

University of Connecticut, Department of History

Spring 2012

Hist 3809-001 East Asia since the Mid-Nineteenth Century

**Instructor:** Roger, Shih-Chieh Lo (C. J. Low)

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**Course Description:**

Hist 3809-001 is the second part of UConn's two-semester sequence on East Asia history, this course focuses specifically on China and Japan from the mid-Nineteenth Century to the present. Through this course you will develop a broad familiarity with the dominant narratives and interpretations of modern East Asia history, as well as a critical understanding of how these views became dominant. There are no prerequisites.

**Course Requirements:**

Course requirements consist of lectures, weekly reading responses, two short essays, and final exam. In addition, regular attendance at lecture will be necessary to make sense of the vast temporal, geographic, and thematic sweep of the course. Your grade will be determined as follows:

Class Attendance and Discussion Performance (20%)

This portion of grade will be determined by your attendance, readings, and thoughtful contribution to classroom discussion. **Three unexcused absence will lead to a failed grade.**

Reading Responses (30%): This assignment allows you to ask questions and explore ideas in depth with the instructor and your peers. You are expected to complete all required readings *before* you arrive at each discussion section. To aid class discussion starting 24 hours before discussion section, **you will submit a brief (250-300 words) response to the assigned readings in the form of an argument. Do NOT send a summary of the readings: rather, I am looking for evidence of intellectual engagement with the problems and ideas raised by the texts.** Also, you will also need to submit at least **ONE QUESTION** along with your paper to the instructor. The goal of this assignment is to demonstrate your command of the assigned readings and to provide practice for the longer essays. **Please submit 5 reading responses to the instructor via e-mail by the due time listed on syllabus.** Your **three** best responses will count towards your grade. The Guidelines for these assignments will be given in the end of every lecture. Late work is not accepted.

Two short essays (20%): You will write Two 3-4 page analytical paper comparing two or more primary documents from course assigned readings. Your papers will develop an argument about a major theme in Modern East Asian History. No outside research is necessary, though you are not limited to passages assigned in the reading. The goal is to develop and demonstrate your skills in producing an expository essay based on close and critical reading of historical documents. **Due in class on February 11 and April 15, 2012.**

Final Exam or optional research paper (30%): The goal of exam is to demonstrate command of

basic historical facts you learn from this course. Study materials will be provided ahead of time. The exam will be a timed, blue-book exam, as scheduled by the University. The content of final exam will be announced in class later. The final research paper may address any issue in the history of East Asia since the Mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. If you are interested in writing a research paper, **please submit a proposal to the instructor by April 15.** The length of an ideal research paper will be 10-15 pages.

***Essays and exams submitted electronically will not be accepted.***

**Course Policies:**

All assignments are due as indicated on the syllabus. Unexcused delays will result in a half-grade penalty for each day the assignment is late. There will be no make ups or extensions for written assignments except for medical emergency, in which case you will need to produce a signed note from a doctor or other medical practitioner, or under circumstance so compelling that you can convince a Dean to intervene on your behalf. Failure to complete a required component of the course will result in a failing grade. Enrollment in the course is not limited.

Plagiarism or other offense against the Academic Code will result in a failing grade and possible disciplinary action by the University. The University's Academic Code states that "A student's name on any exercise (e.g., a theme report, notebook, performance, computer program, course paper, quiz, or examination) is regarded as assurance that exercise is the result of student's own thoughts and study, stated in his or her own words, and produced without assistance, except as quotation marks, references, and footnotes acknowledge the use of printed sources or other outside help." For specific recommendations regarding proper citation of sources in historical analysis, please feel free to contact Prof. Lo with any question or concerns on this or other issues.

**Required Texts:**

There are no xerox packets or outside readings, nor even a textbook in the traditional sense. Most course materials will be available on course website. However, the following required books are sold at University of Connecticut Bookstore and are widely available through online retailer such as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Copies are also available on reserved at University library; however, I strongly recommend purchasing these books if at all possible.

- Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008)
- Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)
- Website readings

**Website:**

Please Check the website regularly. I will use this site to post the syllabus, add notes and questions, and make announcements. Readings marked with a computer symbol ( ) will link directly from the online syllabus.

**Grade Scale:**

<b>Grading Scale letter</b>	<b>range</b>
A	94-96
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86

B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	65-66
F	0-64

## Course Schedule and Readings:

### Week 1:

1/19 Class introduction

1/21 East Asia history before 1850

## Part one: Impacts and Responses

### Week 2: The old order and the new

1/24 Late Qing China

Required reading:

1. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 17-39
2. John K. Fairbank, *United States and China* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1976), Chapter 6 and 7.

1/26 In class screening of Yoji Yamada, *The Twilight Samurai* (2002)

1/28 Tokugawa Japan (1603-1868)

Required reading:

1. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp. 14-36.
2. Ruth Benedict, *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword: Patterns of Japanese Culture* (New York: Mariner Books, 2005, reprinted), selections,

### Week 3: East Asia's Reactions to Foreign Impacts

1/31 Late Qing Reforms (1850-1905)

Required reading:

1. Philip Kuhn, *Origins of the Modern Chinese State* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2002), pp. 1-27.
2. John K. Fairbank, *United States and China* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1976), Chapter 8.
3. Peter Zarrow, *China in War and Revolution, 1895-1949* (New York: Routledge, 2005), Chapter one: The Rise of Confucian Radicalism, pp. 12-30.

