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HIST 250-01, Asian Societies Past and Present, Fall 1998

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ASIAN STUDIES 150/HISTORY 250: ASIAN SOCIETIES PAST AND PRESENT

10:20 - 11:20 A.M. ("C" hour), Palmer 206

Prof. Michael R. Drompp
Clough 309
(843)-3655

Office hours: M 3:00 - 4:00, W 3:00 - 4:00, Th 3:30 - 5:00, and by appointment

Required texts:

Murphey, Rhoads. *A History of Asia*
Confucius. *The Analects*
Rahula, Walpola. *What the Buddha Taught*
Bumiller, Elisabeth. *May You Be the Mother of a Hundred Sons*
Rudolph, Lloyd and Suzanne Rudolph. *Gandhi: The Traditional Roots of Charisma*
Tanizaki, Jun'ichiro. *Naomi*

Requirements for the course include:

1. Regular class attendance and alert participation, including attendance at the two evening "special events" indicated in the syllabus
2. Evidence of thoughtful, serious reading of assigned materials
3. One map quiz
4. Two papers (7 - 10 pages each)
5. Three exams

Additional quizzes (including unannounced quizzes) and short assignments may also be given. Exams will cover the texts as well as materials presented in lectures, handouts, and audio-visual materials. Papers are due in class at the beginning of the class period. **Late work will not be accepted.** For papers, correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation are essential. **Errors of this type will be penalized.** Excessive errors of this type will result in a lowering of the paper's final grade. If you use a computer to write your papers, be certain that you know how to use it before entrusting it with your paper. Computer malfunctions are not acceptable excuses for sloppiness or tardiness. **Always** keep a hard copy (a copy on paper) of each draft of your paper.

Thoughtful classroom participation is encouraged and will be considered in the calculation of the final grade for the course. Excessive absences and/or disruptive behavior in the classroom will result in a lower grade for classroom participation. Three (3) unexcused absences are allowed; an excessive number of absences (9 or more) may result in the student being dropped from the course or in an "F" for the final course grade. Final grades will be based approximately 75% on written work and approximately 25% on classroom participation. **Extra credit will not be permitted.** Make-up exams will be given only in cases of legitimate, documented reasons; if you are wondering if your excuse is legitimate, it probably is not. Note that a "W" (Withdrawal) or "WP" (Withdrawal -- Passing) will be given only when the student has followed official withdrawal procedures by the stated deadlines.

All students are expected to abide by the Rhodes honor code. Infractions will be dealt with according to the rules of the college. In your papers, be certain to avoid plagiarism (the use of someone else's information/material without properly citing the source of that information/material). **You must indicate the sources of your information and ideas through proper citation.** In your papers and exams, be certain to avoid the appearance of collusion. Studying together can be an excellent way to learn, but can (in extreme cases) lead to disconcerting similarities. Such extreme instances of similarities in exams or papers can result in a lowering of the grade for that assignment.

SYLLABUS

The following syllabus tells you which pages are to be completed **prior to** that day's class.

Week 1

Aug. 26 W Introduction to the course and texts, the concept of Asian Studies
28 F Basics: Physical geography, human geography, cultural geography
READING: Murphey, Introduction

Week 2

Aug. 31 M Ethnicity and language in Asia
MAP QUIZ
Sept. 02 W Asian societies and traditional modes of production
READING: Murphey, ch. 1
**03 Th SPECIAL EVENT: Vietnamese dinner at Pho Pasteur
Restaurant, 5:45 P.M.**
04 F Food in Asian societies

Week 3

Sept. 07 M **LABOR DAY RECESS -- NO CLASS**
09 W The family in Asian societies
READING: Murphey, ch. 10

Plan ahead: Your first paper (due on Monday, 21 September), is to be on some aspect of family life within *one* of the Asian societies we are

studying. Appropriate topics include: the position of women, age and
“Marriage Practices in Modern Indonesia,” etc.) If you wish to do a different
topic, it must be approved by me.

