

HIST140/ASIA140 INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS

Prof. Y. H. Tam
Department of History

Fall 2009
9:40 AM-11:10 AM, T & R, Old Main 11

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the cultures and societies of East Asia from the earliest times to the present day from an historical perspective. Primarily an introductory course for beginners, this course considers a variety of significant themes in religious, political, economic, social and cultural changes in the region with emphasis on China and Japan. To a lesser degree, significant changes in Korea and Vietnam will also be examined.

ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENT:

Map Exercise	5%
Attendance & Discussion Participation	25%
Weekly reading summaries/responses (2 pages each week)	30%
2 short papers (6 pages each)	40%

REQUIRED READINGS:

Required readings are mostly assigned from the following books:

John K. Fairbank, Edwin O. Reischauer, Albert M. Craig. *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation*. (Houghton Mifflin).

Conrad Schirokauer, *A Brief History of Chinese and Japanese Civilizations*. (Harcourt, Brace & Jovanovich).

Also, the following books are recommended:

Frederick W. Mote. *Intellectual Foundations of China*. (Alfred A. Knopf).

John Naisbitt. *Megatrends Asia: Eight Asian Megatrends That Are Reshaping our World*. (Touchstone).

Other readings will be assigned from other publications and journals from time to time.

LATE PAPERS & MAKE-UP EXAMS

Except for medical reasons or family emergencies about which the Dean of Students has been properly notified, late papers and make-up examination will receive a reduction of 20% in grading.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 1:20 pm-2:40 pm;

Wednesday: 1:20 pm-4:20 pm

Thursday: 11:20 am-12:20 pm, 1:20 pm-2:40 pm

And by appointment.

Room 303, Old Main

Tel. 696-6262

E-mail: tam@macalester.edu

Also, please feel free to call me at home (651-457-6529). The best time to get hold of me is 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m on weekdays.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week of September 1

05—Orientation & Self Introduction

Week of September 7

08—*No Class*

10-- Geographical Setting

No assigned readings for this week.

Discussion Topics: What are the characteristics of the geographical setting in China, Japan and East Asia in general? What are the geographical impacts on the cultural development in East Asia?

Map Exercise *begins this week, due Sept. 17*

Week of September 14

15-- East Asia in the World: Past & Present

17-- China and the East Asian Countries

Readings: Fairbank, Chanter 1; Schirokauer, Chapter 1.

Discussion Topics: What are the cultural features shared by East Asian countries? Can you identify a few more similarities and differences between these countries in religion, government, society, language, and other cultural aspects?

Map Exercise due September 17.

Week of September 21

22-- Formation of Civilization in China and the Feudal Ages

24--The Philosophers

Readings: Fairbank, chs. 2-3; Schirokauer, chs 1 & 2;

Recommended Readings: Mote, *Intellectual Foundations*, read as much as possible;
Patricia B. Ebrey (ed.) *Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook*, documents, 1-8.

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Week of September 28

29—Library Session conducted by Librarian Beth Hillemann

OCTOBER

01— Medieval China, I: The Imperial System

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, chs 5 & 6; Schirokauer, chs 3, 4, 5; Ebrey, docs 11-18, 22.

Week of October 5

06-- Medieval China, II: Changes in the Imperial System and Buddhism

08—Ancient and Medieval China in Review

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Same as last week

Week of October 12

13--Ancient Japan: Early Civilization

15--Medieval Japan: Feudalism

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, chs 13-15; Schirokauer, chs 6, 7, 11, 12.

Week of October 19

20--Korean Tradition & Transformation, I

22--Korean Tradition & Transformation, II

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, chs 11, 12.

First Paper due October 20

Week of October 26

27--Vietnamese Tradition & Transformation, I

29-- *Mid-term Break, no class*

Reading: Fairbank, ch. 10, plus handouts.

NOVEMBER

Week of November 2

03--Vietnamese Tradition & Transformation, II

05--Early Modern China, I—The Sung, Yuan and Ming Dynasties

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, ch 6; Schirokauer, chs 7-8; Ebrey, docs 32, 33, 38, 40, 45.

Week of November 9

10--Early Modern China, III: Decline of the Imperial System in Ch'ing China

12--East-West Encounter

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, chs 7-8, 16,20; Schirokauer, ch 8-10, 13, 16; Ebrey, doc 44, 47, 49, 56, 58.

Week of November 16

17--The Western Challenge to Japan

19--The Meiji Reforms

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, Chapters 17-18; Schirokauer, Chapters 17-18.

Week of November 23

24--The Chinese Response to the Western Challenge

26--*Thanksgiving Break, No Class*

Readings: Fairbank, Chapters 19, 21, 24; Schirokauer, Chapters 19-20.

Week of November 30

DECEMBER

01—Rise and Fall of Imperial Japan

03—Japan in Post War Eras

Discussion Topics to be announced.

Readings: Fairbank, Chapters 22-23; Schirokauer, Chapters 21-22.

Second Paper due December 1

Week of December 7

08--The Rise of China

10—East Asian Civilizations in Review

Readings: Fairbank, Chapters 24-28; Schirokauer, Chapters 23-25; Nasbitt, *Megatrends Asia*, whole book

HIST/ASIA140 INTRO. TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS: Selected Readings

- Cressey, George B. Asia's Lands and Peoples, 4th ed. McGraw-Hill, 1978.
- De Bary, Win. Theodore. East Asian Civilizations: A Dialogue in Five Stages. 1988.
- Ebrey, Patricia Buckley. Confucianism and Family Rituals in Imperial China: A Social History of Writing About Rites. Princeton: Princeton U Press, 1991.
- Johnson, Chalmers, ed. Change in Communist Systems. Stanford U Press, 1962.
- Kitagawa, Joseph Ni. ed. The Religious Traditions of Asia. MacMillan, 1989.
- Lull, James. China Turned On: Television, Reform, and Resistance. London: Routledge, 1991.
- Milton, Daniel, and William Clifford, eds. A Treasury of Modern Asian Stories. New American Library, 1961.
- Moore, Charles A., ed. The Status of the Individual in East and West. U of Hawaii Press, 1968.
- Nakamura, Hajime. Ways of Thinking of Eastern Peoples: India, China, Tibet, Japan, rev. transl. ed. Philip P. Wiener. East-West Center, 1964.
- Pollack, David. The Fracture of Meaning: Japan's Synthesis of China from the Eighth through the Eighteenth Centuries. 1986.
- Reischauer, Edwin O., and Marius B. Jansen. The Japanese Today. Cambridge: Harvard U Press, 1995.
- Ropp, Paul S., ed. Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization. Berkeley: U of California Press, 1990.
- Spencer, R. F. ed. Religion and Change in Contemporary Asia. U of Minnesota Press, 1971.
- Tsurumi, Shunsuke. A Cultural History of Postwar Japan: 1945-1980. London: Kegan Paul, 1987.
- Vogel, Ezra. Japan as Number One. Cambridge: Harvard U Press, 1979. Ward, Barbara E. ed. Women in the New Asia. UNESCO, 1963.
- Ward, Robert E., and R. E. Macridis, eds. Modern Political Systems: Asia, 3rd ed. Prentice-Hall, 1972.