2/2 Meiji Restoration (1868)

Required reading:

1. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp. 36-61.
2. Ryusaku Tsunoda, WM. Theodore De Bary, and Donald Keene compiled, *Sources of Japanese Tradition* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2005).
3. The Meiji Constitution of 1889

#### **2/4 Discussion section: Late Qing and Meiji Japan**

Required reading:

1. Henrietta Harrison, *The Man Awakened from Dreams: One Man's life in a North China Village, 1857-1942* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2005), selections
2. Marius B. Jansen, *The Making of Modern Japan* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University press, 2000), chapter 11, the Meiji restoration, pp. 334-364.

#### **First Short Essay (10%) due in class on 2/11**

**Topic: Please use 2/4 readings to discuss the changes happened to the Confucian literati and Samurai in Qing China, Tokugawa Japan, and Korea Yi dynasty since mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.**

## Part Two: East Asia in the New Century

### Week 4: Confronting Modernity

2/7 From *Xinhai* Revolution to May Fourth movement (1912-1919)

Required reading:

1. Peter Zarrow, "1911: History and Historiography" in *China in War and Revolution, 1895-1949* (New York: Routledge, 2005), p. 32-52.
2. Rana Mitter, *A Bitter Revolution: China's struggle with the Modern World* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004), p. 102-149.
3. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 17-37.

2/9 From *Meiji* to *Taisho* (1868-1926)

Required reading:

1. B.H. Chamberlain, "The Invention of a New Religion." (1912)
2. Tanaka Fujitani, *Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996), selections.
3. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 62-76.

2/11 The end of Confucian Korea (1392-1910)

Required reading:

1. Arthur Cotterell, *East Asia: From China Predominance to the Rise of the Pacific Rim* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993), Chapter 7: Confucian Korea, The Yi Dynasty, pp. 117-134.
2. Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History* (New York: Norton, 2005), Chapter Two, 86-138.

### Week 5: Modernism, Fascism and Communism in East Asia (1927-1937)

**2/14 Discussion Section:**

**Reading response (1) due on 2/13**

**Topic: The similarities and differences between China, Japan, and Korea in the beginning of Twentieth Century**

2/16 Chiang Kai-shek and Nationalist China (1927-1937)

Required reading:

1. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 40-45.
2. Jay Taylor, *The Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the struggle for Modern China* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009), chapter 3.

2/18 Emperor Hirohito and Interwar Japan (1926-1937)

Required reading:

1. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction*, pp.76-83.
2. Herbert Bix, *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan* (New York: Perennial, 2000), selections,
3. Sheldon Garon, "State and Society in interwar Japan" in Merle Goldman and Andrew Gordon, *Historical Perspectives on Contemporary East Asia* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard university Press, 2000), pp. 155-183

Week 6:

2/21 Mao Zedong and Communism Revolution (1921-1937)

Required reading:

1. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 45-55.
2. Rebecca E. Karl, *Mao Zedong and China in the Twentieth-century World* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2010), p.1-35.

**2/23 Discussion section:**

**Reading response (2) due on 2/27**

**Topic: Chiang, Mao, and Hirohito**

2/25 In class screening of "China in Revolution" disc one

**Part Three: East Asia at War**

Week 7:

2/28 Two Sino-Japanese Wars (1895-1945)

Required reading:

1. Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi edited, *The Nanking Atrocity 1937-1938: Complicating the Picture* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2008), selections,
2. W. G. Beasley, *Japanese Imperialism, 1894-1945* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987), pp. 41-60, 175-220.

3/2 Pacific War (1941-1945)

Required reading:

1. John Dower, *War Without Mercy: Race and Power in Pacific War* (New York: Norton Press, 1986), selections.
2. Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History* (New York: The New Press, 1993), selections,

### **3/4 Discussion Section:**

Required reading:

1. John Dower, "The Useful War" in Carol Gluck and Stephen Graubard edited, *Showa: The Japan of Hirohito* (New York: Norton press, 1992), pp. 49-70
2. Rana Mitter, "China's "Good War": Voices, Locations, and Generations in the Interpretation of the War of Resistance to Japan" in Sheila Miyoshi Jager and Rana Mitter, *Ruptured Histories: War, Memory, and the Post-Cold War in Asia* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2007), pp. 172-191.

**Reading response (3) due on 3/3**

## **Spring Recess, 3/6-3/13**

Week 8: Colonial Modernity in East Asia (1894-1945)

3/14 Colonial Taiwan (1895-1945)

Required reading:

1. Ramon Myers & Mark Peattie, *The Japanese Colonial Empire, 1895-1945* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1984), selections,
2. E. Patricia Tsurumi, "Education and Assimilation in Taiwan under Japanese Rule, 1895-1945" *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 13, No. 4 (1979), 617-641.

