

HIST 105: Revolutions and Revolutionaries in Modern East Asia
Fall 2012
08:00-09:15, Tuesdays & Thursdays
Buckman 200

Instructor: Seok-Won Lee
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Course Description
This course is designed to discuss major socio-political changes in 19th and 20th century East Asia. As East Asia experienced social, cultural and political impacts from the West, a series of revolutionary visions were presented by various groups of people – intellectuals, bureaucrats, peasants, and workers. How were the questions of tradition and modernity, the West and the East, and colonialism and imperialism answered in their revolutionary ideas? What role did revolutionary thinking play in the making of modern nation-states in China, Japan and (North and South) Korea? In this course, students will study major revolutions in 19th and 20th century East Asia, including the Meiji Restoration in late 19th century Japan, peasant rebellions in China and Korea, and communist revolutions in 20th century China and North Korea. The course will also include readings from the works of revolutionaries such as Mao Zedong and Fukuzawa Yukichi.

Grades
1. **Quizzes for Reading (10%)**
   There will be 8 in-class discussions. (Thursday 08:40 – 09:15) To facilitate in-class discussion and make sure that students read assigned texts, there will be a simple quiz for assigned readings. Students are asked to answer one or two basic questions about the text.

2. **Map Quiz (5%)**

3. **Discussion Paper (minimum 1000 words) (10%)**
   The format of this course is designed to encourage students’ participation. A student-led discussion and debate will take place on Thursdays. (8:40-0 9:15) To provide a point of departure each week, every week, one (or possibly two) students will prepare discussion papers (minimum word count 1000), either in response to the discussion question of each week or in reaction against it. **By noon on Wednesday** during the week that each paper is to be discussed, the papers will be photocopied and made available to me and to the other members of the seminar in HIST 105.

4. **Two short response papers (minimum 800 words) (20%)**
   Of the reading materials I have assigned each week, you should choose and analyze one or two materials and write two response papers (minimum 800 words). You can choose any reading materials between WEEK 2 and WEEK 15, however, you must submit your paper by **Thursday Class** of the week your reading is assigned. Your first response
paper is due on **Oct 4.** Therefore, you must choose reading materials for your paper between **WEEK 1** and **WEEK 7.** The 2nd response paper is due on **Nov 15** and you may write on any reading materials assigned between **WEEK 8** and **WEEK 13.** You are not expected to simply summarize the readings. You should critically evaluate the strength and problems of the author’s arguments and evidence.

5. **Mid-term (15%)**

6. **Final Exam (15%)**

7. **Final Paper (minimum 2000 words) (20%)**
   
   Your final paper should discuss one of the following intellectuals in modern East Asian history; Fukuzawa Yukichi, Sun Yat Sen, Chiang Kai Shek and Mao Ze Dong. You may choose a single figure and explore him/her, using primary sources or you can take a comparative perspective by discussing two or more figures in one paper. Since there are limited primary sources in English, you MUST consult with the instructor once your paper topic is established. You must submit a prospectus (minimum 400 words) for your term paper by **Oct 11.** A term-paper prospectus should include and answer the following questions: Why do you think it is necessary to write a paper on your topic? What kind of initial questions you will posit through your paper and how then will you develop and concretize your arguments? What historical sources you will primarily use for your project? **Your final paper is due on Nov 20.**

8. **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 is 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 2:30 pm. 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. Raise your hand to be recognized.

4. 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
5. Electronic devices such as cell phones and pagers must be turned off during class, unless you have informed me ahead of time that you are expecting an emergency message. **6. 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
6. **Electronic Reserve:** All other reading materials are available in a PDF format in Professor Lee’s folder.

**Week 1 Introduction**
Aug 23 Introduction

**Week 2 Writing East Asian History**
Aug 28 Rethinking/Writing East Asia History

Aug 30 (De)constructing East Asian Civilization

**Readings**

**Week 3 China in Tatters**
Sep 4 Qing China in Tatters
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 295-323.

Sep 6 China’s Encounter with the West (Documentary Showing, China in Revolution)
Frederic Wakeman, Strangers at the gate; social disorder in South China, 1839-1861 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1966), 3-58 & 126-131

**Week 4 Peasant Revolutions II**
Sep 11 Utopianism and Nationalism in Modern East Asia
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 325-368.

