

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

HIS 216-01: Civilizations of Asia
MWF 12:00-12:50 p.m. MHRA 2207

Spring Semester 2023

Instructor: James A. Anderson

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Office Hours: MW 11:00-11:50am and by appointment

History Department Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory/>

History Department Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

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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.

In this Global Engagement and Intercultural Learning course, students will:

1. Describe dynamic elements of different cultures. These elements may include (but are not limited to) aesthetic systems, communication systems, economics, physical environments, ethics, gender norms, geography, history, politics, religious principles, or social beliefs, norms and practices.
2. Explain how similarities, differences, and connections among different groups of people or environmental systems affect one another over time and place.

Students taking this course should also reach the following discipline-specific learning goals by the end of the semester:

1. Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods. [Historical Comprehension]
2. Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]
3. Use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing. [Historical Interpretation]

Course Requirements:

There will be a take-home final exam, six in-class “half-hourly” quizzes (including an ungraded skills quiz), and a 5-7 page (12-point font *Times New Roman* font, double-spaced, 1” margins, paginated) “Think Piece” paper. The paper will be due in class on **FRIDAY, 14 APRIL**. The schedule for the six in-class quizzes, including the ungraded skills quiz, is noted in the lecture schedule. The take-home final exam questions will be distributed in class on **WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL** and exams must be posted to Canvas no later than **11:59 pm on MONDAY, 1 MAY**. Attendance at **all** in-person lectures and participation in online discussion sections is expected, but students may miss up to five (5) classes

without penalty. These five absences will be subtracted from the Canvas attendance roster at the end of the semester. **The completion of all required written assignments is necessary for a passing grade.**

E-mail Accounts:

I will require that **all** students to access their UNCG e-mail accounts regularly. This course will involve frequent interaction between the instructor and students outside of the in-person lecture periods. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

COVID-19 Course Requirements:

As we return for Spring 2023, all students, faculty, and staff and all visitors to campus are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. While face-coverings are optional in most areas on campus, individuals are encouraged to wear masks. All individuals and visitors to campus are asked to follow the following actions:

- Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene.
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Staying home when ill.
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.
- Completing a self-report when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, testing positive for COVID-19, or being identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive.
- Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the COVID-19 website.

Students who are ill, quarantining, or isolating should not attend in-person class meetings, but should instead contact their instructor(s) so alternative arrangements for learning and the submission of assignments can be made where possible.

As we continue to manage COVID-19 on our campus, we are following the lead of the local health department and we will adjust our plans to balance student success, instructional requirements, and the hallmarks of the collegiate experience with the safety and wellbeing of our campus community.

Grading:

Skills Quiz		<i>Ungraded</i>
5 Graded Quizzes	30%	(6% each)
Class Participation (film responses, group discussion, general participation)	30%	
*Film Responses		(10%)
*Canvas Discussion Questions <u>and</u> Reflections		(10%)
*General Participation (attendance, classroom discussion, etc.)		(10%)
Paper	20%	
Final Exam	20%	

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

97-100 A+
93-96 A
90-92 A-

87-89 B+
 83-86 B
 80-82 B-
 77-79 C+
 73-76 C
 70-72 C-
 67-69 D+
 63-66 D
 60-62 D-
 <60 F

Quizzes (MAC SLO 1, Learning Goals 1, 3):

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 Assistant.

Film Responses (MAC SLO 1, Learning Goal 1):

Four in-class film screenings will take place 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 Canvas by the following Sunday evening at 11:59pm.** These due dates are listed on the course schedule and on the Canvas forums themselves. Film Responses will be evaluated by the Teaching Assistant. **All film responses are required assignments.**

Discussion Questions and Discussion Reflections (Learning Goals 1, 2, 3):

Many Fridays we'll have in-person discussions in the classroom, and you will also be enrolled through Canvas in several smaller groups to discuss primary and secondary sources illustrative of themes in this course. In preparation for these discussions, please post a brief passage from an assigned reading. You don't say why you chose the passage. The passage may be a point that confused you, summarized an important point perfectly, or it may be a point that you completely disagree with. **Please post your passage to the appropriate forum on Canvas by the preceding Thursday evening at 11:59pm.**

