COURSE NOTES

China today is in the midst of the fastest economic and social-cultural transformation of any nation in history. The Chinese economy is today, by many measurements, the world’s largest. Whether we can sum up conditions in China as “socialism with Chinese characteristics,” “mercantilist capitalism,” “East Asian authoritarian developmentalism” or some other label, China cannot be understood without knowledge of its revolutionary heritage and long-standing technologies of mass mobilization. And the revolutionary heritage of the twentieth century cannot be understood without knowledge of the political, socio-economic, and cultural systems that came under great strain in the nineteenth century.

“China” today—that is, the territory marked by generally recognized boundaries—is itself a direct product of the Qing Empire (1644-1912), which expanded its borders to nearly double the territories claimed by the Ming Empire (1368-1644). The Qing state was falling apart in the nineteenth century, but China was strengthened and reestablished through revolutionary movements (Nationalist as well as Communist) over the course of the twentieth century.

Grading for this class is based on the following work:
- class participation: 25%
- class report: 25%
- reaction papers: 25%
- term paper: 25%

Class participation (discussion; class report) is mandatory and a major part of your grade.

“Reaction papers” are 2-3 page informal discussions of the assigned reading, answering the question: what did I get out of this reading? One exception: the first reaction paper should be 4-5 pages.

There are no exams in this course.

Notes:

1. Plagiarism is not tolerated. See http://irc.uconn.edu/PlagiarismModule/intro_m.htm.
2. Provisions will be made for students with disabilities. See http://www.csd.uconn.edu/accommodation_services.html.
3. Attendance is encouraged; class participation and student reports count toward your final grade.
4. Laptops, mobile phones, and other electronic doodads may be used during discussions but may not be used during lectures.
CLASS REPORT

By week 4, students will select a topic in consultation with me, and starting about week 6, students will be expected to give one report (15-20 minutes) on a specific topic, based on a monograph, original source, and/or several articles. For example, a report on a topic such as the 1911 Revolution, or Qing dynasty novels, or the origins of Chinese Marxism, or the “scar literature” movement of the 1980s, or contemporary Chinese anime.

Time periods to consider: the “high Qing” (18th century); the late Qing (1840-1911); the early Republic (1912-); the Maoist era (1949-1976); the Reform era (1976-).

For topics, think about your interests: political change, war, international relations (imperialism), cultural trends, intellectual life, art, literature, economic development…. Then we can narrow it down. You can get more ideas by glancing through the book titles in the “Selected Bibliography” in the syllabus on HuskyCT.

TERM PAPER

A 15-20 page paper (double-spaced) will be due on the day of the final exam. The paper will examine a historical question of your choice (in consultation with me). It may or may not be the same topic as your class report. The term paper will, however, be more focused than the class report, and present an argument.

In addition to finding relevant monographs on the topic, students will be expected to use primary sources in translation (when possible), and to search for several articles via databases such as Google Scholar and Historical Abstracts.

READINGS

The textbook for this course can be obtained at the UConn Co-op or read online through the Babbidge Library:

-Textbook: Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom, ed., The Oxford Illustrated History of Modern China –“OIHMC”

- other readings will be made available through HuskyCT

- NOTE: a useful start for your class report and term paper may be found in the “Selected Bibliography” attached to this syllabus in HuskyCT.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Unit I: The Qing Dynasty (4 weeks)

Aug. 28: Introduction; geography; China today

Aug. 30: Lecture: Imperial society & political geography
  *Readings*: Wasserstrom, “Introduction” (pp. 1-9, OIHMC); Johnson, “Presence of the Past” (pp. 301-323, OIHMC); Rana Mitter, “Five Ways China’s Past”

Sept. 4-6: NO CLASSES, but prepare a reaction paper, due at the beginning of class on September 11. The reaction paper should be based four readings (due Sept. 11 at the beginning of class; and consult the assignment sheet):
  - Stephen R. Platt, “Why the Macartney mission went awry” (HuskyCT)
  - “Macartney mission documents”
  - “Qianlong’s letter to George III”
  - Henrietta Harrison, “The Qianlong’s Letter to George III”

Sept. 11: The Qing world order
  *Discussion*: The world, from Beijing and London
  *Readings*: (from the previous week)
  
  *reaction paper due*

Sept. 13: Qing conquest and consolidation
  *Discussion*: How to make empire
  *Readings*: Gerritsen, “From Late Ming to High Qing” (OIHMC)
  “Kangxi —writings”

Sept. 18: Life in the 18th century
  *Discussion*: everyday life: family, patriline, gender

Sept. 20: Tensions in the socio-political order: structure vs. contingency
  *Discussion*: Imperialism
  *Readings*: Platt, “New Domestic and Global Challenges” (OIHMC)
  Wakeman, “Strangers”
  
  *term paper topic paragraph due*
Unit II: The Late Qing (3 weeks)

Sept. 25: The Opium War (1839-42); imperialism
        Discussion: state breakdown
        Readings: “Lin Zexu to Queen Victoria”; “Treaty of Nanking”; “Economist - Opium War & on”

Sept. 27: The Taiping Rebellion and domestic unrest
        Discussion: Who were the Taipings?

Oct. 2: The Tongzhi Restoration and reforms
        Discussion: late Qing reformism: a new ideology?
        Readings: Bickers, “Restoration and Reform” (OIHMC)
                  Liang Qichao, “On Rights Consciousness”

Oct. 4: Reform, reaction, revolt, and return to reform: 1898-1901
        Discussion: utopianism, reform, and revolution
        Readings: Kang Youwei, “Class…”; T’an Ssu-t’ung [Tan Sitong], “Renxue”

Oct. 9: Toward the 1911 Revolution: nationalism and republicanism
        Discussion: revolutionary nationalism
        Readings: Zarrow, “Felling a Dynasty, Founding a Republic” (OIHMC)
                  Tso Jung [Zou Rong] “Revolutionary Army”

Oct. 11: The 1911 Revolution
        Discussion: early feminism

Unit III: The Republic of China, 1912-49 (4 weeks)

Oct. 16: Establishing a Republic: warlordism, radicalization
        Discussion: the fiction of Lu Xun
        Readings: Carter, “Rise of Nationalism and Revolutionary Parties” (OIHMC); Lu Xun, “Diary of a Madman” & “Medicine”
Oct. 18: New Culture, May Fourth
Discussion: women in fiction and fact
Readings: Chen Hengzhe, “One Day”; Lu Xun, “Nora”
David Strand, “Woman’s Republic”

Oct 23: The Comintern, Nationalists (GMD) & Communists (CCP)
Discussion: regime legitimation and political struggle
Readings: Sun Yat-sen, “Three People’s Principles…”
Frederic Wakeman, Jr., “Nanjing Decade”

Oct. 25: The Nanjing Decade
Discussion: post-49 Taiwan & the fate of the Guomindang
Readings: Fleischauer, “2-28 Taiwanese Identity”; Rowan, “Inside the
Sunflower Movement”; Chih-ming Wang, “Sunflower Movement”

Discussion: women’s history
Readings: TBA

Nov. 1: NO CLASS — work on papers: prepare annotated bibliography

Nov. 6: The early history of the CCP; coming of war
Discussion: left-wing fiction 1930-1950
Readings: Mao Dun, “Spring Silkworms”; Chao Shu-li [Zhao Shuli],
“Lucky”; Gao Lanting, “Huaiyiwian”
* “Annotated Bibliography” due; be prepared to discuss in class

Nov. 8: Sino-Japanese War
Discussion: Maoism and revolution
Readings: Mitter, “The War Years” (OIHMC);
Mao Zedong, “On New Democracy”

Unit IV: The People’s Republic of China, 1949— (3 weeks)

Nov. 13: The triumph of the CCP
Discussion: stories of land reform
Readings: Joseph Esherick, “10 Theses”; Isabel and David Crook, “Ten
Mile Inn”; Edward Friedman, “Silent Revolution”
*reaction paper due

Nov. 15: Establishing the PRC and continuing the revolution
Discussion: control and collectivization
Readings: Smith, “Early Years of the People's Republic” (OIHMC);
Michael Frolic, “A Foot of Mud”