11 F The family in Asian societies (continued)
READING: Bumiller, ch. 1-6

Week 4

Sept. 14 M The family in Asian societies (continued)
READING: Bumiller, ch. 7-12

16 W Sex and sexuality in Asian societies

18 F The roots of Asian civilization: India
READING: Murphey, ch. 2

Week 5

Sept. 21 M Hinduism
READING: Murphey, pp. 65-69
FIRST PAPER DUE

23 W Buddhism in Asia
READING: Murphey, pp. 70-74
Rahula, ch. 1-5 and pp. 91-97

25 F The philosophy and practice of Buddhism
READING: Rahula, ch. 6-8 and pp. 109-125

Week 6

Sept. 28 M Teaching Buddhism
READING: Jataka tale: “The King of the Monkeys” (handout)

30 W FIRST EXAM (bring bluebooks)

Oct. 02 F The roots of Asian civilization: China
READING: Murphey, ch. 3

Week 7

Oct. 05 M Chinese thought and the East Asian world
READING: Murphey, pp. 74-80
Confucius, pp. 13-79 and Analects, books I-VII

- 07 W Chinese thought and the East Asian world
 READING: Confucius, Analects, books VIII-XX
- 09 F Islam in Asia
 READING: Murphey, pp. 80-83
 Esposito, "Muhammad and the Quran" (handout)

Week 8

- Oct. 12 M The Practice of Islam
- 14 W Shamanism and other systems
 READING: Murphey, pp. 83-85
- 16 F Traditional South and Southeast Asia
 READING: Murphey, ch. 5

Plan ahead: Your second paper (due on Friday, 13 November), is to be on some aspect of East-West relations in regard to imperialism and nationalism. Appropriate topics include: the establishment of colonial rule, rule, economic exploitation, responses to colonial rule, and nationalist movements. (Thus, your paper topic could be "The Establishment of British Rule in Burma" or "The Response of Vietnamese Elites to French Rule.") If you wish to do a different topic, it must be approved by me.

Week 9

- Oct. 19 M **FALL RECESS -- NO CLASS**
- 21 W Traditional South and Southeast Asia (continued)
 READING: Murphey, ch. 8
- 23 F Traditional East Asia
 READING: Murphey, ch. 6-7

Week 10

- Oct. 26 M Traditional East Asia (continued)
 READING: Murphey, ch. 9
- 28 W Early Asian images of the West and early Western images of Asia
 READING: from *The Travels of Sir John Mandeville* (handout)
- 30 F Spices and silks: Early encounters with the West

READING: Murphey, ch. 11

Week 11

- Nov. 02 M Traditional Asian societies on the eve of imperialism
READING: Murphey, ch. 12
- 04 W SECOND EXAM** (bring bluebooks)
- 06 F Imperialism and Asian societies
READING: Murphey, ch. 13-14

Week 12

- Nov. 09 M Nationalism in Asia: Gandhi and the Indian experience
READING: Rudoph & Rudolph (entire)
- 11 W Nationalism and the collapse of imperialism in Asia
READING: Murphey, ch. 15-16
- 13 F Nationalism and communism in Asia**
READING: Murphey, ch. 17
SECOND PAPER DUE

Week 13

- Nov. 16 M Nationalism and communism in Asia: Vietnam and Indonesia
FILM: "From the Barrel of a Gun"
- 18 W The challenge of modernization/Westernization
READING: Tanizaki (entire)
- 19 Th SPECIAL EVENT: "Farewell, My Concubine" (Film),
6:30 P.M., Blount Auditorium, Buckman Hall**
- 20 F The challenge of modernization/Westernization (continued)

Week 14

- Nov. 23 M Popular culture in modern Asia
- 25 W THANKSGIVING RECESS -- NO CLASS**
- 27 F THANKSGIVING RECESS -- NO CLASS**

Week 15

- Nov. 30 M Pacific Rim “hot spots”: Conflict in Asia since World War II
READING: Murphey, ch. 18
- Dec. 02 W Pacific Rim “hot spots” (continued)
- 04 F South Asia in the modern world: Development and underdevelopment
READING: Murphey, ch. 19

Week 16

- Dec. 07 M Economic growth and economic crisis in East Asia
- 09 W Challenges for the future
READING: Murphey, ch. 20
- Dec. 12 **Sat. FINAL EXAM** (bring bluebooks) -- **8:30 A.M.**