think Piece” Paper:

The “Think Piece” paper, a response to assigned topics from the required texts *The Stars, the Earth, the River* and *I Love Dollars and Other Stories of China*, will be based on your readings, section discussions, and the lectures. This paper is not a research paper; therefore, no outside reading is required. However, the quality of your writing, particularly the clarity and persuasiveness of your argument, will factor into the final grading. The “think piece” paper will be evaluated by the Teaching Assistants. **Late papers will be penalized half a letter grade for each day beyond the original due date.**

Final Take-home Examination:

There is a 6 page, typed take-home exam. I will distribute three or four questions one week before the exam due date. The exams will be due in my office (MRHA 2111) no later than 3pm on **Monday, 11 May**. We’ll talk more about this exam and specific requirements later during the semester. The take-home exam will be evaluated by the Teaching Assistants. **Late papers will receive no credit.**

Website:

This class is served by a companion Blackboard site, through which you may access all the on-line e-reserves. I also have created a web site for this classroom, which I will continue to expand as the quarter progresses. Here students can access course information, such as scheduled events (i.e. the syllabus you now hold in your hand), as well as terms mentioned in lecture. I will also

list links to web sites of interest to our class. Please refer to the class site periodically for such materials.

Asian Film Festival: during the 2009 Spring Semester there will be 5 (five) films presented as part of an on-going Asian Film Festival. If you attend one of these films, participate in the discussion following the screening, and write a 2-paragraph summary of the film and discussion, you may substitute this summary for one of the Discussion Question and Reflection submissions from your discussion section. Please see Blackboard for any schedule information, regarding the screenings of these films.

Required Texts:

The following books are required reading for this course, and may be purchased at the UNCG Bookstore:

1. Schirokauer, Conrad et al. *Modern East Asia: Brief History*. Second Edition. Florence, KY: Cengage Learning, 2007 ISBN: 9780618920709.
2. De Bary, William Theodore (ed.) *Sources of East Asian Tradition: The Modern Period*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780231143233.
3. Lê, Minh Khuê, and Wayne Karlin. *The Stars, the Earth, the River: Short Fiction by Le Minh Khue*. Willimantic, Conn: Curbstone Press, 1997. ISBN: 1880684470.
4. Zhu, Wen, and Julia Lovell. *I Love Dollars and Other Stories of China*. New York: Penguin, 2008. ISBN: 0143113275

All other materials for this course will be available on electronic reserve at the library web site.

SEMESTER LECTURE SCHEDULE

WEEK'S TOPIC	READINGS AND DISCUSSION
EAST ASIA: THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT	
21-23 January: Course “Nuts and Bolts”	No outside reading. Please meet with Teaching Assistants for first discussion section on Friday.
SKILLS QUIZ, Friday 23 January	Ungraded, but <u>required</u> of all students
26-30 January: Pre-Modern East Asia and Modern East Asian Society. The Nature of Imperialism in Asia.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 4-21 and 92-108. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 60 (pp. 64-76), “Chinese Responses to Early Christian Contacts,” and Chapter 66 (pp. 173-185), “The Evangelic Furnace.” Discussion Questions always due Thursday by midnight. Discussion Reflections always due the following Sunday by midnight.
CHINA	
2-6 February: Struggling to Maintain the Qing World Order. International Aggression: the Opium Wars. Domestic Unrest: the Taiping Rebellion.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 122-137. Film: <i>Two Coasts of China: Asia and the Challenge of the West</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapters 61-62 (pp. 93-118). Film Response submissions due Thursday 5 February by midnight.
9-13 February: The Decline and Fall of Imperial China. The Nationalist and Communist Movements in China.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 183-199, 213-237. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 94 (pp. 629- 640), Chapter 96 (pp. 678-692) and Chapter 98 (pp. 725-739).
GRADED QUIZ 1, Monday 9 February	
16-20 February: Mao’s Victory in China. The Early Years of the People’s Republic of China. The Cultural Revolution.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 301-316, 325-328, 355-376. Film: <i>The Mao Years (Part 2): It’s Right to Rebel</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 100 (pp. 747- 761). Film Response submissions due Thursday 19 February by midnight.
23-27 February: The Age of Deng Xiaoping. The Trials of Reform and Growth. June 1989 and its Aftermath.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 378-400. Film: <i>Born Under the Red Flag (Part 2): The New Generation</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 103 (pp. 782- 800). Film Response submissions due Thursday 26 February by midnight.
JAPAN	

2-6 March: The Tokugawa Shogunate. Japanese Society on the Eve of the Meiji Restoration.	Lecture reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 66-91 and 139-160. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 77 (pp. 340- 370).
GRADED QUIZ 2, Monday 2 March	

SPRING BREAK: 7-15 March, No Class Meetings.

WEEK'S TOPIC	READINGS AND DISCUSSION
16-20 March: The Transformation of Meiji Japan. Japan as an Imperialist Power.	Lecture Reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 162-181, 240-263. Film: <i>Meiji: Asia's Response To The West</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 87 (pp. 496- 514) Film Response submissions due Thursday 19 March by midnight.
23-27 March: Japan's "Swing to the Right" Japan and WWII	Lecture Readings: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 297-301, 307-313, 316-321. Film clip: <i>1945: The Year that Changed the World</i> (UKTV) http://www.joost.com/272ij6o/t/1945-The-Year-That-Changed-The-World-The-War-in-the-Pacific-August-and-September#id=272ij6o Garon, <i>State and Society in Interwar Japan</i> . (*Optional e-reserve reading) Discussion reading: <i>The Human Tradition in Modern Japan</i> , Yoshiya Nobuko (e-reserve reading) and <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 93 (pp. 614- 625).
GRADED QUIZ 3, Monday 23 March	
30 March – 3 April: The Post-war Period. Occupied Japan and the US. Japan's Economic Nationalism. Bursting of the Economic Bubble. Japan's Middle Class Shift	Lecture Reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 402-429. Film: <i>Reinventing Japan</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 107 (pp. 871- 887) and Chapter 108 (pp. 899-911). Film Response submissions due Thursday 2 April by midnight.
VIET NAM	
6-8 April: Viet Nam and French Imperialism. Ho Chi Minh and the ICP.	Lecture Reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 113-122, 266-276.
Spring Holiday, 10 April	No Class
GRADED QUIZ 4, Monday 6 April	
13-17 April: The First and Second Indochinese Wars. US-Vietnamese Conflict. Viet Nam in the Era of Reform (post-1986)	Lecture Reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 343-353, 445-463. Film: <i>Cold War: Vietnam</i> Discussion reading: <i>The Stars, the Earth, the River</i> , "The Blue Sky," pp. 21-36. Film Response submissions due Thursday 16 April by midnight.
WEDNESDAY, 13 APRIL	THINK-PIECE PAPER DUE IN CLASS

KOREA	
20-24 April: Late Choson Korea, Colonial Korea.	Lecture Readings: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 49-64, 199-209, and 276-291. Eckert, <i>Korea's Transition To Modernity</i> . (*Optional e-reserve reading) Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapters 117 & 118 (pp. 1029- 1043)
GRADED QUIZ 5, Monday 20 April	
27 April-1 May: The Cold War and the Two Koreas.	Reading: <i>Modern East Asia</i> , 335-342, 432-445. Film: <i>State of Mind</i> Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 119 (pp. 1044- 1067)
4 May: Concluding Points and Review.	Final Class Meeting. Final Exams Distributed.
MONDAY, 11 MAY	FINAL EXAM DUE BY 3 PM in MHRA 2111

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY MAP OF EAST ASIA



 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC *marcopolo*
XPEDITIONS
www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions