

HIST 283 Modern China
Spring 2012
MWF 08:00 – 08:50/Buckman 216

Instructor: Seok-Won Lee
Office: Buckman 205
Office hours: MW 09:30 – 10:50 or TBA
E-mail: lees@rhodes.edu
Tel) 901-843-3405

Course Description

This course is a survey course of modern Chinese history, from the mid 18th century to contemporary China. The objective of this course is to provide basic knowledge in the field of modern Chinese history and to help students critically approach important historical events in Chinese society as well as reflect upon the ways they have been interpreted in various ways. To this end, the class is comprised of 13 different topics in modern Chinese history, from the collapse of the Sinocentric world and the rise of China in the 21st century. To maximize students' participation, students are required to write one or two discussion and response papers.

Course Requirement

1. Student Presentation (minimum 1000 words) (25%)

The format of this course is designed to encourage students' participation. A student-led discussion and debate will take place on Fridays. (08:00 – 08:50) To provide a point of departure each week, Every week, one (or possibly two) students will prepare short papers, 4-5 pages long, either in response to this question or in reaction against it. **By noon on Thursday** during the week that each paper is to be discussed, the papers will be photocopied and made available to me (205 Buckman) and to the other members of the seminar in HIST 283.

2. One Response Paper (minimum 1000 words) (15%)

Of the reading materials I have assigned each week, you should choose and analyze one or two materials and write one response paper (minimum 1000 words). You can choose any reading materials between WEEK 2 and WEEK 15. However, you must submit your paper by **Friday class** of the week your reading is assigned.

3. Map Quiz (5%)

4. Mid-term (25%)

5. Final Exam (25%)

6. Participation in Regular Class and Discussion (5%): If you are absent more than 4 times without reasonable explanations, your grade will result in an F.

Codes on Academic Ethics

Each student in this course is strongly expected to abide by Rhodes College's Honor Code. All papers and exams must be based on your own work. Plagiarism will result in an F in any case. If

you have questions on this, you can always consult with the instructor.

Civility and Etiquette in Classroom

To create and preserve a classroom atmosphere that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in this classroom in a manner that does not disrupt teaching or learning.

1. You are expected to be on time. You should be in your seat and ready to begin class at 8AM. Packing up your things early is disruptive to others around you and to the instructor.
2. Classroom participation is a part of your grade in this course. To participate, you must attend class having prepared the materials for the day. Questions and comments must be relevant to the topic at hand.
3. Classroom discussion should be civilized and respectful to everyone and relevant to the topic we are discussing. Classroom discussion is meant to allow us to hear a variety of viewpoints. This can only happen if we respect each other and our differences. Any discussion from class that continues on any listserv or class discussion list should adhere to these same rules and expectations.

4. ALL MOBILE DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF IN THE CLASSROOM.

Disability Services

Rhodes College is committed to providing all students a liberal arts education through a personalized learning environment. If you think you have or you do have a documented disability which will need reasonable academic accommodations, please contact Melissa Butler, Director of Student Disability Services, at butlerm@rhodes.edu or call 843-3885.

Required Texts

1. Jonathan D. Spence, The Search for Modern China (2nd Edition) (W.W. Norton, 1999), 992p.
2. **Electronic Reserve:** All other reading materials are available in a PDF format in Professor Lee's folder.

Week 1 China, Chinese and Chinese Studies

Jan 11 Introduction

Jan 13 Rethinking the Sino-Centric World Order

Readings

The Search for Modern China, pp.1-48.

John K. Fairbank, "A Preliminary Framework," in Fairbank, ed., The Chinese World Order

(1968), pp.1-14.

Week 2 Society, Economy and Culture in Qing China

Jan 16 **Martin Luther King Day (No Class)**

Jan 18 Qing China + Map Quiz

The Search for Modern China, pp.96-116.

Jan 20 Agricultural Revolution or Involution? (Discussion)

The Search for Modern China, pp.117-137.

Philip C.C Huang, The Peasant Family and Rural Development in the Yangzi Delta, 1350-1988 (Stanford, Calif. : Stanford University Press, 1990), pp. 77-92.

Kenneth Pomeranz, "Introduction," The Great Divergence – China, Europe and the Making of the Modern World Economy (New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2000), pp.3-27.

Week 3 Tensions of Empire: China Encounters the West

Jan 23 Qing China and the West

The Search for Modern China, pp.139-154.

Jan 25 The Opium War

The Search for Modern China, pp.155-166.

Jan 27 Peasant Nationalism (Discussion)

Frederic Wakeman, Strangers at the gate; social disorder in South China, 1839-1861 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1966), pp. 3-58.

Week 4 Revolts and Reforms

Jan 30 Eastern Way and Western Technologies

The Search for Modern China, pp.167-191.

Feb 1 Collapse of the Qing Dynasty

The Search for Modern China, pp.192-229.

Feb 3 Peasant Rebellions (Discussion)

Elizabeth Perry, Rebels and revolutionaries in north China, 1845-1945 (Stanford, California : Stanford University Press, 1980), pp. 1-47.

Suggested Reading

Philip A. Kuhn, Rebellion and its enemies in late imperial China : militarization and social structure, 1796-1864 (Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1970), pp. 165-175 & 189-225.