Sep 13 Peasant Rebellions (in-class discussion)

**Week 5 Fukuzawa Yukichi and Japan’s Encounter with the World**
Sep 18 Modernization, Enlightenment and Civilization in Meiji Japan
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 325-368.

Sep 20 Fukuzawa Yukichi and Japan’s New Order (in-class discussion)

**Week 6 Sun Yat Sen and the 1911 Revolution**
Sep 25 China in the early 20th Century
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 402-416.

Sep 27 Sun Yat Sen’s New China and Pan-Asianism (in-class discussion)
Sun Yat Sen, “The Question of China’s Survival (1917),” in Ramon Myers edit., Prescriptions for Saving China: Selected Writings of Sun-Yat Sen (California: Hoover Institute, Stanford University, 1994), 131-199.

**Week 7 Anti-Colonial Revolution in Early 20th Century Korea**
Oct 2 Anti-colonial revolution in Chosun Korea
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 387-401.

Oct 4 (Colonial) Nationalism (Mid-term review, No-in-class discussion)
Hildi Kang, Voices from Colonial Korea, 1910-1945 (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2001), 17-

(1st Response Paper Due)

**Week 8 MID-TERM**
Oct 9 MID-TERM

Oct 11 Term Paper Prospectus Due (No Class)

**Week 9 Fall Break**
Oct 16 Fall Break: No Class

Oct 18 Documentary Showing: TBA

**Week 10 Women, Empire and Revolution**
Oct 23 Revolution and Women
*Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history,* 370-386.

Oct 25 Kaneko Fumiko: a Female Anarchist (*in-class discussion*)

**Week 11 Lu Xun and Literary Revolution**
Oct 30 Lu Xun: Modernization, Anti-Modernization and Enlightenment in Literature
*Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history,* 402-416.

Nov 1 Reading “The True Story of Ah Q” (*in-class discussion*)
Lu Shun, trans, Yang Hsien Yi and Gladys Yang, *True Story of Ah Q* (Cheng & Tsui, 1999), 99p.

**Week 12 Mao’s Road to Communist China**
Nov 6 Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao Zedong
*Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history,* 426-440.

Nov 8 Mao’s Early Communism (*in-class discussion*)

**Week 13 The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution**
Nov 13 Mao’s New China
Timothy Cheek, Mao Zedong and China’s Revolutions – A Brief History With Documents (Palgrave, 2002), 125-160.

Nov 15 The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (in-class discussion)
Timothy Cheek, Mao Zedong and China’s Revolutions – A Brief History With Documents (Palgrave, 2002), 169-179.

2nd Response Paper Due

Week 14 Thanksgiving Break
Nov 20 Documentary Showing (TBA)

Nov 22 NO CLASS: Have a nice Thanksgiving break!

Week 15 Kim Il Sung and The North Korean Revolution
Nov 27 North Korea and the Korean War
Modern East Asia: a cultural, social, and political history, 491-510.

Nov 29 Kim Il Sung and the Creation of a Juche Kingdom (in-class discussion)

Week 16 Review and Evaluation
Dec 4 General Discussion and Evaluation
Term Paper Due

Final Exam
1. **Sep 13 Peasant Rebellions**

2. **Sep 20 Fukuzawa Yukichi and Japan’s New Order**

3. **Sep 27 Sun Yat Sen’s New China and Pan-Asianism**
   Sun Yat Sen, “The Question of China’s Survival (1917),” in Ramon Myers edit., *Prescriptions for Saving China: Selected Writings of Sun-Yat Sen* (California: Hoover Institute, Stanford University, 1994), 131-199.

4. **Oct 25 Kaneko Fumiko: a Female Anarchist**

5. **Nov 1 Reading “The True Story of Ah Q”**

6. **Nov 8 Mao’s Early Communism**

7. **Nov 15 The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution**

8. **Nov 29 Kim Il Sung and the Creation of a Juche Kingdom**
   Kim Il Sung, “On the Building of New Korea and the National United Front” Speech addressed...