3/16 Colonial Korea (1910-1945)

Required reading:

1. Hildi Kang, *Under the Black Umbrella: Voices from Colonial Korea, 1910-1945* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2001), selections,
2. Gi-Wook Shin and Michael Robison edited, *Colonial Modernity in Korea* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1999), selections,

### **3/18 Discussion Section**

**Reading response (4) due on 3/17**

Part Four: Postwar East Asia (1945-1970)

Week 9: Forbidden Nations in East Asia

3/21 February 28<sup>th</sup> Incident, 1947

Required reading:

1. Steven Philips, "Between assimilation and Independence: Taiwanese Political Aspirations Under Nationalist Chinese Rule, 1945-1948." in Murray A. Rubinstein edited, *Taiwan: A New History* (M.E. Sharpe, 1999), pp. 275-319.
2. George Kerr, *The Formosa Betrayed*,

3/23 Tibet , 1959

Required reading:

1. A. Tom Grunfeld, *The Making of Modern Tibet* (New York: M. E. Sharpe, 1996), selections,
2. Tibet documents

**3/25 Discussion section: Whose motherland?**

**Reading response (5) due on 3/24**

Week 10: Cold War in East Asia

3/28 Chinese Communist Revolution of 1949

Required reading:

1. William Hinton, *Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1966), p. vii-xii, 3-14, 128-178, 201-221, 319-366.
2. Andrew Walder, "Social Change in Post-Revolution China." *Annual Review of Sociology* 15 (1989): pp. 405-424.

3/30 Japan in the wake of WWII (1945-1952)

Required reading:

1. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 89-100
2. The Japanese Constitution of 1947.
3. Makoto Iokibe, "Japan Meets the United States for the Second Time" in Carol Gluck and Stephen R. Graubard edited, *Showa: The Japan of Hirohito* (New York: Norton Press, 1992), pp. 91-106.

4/1 Embracing Defeat:

1. William Tsutsui, *Godzilla on my mind: Fifty Years of the King of Monster* (New York: Palgrave, 2004), selections,
2. Yoshikuni Igarashi, *Bodies of Memories: Narratives of War in Postwar Japan* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2000), selections,

Week 11:

4/4 In class screening of *Gojira (1954)*

**4/6 Discussion Section: United States in Postwar Japan**

**Reading response (6) due on 4/5**

4/8 What is Maoism?

Required reading:

1. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 55-63.
2. Yang Jiang, *Six Chapters from my life "Downunder"* (Seattle: University of Washington press, 1893 first edition), entire.

Week 12:

4/11 Accessing Cultural Revolution

Required reading:

1. Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic* (New York:

- The Free Press, 1977), pp. 291-351.
2. Joseph Esherick edited, *The Chinese Cultural Revolution as History* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2006), selections,

4/13 The fallout of Cultural Revolution

Required reading:

1. Liu, Binyan. *People or Monster? And other stories and reportage from China after Mao* (Indiana University Press, 1983).
2. Ah Cheng, translated by Bonnie S. McDougall, *The King of Trees* (New York: New Directions Books, 2010 reprint), p.57-120.

#### **4/15 Discussion Section: Mao and Cultural Revolution**

**Second short essay (10%) due in Class on 4/15**  
**Topic: TBA**

### **Part Five:**

#### **The Formation of Consumer Society in East Asia (1970-2011)**

Week 13:

4/18 Mass culture in Modern Japan

Required reading:

1. Christopher Goto-Jones, *Modern Japan: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 100-123.
2. Katarzyna Cwiertka, *Modern Japanese Cuisine: Food, Power and National Identity* (London: Reaktion Book, 2006), selection,
3. Allen Guttman and Lee Thompson, *Japanese Sports: A History* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2001), selections,

#### **Reading response (7) due on 4/17**

4/20 Japan and Four Little Dragons

Required reading:

1. Ezra Vogel, *The Four Little Dragons: The Spread of Industrialization in East Asia* (Cambridge: Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1991), selections,
2. Ezra Vogel, *Japan as Number One: Lessons for America* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1979), selections,

#### **4/22 Discussion Section**

#### **Reading response (8) due on 4/21**

Week 14: China after 1978

4/25 Deng Xiaoping and his reforms

Required reading:

1. Deng, Xiaoping, "Answer to the Italian Journalist Oriana Fallaci" in Orville Schell and David Shambaugh edited, *The China Reader: The Reform Era* (New York: Vintage



- Books, 1999), p. 29-36.
2. Ha Jin, *Under the Red Flag* (Mass., Cambridge: Zoland Books, 1999), selections,

4/27 The Future of Chinese democracy

Required reading:

1. Rana Mitter, *Modern China: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp.118-140
2. Joseph Esherick and Jeffery Wasserstrom, "Acting Out Democracy: Political Theater in Modern China" *Journal of Asian Studies* 49, no. 4 (November 1990):835-865.

#### **4/29 Conclusion and review section**

Final Exam