November 18-24 Thanksgiving break

Nov. 27: Continuing the revolution 2: The Cultural Revolution
Discussion: Maoism in charge
Readings: Kraus, “Cultural Revolution Era” (OIHMC); Gao Yuan,
“Smashing the Four Olds”;

Nov. 29: “Dengist reforms”
Discussion: revolution as reform
Readings: Cheek, “Reform and Rebuilding” (OIHMC);
Paul A. Cohen, “Post-Mao Reforms”

Dec. 4: The democratic movement and economic rise
Discussion: liberalism and democracy
(OIHMC); Wei Jingsheng, “Human Rights…”; Ren Wanding,
“Reflections”

Dec. 6: China today
Discussion: What happens now?
Readings: Callahan, “China Rising” (OIHMC);
Elizabeth Perry, “Cultural Governance”; Jiang, “Xi Jinping Era”;
Fukuyama-Zhang, “China Model”

*The term paper will be due the day that the final exam is scheduled for this class.*

PRONOUNCING CHINESE

Chinese is written in characters, not an alphabet; the process of transliterating the sounds of Chinese characters into is called Romanization. There are many dialects of Chinese but Mandarin has become the national standard since the early twentieth century; however, the standard (traditional) Romanization for some place names and personal names represents local dialect sounds. Two major cases relevant for this course are:

Sun Yat-sen (if Romanized Mandarin, = Sun Yixian; aka Sun Zhongshan)
Chiang Kai-shek (if Romanized Mandarin, = Jiang Jieshi; aka Jiang Zhongzheng)

Chinese is also a tonal language, a fact that we will ignore in this course.
Romanization of Chinese

There have been many systems for transliterating Chinese characters into Roman letters, but there are two main ones: the Wades-Giles system and Hanyu pinyin. Wades-Giles was standard in English-language writing about China until around the 1990s, when scholars began to switch to pinyin, which has been standard in Mainland China since the 1950s. Wades-Giles is still more common in Taiwan, and still used in some Western publications. I suggest you use pinyin in your own writing as this is used in the large majority of publications in the West now. Some of the main differences that you need to be aware of when you read are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wades-Giles</th>
<th>pinyin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mao Tse-tung</td>
<td>Mao Zedong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teng Hsiao-p’ing</td>
<td>Deng Xiaoping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuomintang</td>
<td>Guomindang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a full conversion table, see [http://library.ust.hk/guides/opac/conversion-tables.html](http://library.ust.hk/guides/opac/conversion-tables.html)

Place names have also been written in different ways (though the difference is between the old China Postal Map Romanization and pinyin, not WG and pinyin):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peking (Peiping)</th>
<th>Beijing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sinkiang</td>
<td>Xinjiang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Szechwan</td>
<td>Sichuan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tientsin</td>
<td>Tianjin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukien</td>
<td>Fujian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nanking = Nanjing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kiangsu = Jiangsu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton = Guangzhou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chekiang = Zhejiang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shensi = Shaanxi (the double ‘a’ deviates from pinyin, to mark a different tone from that of neighboring Shanxi).

How to pronounce pinyin:
(NB: most sounds in Chinese are actually easy for English speakers to pronounce; it’s the Romanization that’s tricky), approximately:

- ‘Q’ = ‘ch’  Qu Qiubai = Chü Cheo-bai
- ‘X’ = ‘sh’  Xinjiang = Shin-jeang
- ‘C’ = ‘ts’  Shen Congwen = Shen Tsung-wen
- ‘Zh’ = ‘j’  Xu Zhimo = Shí Jir-muo
- ‘a’ = ‘ah’  lama = lah-mah
- ‘e’ = ‘uh’  Hebei = Huh-bei
- ‘i’ = ‘ee’  Xi Jinping = Shee Jin-ping
- ‘i’ = ‘ir’ when at the end of the syllable (except ‘xi’); Zhang Zhidong = Jang Jir-doong
- ‘u’ = oo    Hu Shi = Hoo Shir
- ‘u’ after y & q then like German über or French lune: Yu Yingshi = Yü Ying-shir
There are many pronunciation guides on the Internet, see for example:
http://www.ctcfl.ox.ac.uk/pinyin_notes.htm
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9Ayvjy-Dgs
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinyin
http://www.pinyin.info/rules/index.html

Names will become easier to remember if you are confident about saying them. So do familiarize yourself with pronunciation, but don’t worry if you are not sure or make mistakes!