Week 5 The 1911 Revolution

Feb 7 Toward a New Republic

The Search for Modern China, pp.242-263.

Feb 9 Sun Yat Sen

The Search for Modern China, pp.271-289.

Feb 11 China's Challenges in the Early 20th Century

Mary C. Wright, "Introduction," and Chuzo Ichido, "The Role of the Genry," in Mary C. Wright ed., China in revolution: the first phase, 1900-1913 (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1968), pp. 1-63, & 297-318.

Week 6 China's Passage to Modernity

Feb 13 Urbanization and Rural Life

The Search for Modern China, pp.290-313

Feb 15 New Ideologies

The Search for Modern China, pp.314-336

Feb 17 Modernity and Everyday Life (Discussion)

Leo Ou-fan Lee and Andrew J. Nathan, "The Beginning of Mass Culture," in David Johnson, Andrew J. Nathan, and Evelyn S. Rawski, eds. Popular Culture in Late Imperial China (Berkeley : University of California Press, 1985), pp. 360-395.

Week 7 Review and Mid-Term

Feb 20 May 4th Movement and Chinese Nationalism + Mid-term Review

The Search for Modern China, pp.314-374

Feb 22 **Study Period (No Class)**

Feb 24 **Mid-term Exam**

Week 8 China at War I : Japanese Imperialism & Everyday Life

Feb 27 Manchukuo and Japanese Invasion of China

The Search for Modern China, pp.342-374

Feb 29 The Long March and Mao Ze Dong (**Documentary Showing: The Long March and the Red Army Story or China: A Century of Revolution**)
The Search for Modern China, pp.375-409

Mar 2 Collaboration and Resistance (Discussion)
Poshek Fu, Passivity, Resistance, and Collaboration : Intellectual Choices in Occupied Shanghai, 1937-1945 (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1993), preface and pp. 1-20.
Dongyoun Hwang, "Wartime Collaboration in Question: An Examination of the Postwar Trials of the Chinese Collaborators," Inter-Asia Cultural Studies 6:1 (May, 2005)

Week 9 China at War II – Civil War and the Rise of Communist China

Mar 5 Chinese Communism
The Search for Modern China, pp.419-458.

Mar 7 The Civil War
The Search for Modern China, pp.459-488.
Mao Zedong, "On New Democracy," in Timothy Cheek, Mao Zedong and China's Revolution: A Brief History with Documents (Boston: Bedford/ St. Martins, 2002), 76-112.

Mar 9 Documentary Showing – TBA

Week 10 Spring Break (No Class)

Week 11 A Communist Paradise? China in the 1950s

Mar 19 Mao's China and the Korean War
The Search for Modern China, pp.489-513.

Mar 21 Creating a Utopian Society
The Search for Modern China, pp.514-544.

Mar 23 Chinese Communism (Discussion)
Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions among the People," in Timothy Cheek, Mao Zedong and China's Revolution: A Brief History with Documents (Boston: Bedford/ St. Martins, 2002), 127-149
Maurice Meisner, "The People's Communes and the "Transition to Communism," Mao's China and After (New York: Free Press, 1986), 227-254.

Week 12 The Cultural Revolution

Mar 26 Symptoms of Political Turmoil
The Search for Modern China, pp. 545-564.

Mar 28 The Cultural Revolution + **Movie Night**

The Search for Modern China, pp. 565- 586.

Apr 30 Legacy of the Cultural Revolution (Discussion)

Alessandro Russo, “How to Translate Cultural Revolution,” Inter-Asia Cultural Studies 7:4 (2006), 673-182.

Maurice Meisner, “The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, 1966-1969” ,” Mao’s China and After (New York: Free Press, 1986), 330-369.

Week 13 Cold War and Capitalism

Apr 2 Cold War and China

The Search for Modern China, pp.595-616.

Apr 4 Mao, Nixon and China’s Encounter with the World (Discussion)

Chen, Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War (Durham: University of North Carolina Press, 2006), 238-276.

Apr 6 Good Friday (No Class)

Week 14 Democracy and the Question of Integration

Apr 9 Socialism in Question

The Search for Modern China, pp.618-646.

Apr 11 Democratic Movements in 1990s China

The Search for Modern China, pp.677-704.

Apr 13 China’s Challenges

Chapters 7 and 10 in Andrew J. Nathan and Robert S. Ross, The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress (New York : W.W. Norton, 1997) 123-136 & 158-177.

Week 15 China As a Rising Sun? : China Encounters the World

Apr 16 China as a Superpower

The Search for Modern China, pp.705-728.

Apr 18 The Chinese System in the 1990s

The Search for Modern China, pp.705-728.

Apr 20 China as a Partner to the United States?

Michael R. Chambers, “Rising China ; The Search for Power and Plenty,” in Ashley J. Tellis and Michael Wills edits., Strategic Asia 2006-2007 (Seattle : The National Bureau of Asian Research, 2006), pp. 64-103.

Chalmers Johnson, “Nationalism and the Market: China as a Superpower,” JPRI Working paper 22 (July 1996), pp. 1-13.

Week 16 China in the 21st Century

Apr 23 China's New Era in the 21th Century

Apr 25 Evaluation and **Final Exam Review**

Final Exam