

**HST 4359.002**

F 9:30-12:15

**CHINESE HISTORY**

Dr. Joan E. Mortensen

Office Hours: Before and after class & By appointment

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will explore China's quest for "modernity". It will begin by examining Chinese society in the year 1600, just before the conquest of China by the nomadic Manchu tribesmen of the north. An autobiographical account by the Emperor Kangxi (1661-1722), one of China's most powerful and illustrious emperors, will provide some insight into the economic, political, and intellectual accomplishments achieved under the Qing or Manchu rulers (1644-1911). The course will then examine the Chinese responses to the internal stresses caused by population explosion and the external threats posed by the Western nations in the 19th century. It will identify those factors which led to the rise of the Communists, describe the nature of the Communist revolution and of Chinese society today. It will culminate in a study of those events leading to China's emergence as Asia's new superpower.

**REQUIRED READING:**

Jonathan Spence, Emperor of China: Self-portrait of Kangxi, New York: Vintage Books, 1975.

Arthur Waley, The Opium War Through Chinese Eyes, Stanford: Stanford Univ. Press, 1958.

Pa Chin, The Family, Anchor Books, 1972

Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, China Wakes, Random House, 1994

R. Keith Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, Prentice Hall, 2002

Edgar Snow, Red Star Over China, Evergreen, 1973

Ha Jin, The Bridegroom: Stories, Vintage, 2001

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Much of the material covered in the lectures is not in the reading.

Hence, class attendance is important and will be noted. If you cannot attend class, you should ask someone to take notes for you and pick up the class handouts. When you attend class, you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. There will be a 10 minute break in the middle of the class. If you need to leave early, I need to know before the beginning of class.

**Cell phones must be turned off during class.**

**Please bring the books we are studying to class with you.**

**Late papers: Papers should be turned in on time. If a paper is turned in within one week, I will take off 5 points. After that, I will take 15 points off for being late.**

Students are expected to complete all elements of the class. No incompletes will be given.

Last day to withdraw from classes with with WP/WF- November 15.

There will be a short map quiz.

There will be 3 tests during the course of the semester. I will average the top 2 grades on the tests for your test grade. No other tests will be given.

There will be a 6-8 page research paper due in class and a take home final exam.

**Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty:** Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from The University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of The University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

**GRADING:**

TESTS 30%

MAP QUIZ 5%

CLASS PARTICIPATION 5 %

TAKE HOME FINAL EXAMINATION: 30%

RESEARCH PAPER 30%

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

**UNIT 1: China under Manchu Rule.**

Aug. 19. China in 1600; Manchu Rule; Class Introduction

Aug. 26. The Rites Controversy, China in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

Spence, 1-151

Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, Chapters 1, 2

Sept. 2. The Opium War:

Waley, pp. 1-157

Schoppa, Chapter 3

Sept. 9. The Taiping Rebellion & Self Strengthening

Schoppa, Chapters 4, 5

Handout

Sept. 16 The 1911 Revolution: The Fall of the Manchu Dynasty

Schoppa, Chapters 6,7

Pa Chin, Chapters. 1-19

## **UNIT 2: The Republican Period**

Sept. 23 The New Culture Movement

Schoppa, Chapters 8, 9

Pa Chin, complete

**First Draft of Term Paper Due.**

Sept. 30 Mao and the Early Communist Movement

Snow, Red Star Over China, pp. 1-155

Schoppa, Chapter 10

Oct. 7 The Struggle between the Communists and Nationalists

Schoppa, Chapters 11, 12,13

Snow, pp. 155-289

**Test 1**

Oct. 14 The Sino-Japanese War; The Communist Victory

Schoppa, 14, 15

Snow, 293-409

## **UNIT 3: The People's Republic of China.**

Oct. 21 The Communist Revolution; Foreign Policy

Schoppa, Chapter 16,17

Oct. 28: Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

Schoppa, Chapters 18

Handout, "Chairman Mao is a Rotten Egg".

China Wakes, Chapters 1,2

Nov. 4: China after Mao: Deng Xiao-ping

Schoppa, Chapters 19, 20

China Wakes.: Chapters 3, 4, 5,6

**Term Paper Due**

Nov. 11: China after Mao

Schoppa, Chapters 21, 22

China Wakes: Ch. 7,8,9,10

Nov. 18: China Today

China Wakes: Chapters 11,12, 13

Ha Jin, The Bridegroom, pp. 1-53

**Test 2**(Questions for final will be handed out)

Nov. 28 : China Today:  
Complete Ha Jin, The Bridegroom

Dec. 2. Turn in Take Home Essay Final Exam.

Students may also take **Test 3** (A Makeup Test) during the class period.  
This is purely optional.