**Chinese names**

Chinese family names come before the given name. So if you just want to use someone’s family name, use the name that comes first. For example, “Mao called for a cultural revolution”; not “Zedong called for a cultural revolution.” **In ‘real life’ it’s important that you get this right.**

Well into the twentieth century, it was common for elite Chinese to be known by several different personal names, which might be honorific or which they themselves might change according to how they wished to present themselves. You don’t need to worry too much about this, but note that the early 20th century scholar and intellectual Zhang Binglin = Zhang Taiyan (WG: Chang Ping-lin, Chang T’ai-yen).

Here are some other examples just for fun. Hu Shi (intellectual, scholar, university president, ambassador) was originally Hu Shizhi, but because “zhi” was a particle in the classical language but Hu Shi promoted the vernacular language, he dropped it from his name. The revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen (Mandarin: Sun Yixian) began to call himself Sun Zhongshan while he was in exile in Japan, apparently because he saw this Japanese name in the street and “Zhongshan” when pronounced in Japanese (Nakayama) simply sounds more Japanese than would the characters for Yixian. Today in China he most commonly called Sun Zhongshan. Traditional literati might adopt a new name to signify some important change in their life or thinking. The modern historian Fan Wenlan changed his name several times while he was in college.

Some Chinese are best known in the West through romanization of a dialect rather than standard Mandarin Chinese: Sun Yat-sen (Sun Yixian); Chiang Kai-shek (Jiang Jieshi).

Some Chinese people who live in the West write their names in the Western way, as the author Jung Chang does. *Chang* [pinyin Zhang] is her family name. In cases like this, it can be difficult to tell which is the family name unless you speak Chinese. But if the person you are writing about lives/lived in China or Taiwan, assume that the name that comes first is their family name. The *New York Times* style is to refer to Chinese people using family-name first. (The *Times* also refers to Koreans family-name first; however, it strangely Westernizes Japanese names by using personal-name first, contrary to Japanese practice. Thus for the *Times*: Chinese president: XI Jinping; Korean president: MOON Jae-in, but Japanese prime minister: Shinzo ABE, while in academic writing it is ABE Shinzō.)
SELECTION BIBLIOGRAPHY

(This list is partial and idiosyncratic; categories are vague, overlapping, and arbitrary; it focuses on monographs, with a few edited collections of articles but does not include journal articles).

“*” = simply a text that I particularly like for one reason or another; all works listed below are worthwhile.

red = new works

1. Qing world/late imperial China

1A. Ming-Qing (14th c.-19th c.)
(The many volumes in The Cambridge History of China provide good starting points for many topics)

Timothy Brook, The Confusions of Pleasure: Commerce and Culture in Ming China
Wm. Theodore de Bary, ed., Self and Society in Ming Thought
-------, The Liberal Tradition in China
* Lloyd Eastman, Family, Fields, and Ancestors: Constancy and Change in China’s Social and Economic History, 1550-1949
R. Bin Wong, China Transformed: Historical Change and the Limits of European Experience
Philip C.C. Huang, The Peasant Economy and Social Change in North China
-------, The Peasant Family and Rural Development in the Yangzi Delta, 1350-1988
Evelyn S. Rawski, Early Modern China and Northeast Asia

