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goal is to develop and demonstrate your skills in producing an expository essay based on close and critical reading of historical documents.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-19th 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. Copies are also available on reserved at University library; however, I strongly recommend purchasing these books if at all possible.
- 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:**

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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:


1/28 Tokugawa Japan (1603-1868)

Required reading:

Week 3: East Asia’s Reactions to Foreign Impacts

1/31 Late Qing Reforms (1850-1905)

Required reading:

2/2 Meiji Restoration (1868)
Required reading:
3. The Meiji Constitution of 1889

2/4 Discussion section: Late Qing and Meiji Japan
Required reading:

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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-19th century.

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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:

2/9 From Meiji to Taisho (1868-1926)
Required reading:

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

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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:

2/18 Emperor Hirohito and Interwar Japan (1926-1937)
Required reading:
2. Herbert Bix, Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan (New York: Perennial, 2000), selections,

Week 6:

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

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:

3/2 Pacific War (1941-1945)
Required reading:

3/4 Discussion Section:
Required reading:

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:

3/16 Colonial Korea (1910-1945)  
Required reading:  
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 28th Incident, 1947  
Required reading:
2. George Kerr, *The Formosa Betrayed*,

3/23 Tibet, 1959
Required reading:
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:

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

Required reading:

4/1 Embracing Defeat:
1. William Tsutsui, *Godzilla on my mind: Fifty Years of the King of Monster* (New York: Palgrave, 2004), selections,

**Week 11:**

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

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

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

4/8 What is Maoism?

Required reading:

**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:

4/13 The fallout of Cultural Revolution
Required reading:

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:

| Reading response (7) due on 4/17 |

4/20 Japan and Four Little Dragons
Required reading:
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:

4/27 The Future of Chinese democracy
Required reading:

4/29 Conclusion and review section

Final Exam