Following your Friday in-person discussion, please offer on Canvas in the relevant discussion thread your interpretations of at least two passages offered by two different classmates and comment on at least two interpretations you received for your passage. **Please post your interpretations by Friday at 11:59pm.**

During the weekend you are responsible for submitting a one-paragraph (3-5 sentences) discussion reflection, reveal the reasoning behind your choice as well as your reactions to other student comments. These reflections must be posted to the appropriate forum on Canvas by the following Sunday evening at 11:59pm. Were there points in the passage that you wish had been discussed or elaborated upon in greater depth? Have you come to a new understanding of the passage (or the article) since the Friday meeting? If so, please feel free to note those points here. The written exercises will be graded on an 8-point scale. If

you receive straight “6s” for all exercises, you will have earned a “B” for this part of the course. To earn an “eight” you need to demonstrate that you have thought imaginatively about the question and have put some genuine effort into your answer. The purpose of these exercises is to gain experience in reading, analyzing and writing, and they should therefore help prepare you for the paper and the take-home exam.

Your Teaching Assistant will evaluate discussion Questions and Reflections together as one assignment. **Late submissions will receive no credit. You are required to submit at least 8 (eight) Discussion Questions and Reflections during the semester to receive a passing grade.**

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

“Think Piece” Paper (MAC SLO 2, Learning Goals 1, 2, 3):

The “Think Piece” paper, a response to assigned topics from the required text *Bullets and Opium*, 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 Professor. **Late papers will be penalized half a letter grade for each day beyond the original due date.**

Final Take-home Examination (Learning Goals 1, 3):

There is a 6 page, typed take-home exam. I will make three or four questions available on Canvas one week before the exam due date. The exams will be posted to Canvas no later than 11:59pm on **MONDAY, 1 MAY**. We’ll talk more about this exam and specific requirements later during the semester. The take-home exam will be evaluated by the Professor. **Late exams will receive no credit.**

Academic Integrity Policy:

In this class I expect that everyone will abide by the UNCG Student Code of Conduct when submitting all assignment to avoid plagiarizing the work of others and to avoid the appearance of plagiarism. Please refer to the Students Code of Conduct in the Student Policy Handbook, posted online by the Division of Student Affairs (<http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/student-code-of-conduct/>). If you have any questions regarding plagiarism and other academic integrity violations, please don’t hesitate to contact me at any time. Each student is required to include and sign the Academic Integrity Policy pledge on all major work submitted for the course:

I HAVE ABIDED BY THE UNCG ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY ON THIS ASSIGNMENT.

Signature _____ Date _____

For more information, please refer to Appendix A of the Academic Integrity Policy as stated on the UNCG website at URL: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>

Special Accommodations:

Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Disability Services in 215 Elliott University Center, 334-5440, <http://ods.dept.uncg.edu/>, ods@uncg.edu. If you have a documented disability and want to discuss academic accommodations, please talk with me before the end of the second week.

Website:

This class is served by a companion Canvas site, through which you 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 semester progresses. Here students can access course information, such as scheduled events, 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.

Required Texts:

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

1. Hanneman, Mary L. et al. *A History of Modern East Asia*. First Edition. San Diego: Cognella Academic Publishing, 2020. E-book. ISBN: 978-1-5165-7362-2.
2. De Bary, William Theodore (ed.) *Sources of East Asian Tradition: The Modern Period*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780231143233.
3. Liao, Yiwu. *Bullets and Opium: Real-Life Stories of China After the Tiananmen Square Massacre*. New York: Atria/One Signal Publishers, 2020. ISBN: 9781982126650.