1B. The Qing Dynasty (1644-1912)
Frederic Wakeman, Jr., The Great Enterprise: The Manchu Reconstruction of Imperial Order in Seventeenth-Century China
* Philip Kuhn, Soulstealers: The Chinese Sorcery Scare of 1768
Susan Naquin and Evelyn S. Rawski, Chinese Society in the Eighteenth Century
Peter C. Perdue, China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia
Mark C. Elliott, The Manchu Way: The Eight Banners and Ethnic Identity in Late Imperial China
-------, Emperor Qianlong: Son of Heaven, Man of the World
* Jonathan D. Spence, The Death of Woman Wang
-------, Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K’ang-Hsi
-------, Treason by the Book
Susan Mann, Precious Records: Women in China’s Long Eighteenth Century
Matthew Sommer, Polyandry and Wife-Selling in Qing Dynasty China
David Johnson, Andrew J. Nathan, and Evelyn S. Rawski, eds., Popular Culture in Late Imperial China
Evelyn S. Rawski, The Last Emperors: A Social History of Qing Imperial Institutions
Pamela Crossley, A Translucent Mirror: History and Identity in Qing Imperial Ideology
Benjamin A. Elman, From Philosophy to Philology: Intellectual and Social Aspects of Change in Late Imperial China
-------, A Cultural History of Civil Examinations in Late Imperial China
James A. Cook et al., eds., Visualizing Modern China
William T. Rowe, Saving the World: Chen Hongmou and Elite Consciousness in Eighteenth-Century China
-----, Hankow: Commerce and Society in a Chinese City, 1796-1889
-----, Hankow: Conflict and Community in a Chinese City, 1796-1895
Susan Naquin, Peking: Temples and City Life, 1400-1900
Lillian Li, Fighting Famine in North China: State, Market, and Environmental Decline, 1690s-1990

2. Toward Modern China

2A. 19th century China (and sometimes beyond), general

* Philip A. Kuhn, Origins of the Modern Chinese State
* Elizabeth J. Perry, Rebels and Revolutionaries in North China, 1845-1945
Kathryn Bernhardt, Rent, Taxes, and Peasant Resistance: The Lower Yangzi Region, 1840-1950
Wen-hsin Yeh, Shanghai Splendor: Economic Sentiments and the Making of Modern China, 1843-1949
Li Chen, Chinese Law in Imperial Eyes
Shellen Xiao Wu, Empires of Coal
Loren Brandt, Commercialization and Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern China: 1870-1937
* Henrietta Harrison, The Man Awakened from Dreams: One Man’s Life in a North China Village, 1857-1942
David Faure, Rural Economy of Pre-Liberation China: Trade Expansion and Peasant Livelihood in Jiangsu and Guangdong, 1870 to 1937
Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom, Global Shanghai, 1850-2010
-----, ed., The Oxford Illustrated History of Modern China
Paul A. Cohen, Discovering History in China: American Historical Writing on the Recent Chinese Past

2B. Opium War / Taiping Rebellion / Western imperialism

Frederic Wakeman, Jr., Strangers at the Gate: Social Disorder in South China, 1839-1861
James Polachek, The Inner Opium War
Arthur Waley, The Opium War through Chinese Eyes
Timothy Brook and Bob Wakabayashi, Opium Regimes: China, Britain, and Japan, 1839-1952
Philip A. Kuhn, Rebellion and its Enemies in Late Imperial China: Militarization and Social Structure, 1796-1864
Jonathan Spence, God’s Chinese Son: The Taiping Heavenly Kingdom of Hong Xiuquan
Stephen Platt, Autumn in the Heavenly Kingdom: China, the West, and the Epic Story of the Taiping Civil War
-----, Imperial Twilight: The Opium War and the End of China’s Last Golden Age
* Tobie Meyer-Fong, What Remains: Coming to Terms with Civil War in 19th Century China
* James L. Hevia, English Lessons: The Pedagogy of Imperialism in Nineteenth-Century China

2B. Late Qing reformism / State decline~1860-1911

* Mary Clabaugh Wright, The Last Stand of Chinese Conservatism
Meng Yue, *Shanghai and the Edges of Empires*
Stephen R. Halsey, *Quest for Power*
Kung-chuan Hsiao, *Rural China: Imperial Control in the Nineteenth Century*
Rebecca E. Karl and Peter Zarrow, eds., *Rethinking the 1898 Reform Period: Political and Cultural Change in Late Qing China*
* Joseph Esherick, *The Origins of the Boxer Uprising*
Robert Bickers, ed., *Boxers, China and the World*
David Silbey, *The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China*
* Paul A. Cohen, *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Event, Experience, and Myth*
Mary Backus Rankin, *Elite Activism and Political Transformation in China: Zhejiang Province, 1865-1911*

2C. Radicalism and the 1911 Revolution

Mary Backus Rankin, *Early Chinese Revolutionaries: Radical Intellectuals in Shanghai and Chekiang, 1902-1911*
Joan Judge, *Print and Politics: ‘Shibao’ and the Culture of Reform in Late Qing China*
* Benjamin Schwartz, *In Search of Wealth and Power: Yen Fu and the West*
Paul A. Cohen, *Between Tradition and Modernity: Wang T’ao and Reform in Late Ch’ing China*
-----, *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Event, Experience, and Myth*
Frank Dikötter, *The Discourse of Race in Modern China*
Mary Wright, ed., *China in Revolution: The First Phase, 1900-1913*
* Joseph Esherick, *Reform and Revolution in China: The 1911 Revolution in Hunan and Hubei*
* Edward J. M. Rhoads, *Manchus and Han: Ethnic Relations and Political Power in Late Ch’ing and Early Republican China, 1861–1928*
Michael Gasster, *Chinese Intellectuals and the Revolution of 1911: The Birth of Modern Chinese Radicalism*
Peter Zarrow, *Anarchism and Chinese Political Culture*
Rebecca Karl, *Staging the World: Chinese Nationalism at the Turn of the Twentieth Century*

2D. 19th / 20th century histories

Timothy Cheek, *The Intellectual in Modern Chinese History*
Peter Zarrow, *China in War and Revolution 1895-1949*
Bryna Goodman, *Native Place, City, and Nation: Regional Networks and Identities in Shanghai, 1853-1937*
Rebecca Karl, *Mao Zedong and China in the Twentieth-Century World*
* Jiawei Ci, *Dialectic of the Chinese Revolution: From Utopianism to Hedonism*

3. 1900-1949

3A. Republic of China (~1912-~1949): political & socioeconomic history

* Prasenjit Duara, *Culture, Power, and the State: Rural North China, 1900-1942*
-----, *Rescuing History From the Nation: Questioning Narratives of Modern China*
* Henrietta Harrison, *The Making of the Republican Citizen: Political Ceremonies and Symbols in China, 1911-1929*
Ernest P. Young, Yuan Shih-kai’s Rise to the Presidency
-----, The Presidency of Yuan Shih-k’ai
Julia C. Strauss, Strong Institutions in Weak Polities: State Building in Republican China
Justin M. Jacobs, Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State
* Marie-Claire Bergère, Sun Yat-sen
* David Strand, An Unfinished Republic: Leading by Word and Deed in Modern China
Rana Mitter, A Bitter Revolution: China’s Struggle with the Modern World
Marie-Claire Bergère, The Golden Age of the Chinese Bourgeoisie, 1911-1937
Frederic Wakeman, Spymaster: Dai Li and the Chinese Secret Service
Joseph W. Esherick, Remaking the Chinese City: Modernity and National Identity, 1900-1950
* David Strand, Rickshaw Beijing: City People and Politics in the 1920s
Madeleine Yue Dong, Republican Beijing: The City and its Histories
Janet Y. Chen, Guilty of Indigence: The Urban Poor in China, 1900-1953
Ruth Rogaski, Hygienic Modernity: Meanings of Health and Disease in Treaty-Port China
Gail Hershatter, The Workers of Tianjin, 1900-1949
Andrew D. Morris, A History of Sport and Physical Culture in Republican China
Thomas G. Rawski, China’s Republican Economy: An Introduction
-----, Economic Growth in Prewar China

3B. Republic of China: intellectual & cultural history (general)

Joseph R. Levenson, Confucian China and Its Modern Fate: A Trilogy
* Wen-hsin Yeh, ed., Becoming Chinese: Passages to Modernity and Beyond
Jerome B. Grieder, Intellectuals and the State in Modern China
Arif Dirlik, Anarchism in the Chinese Revolution
Sally Borthwick, Education and Social Change in China: The Beginning of the Modern Era
Robert Culp, Articulating Citizenship: Civic Education and Student Politics in Southeastern China, 1912-1940
Frank Dikötter, Things Modern: Material Culture and Everyday Life in China
Christopher Rea, The Age of Irreverence: A New History of Laughter in China