SEMESTER LECTURE SCHEDULE

WEEK'S TOPIC	READINGS AND DISCUSSION
EAST ASIA: THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT	
9-13 January: Course “Nuts and Bolts” A Look at East Asia as a Region.	Lecture reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 1-4. Discussion reading: “To understand East Asian Nationalism, Climb a Mountain,” <i>The Economist</i> 12/14/2017(Canvas Document)
18-20 January: Early Western Encounters in East Asia. The Nature of Western Imperialism in Asia.	Lecture Reading: No outside reading required. Discussion reading: Discussion reading: 1. The Qianlong Emperor's Edicts to Macartney 2. The Treaty of Nanjing Discussion Reading passages <u>always</u> due Thursday by 11:59pm. Discussion Reflections <u>always</u> due the following Sunday by 11:59pm.
SKILLS QUIZ: Wednesday, January 18	Ungraded, but <u>required</u> of all students
Monday, January 16	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Classes dismissed; offices closed.
CHINA	
23-27 January: Struggling to Maintain the Qing World Order. International Aggression: The Opium Wars. Domestic Unrest: the Taiping Rebellion. Failed Qing Reforms.	Lecture reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 35-48, 67-85, 107-115, 149-163. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 62 (pp. 113-114), “The Heavenly Kingdom of the Taipings,” and Chapter 95 (pp. 653-655), “Radical Reform at the End of the Qing.”
30 January- 3 February: Nationalist and Communist Revolutions in China. The Early Years of the People’s Republic of China. The Cultural Revolution.	Lecture reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 179-193, 213-229, 251-267, 285-300, 332-345, 375-391. Film: <i>The Mao Years (Part 2): It’s Right to Rebel</i> Film guide responses due Sunday by 11:59pm.
GRADED QUIZ 1: Monday, January 30	
6-10 February: The Age of Deng Xiaoping. The Trials of Reform and Growth.	Lecture reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 421-439. Discussion reading: <i>The People’s Daily Editorial:</i> “Bourgeois and Socialist Democracies Compared” (October 1990) (Canvas Document)
TAIWAN	
13-17 February: The Qing, Japan, and the Island of Taiwan. Taiwan in the 20 th century.	Lecture Reading: No outside reading required. Discussion reading: Taiwan Relations Act (November 10, 1979) (Canvas Document)
JAPAN	

GRADED QUIZ 2: Monday, February 13	
20-24 February: Japanese Society and the Meiji Restoration. Japan as an Imperialist Power.	Lecture Reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 18-25, 48-59, 85-93, 115-134. Film: <i>Meiji: Asia's Response to The West</i>
MIDTERM GRADE POSTED BY 2/24	PER UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENT
27 February- 3 March: Japan's "Swing to the Right" Japan and WWII.	Lecture Readings: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 163-171, 193-200, 229-240, 268-278, 300-318. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 92 (pp. 595- 613).
March 4, Saturday	Instruction ends for Spring Break, 1:00 p.m.
March 13, Monday	Classes resume after Spring Break, 8:00 a.m.
13-17 March: 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>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 345-358, 393-401, 439-446. Film: <i>Reinventing Japan</i>
VIET NAM	
20-24 March: Viet Nam and French Imperialism.	Lecture Reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 29-34, 68-71, 98-101, 143-148. Discussion reading: A Late Nineteenth Century Debate: Family Vs. Nation (<i>Canvas Document</i>)
GRADED QUIZ 3: Monday, March 20	
27-31 March: Ho Chi Minh and the ICP.	Lecture Reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 176-178, 206-211, 249-251, 284-288, 326-330. Discussion reading: Proclamation of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (September 2, 1945) (<i>Canvas Document</i>)
3-5 April: The First and Second Indochinese Wars. US-Vietnamese Conflict. Viet Nam in the Era of Reform (post-1986).	Lecture Reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 368-374, 414-422, 460-466. Film: <i>Cold War: Vietnam</i> (Shown on Monday)
April 7, Friday	Spring holiday. Classes dismissed; offices closed.
KOREA	
10-14 April: Late Choson Korea, Colonial Korea.	Lecture Readings: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 60-68, 93-98, 135-143, 171-176, 201-206, 241-249, 279-284, 318-326. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapters 117 & 118 (pp. 1029- 1043).
GRADED QUIZ 4: Monday, April 10	
FRIDAY, 14 APRIL	THINK-PIECE PAPER DUE ON CANVAS BY 11:59PM
17-21 April: The Cold War and the Two Koreas.	Reading: <i>A History of Modern East Asia</i> , 358-368, 401-414, 446-460. Discussion reading: <i>Sources of East Asian Tradition</i> Chapter 119 (pp. 1044-1067).
24-26 April: Concluding Points and Review.	
GRADED QUIZ 5: Monday, April 24	

WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL	FINAL CLASS MEETING. FINAL EXAM QUESTION DISTRIBUTED ON CANVAS.
WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL	ALL MISSING ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE.
MONDAY, 1 MAY	FINAL EXAM DUE ON CANVAS BY 11: 59 PM

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