3C. Warlordism; Rise of Nationalists (1916-1937)

Edward W. McCord, The Power of the Gun: The Emergence of Modern Chinese Warlordism
Hsi-sheng Ch’i, Warlord Politics in China, 1916-1928
Lloyd Eastman, The Abortive Revolution: China under Nationalist Rule, 1927-1937
-----, The Nationalist Era in China, 1927-1949
* John Fitzgerald, Awakening China: Politics, Culture, and Class in the Nationalist Revolution
* Elizabeth J. Perry, Shanghai on Strike: The Politics of Chinese Labor
-----, Patrolling the Revolution: Worker Militias, Citizenship, and the Modern Chinese State
Frederic Wakeman Jr., Policing Shanghai, 1927-1937
-----, The Shanghai Badlands: Wartime Terrorism and Urban Crime, 1937-1941

3D. May Fourth movement / New Culture movement (1915--1925)

Tse-tsung Chow, The May Fourth Movement: Intellectual Revolution in Modern China
* Vera Schwarcz, *The Chinese Enlightenment: Intellectuals and the Legacy of the May Fourth Movement of 1919*

Yu Sheng Lin, *The Crisis of Chinese Consciousness: Radical Anti-traditionalism in the May Fourth Era*

Jeffrey Wasserstrom, *Student Protests in Twentieth-Century China: The View from Shanghai*

Timothy B. Weston, *The Power of Position: Beijing University, Intellectuals, and Chinese Political Culture, 1898-1929*

Edmund Fung, *In Search of Chinese Democracy: Civil Opposition in Nationalist China, 1929-1949*

Gloria Davies, *Lu Xun’s Revolution: Writing in a Time of Violence*

Felicity Lufkin, *Folk Art and Modern Culture in Republican China*

Shakhar Rahav, *The Rise of Political Intellectuals in Modern China*

Chang-tai Hung, *Going to the People: Chinese Intellectuals and Folk Literature*

Xiaoqun Xu, *Cosmopolitanism, Nationalism and Individualism in Modern China*

3D. gender, women’s history

Elisabeth Croll, *Feminism and Socialism in China*

Ono Kazuko, *Chinese Women in a Century of Revolution, 1850-1950*

Mechthild Leutner and Nicola Spakowski, eds., *Women in China: The Republican Period in Historical Perspective*

Lisa Rofel, *Other Modernities: Gendered Yearnings in China after Socialism*

Christina Gilmartin, *Engendering the Chinese Revolution: Radical Women, Communist Politics, and Mass Movements in the 1920s*

Emily Honig, *Sisters and Strangers: Women in the Shanghai Cotton Mills, 1919-1949*

* Gail Hershatter, *Dangerous Pleasures: Prostitution and Modernity in Twentieth-Century Shanghai*

****, *The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China’s Collective Past*

Denise Gimpel, *Chen Hengzhe: A Life Between Orthodoxies*

Wang Zheng, *Women in the Chinese Enlightenment*


* Eugenia Lean, *Public Passions: The Trial of Shi Jianqiao and the Rise of Popular Sympathy in Republican China*

Judith Stacey, *Patriarchy and Socialist Revolution in China*

Angelina Chin, *Bound to Empancipate: Working Women and Urban Citizenship in Early Twentieth Century China and Hong Kong*

Tani Barlow, ed., *Gender Politics in Modern China: Writing and Feminism*

Tani Barlow, *In the Event of Women*

Delia Davin, *Woman-Work: Woman and the Party in Revolutionary China*

Kay ann Johnson, *Women, the Family, and Peasant Revolution in China*

3E. Communist Revolution (1920s-1949) and Resist-Japan War (1937-45)

(3E-1: CCP & revolution)

Lucien Bianco, *Peasants Without the Party: Grass-roots Movements in Twentieth-Century China*

* -----, *Origins of the Chinese Revolution*

* Arif Dirlik, *The Origins of Chinese Communism*
Hans van de Ven, From Friend to Comrade: The Founding of the Chinese Communist Party, 1920-1927
Maurice Meisner, Li Ta-chao and the Origins of Chinese Marxism
Wen-hsin Yeh, Provincial Passages: Culture, Space, and the Origins of Chinese Communism
* Harold R. Isaacs, The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution
* David E. Apter and Tony Saich, Revolutionary Discourse in Mao’s Republic
David Apter and Timothy Cheeks, eds., Wang Shiwai and “Wild Lilies”: Rectification and Purges in the CCP, 1942-44
* Stephen Averill, Revolution in the Highlands: China’s Jinggangshan Base Area
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Isabel Crook, Christina K., Gilmartin, Xiji Yu, and Gail Hershatter, Prosperity’s Predicament: Identity, Reform, and Resistance in Rural Wartime China

(3E-2: war & civil war)

Hsi-sheng Ch’i, Nationalist China at War: Military Defeats and Political Collapse, 1937-1945
* James C. Hsiung and Steven I. Levine, eds., China’s Bitter Victory: The War with Japan, 1937-1945
Lloyd E. Eastman, Seeds of Destruction: Nationalist China in War and Revolution, 1937-1949
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-----, Chinese Collaboration with Japan, 1932-1945
* Rana Mitter, China’s War with Japan, 1937-1945: The Struggle for Survival
* Hans J. van de Ven, War and Nationalism in China, 1925-1945
Micah Muscolino, The Ecology of War in China
R. Keith Schoppa, In a Sea of Bitterness: Refugees during the Sino-Japanese War
Diana Lary and Stephen MacKinnon, The Scars of War: The Impact of War on Modern China
*MacKinnon, Stephen, Wuhan, 1938: Refugees, and the Making of Modern China
Pauline Keating, Two Revolutions: Village Reconstruction and the Cooperative Movement in Northern Shaanxi
Margherita Zanasi, Saving the Nation: Economic Modernity in Republican China
Timothy Brook, Collaboration: Japanese Agents and Local Elites in Wartime China
Diana Lary, *China’s Civil War*

Jay Taylor, *The Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the Struggled for Modern China*

Rana Mitter, *The Manchurian Myth: Nationalism, Resistance and Collaboration in Modern China*

Odd Arne Westad, *Decisive Encounters: The Chinese Civil War, 1946-1950*

Suzanne, Pepper, *Civil War in China: The Political Struggle, 1945-1949*

4. **Maoist era 1949-1976**

Timothy Creek, ed., *A Critical Introduction to Mao Zedong*

Alexander Pantsov and Steven Levine, *Mao: The Real Story*

Jonathan Spence, *Mao Zedong*

John Starr, *Continuing the Revolution: The Political Thought of Mao*

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*Edward Friedman, Paul G. Pickowicz, Mark Selden, *Chinese Village, Socialist State*

*Revolution, Resistance, and Reform in Village China*

Vivienne Shue, *The Reach of the State: Sketches of the Chinese Body Politic*

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Xiaobo Lu and Elizabeth J. Perry, *Danwei: The Changing Chinese Workplace in Historical and Comparative Perspective*

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4A. **From land reform to the Great Leap Forward, 1949-1961**

*Edward Friedman, Paul G. Pickowicz, Mark Selden, *Chinese Village, Socialist State*

William L. Parish and Martin King Whyte, *Village and Family in Contemporary China*

*Urban Life in Contemporary China*

Richard C. Kraus, *Class Conflict in Chinese Socialism*

Chang-tai Hung, *Mao’s New World: Political Culture in the Early People’s Republic*


Yang Jisheng, *Tombstone: The Untold Story of Mao’s Great Famine*

Felix Wemheuer and Kimberly Ens Manning, *Eating Bitterness: New Perspectives on China’s Great Leap Forward and Famine*

Felix Wemheuer, *Famine Politics in Maoist China and the Soviet Great Leap and the Origins of Righteous Resistance in Da Fo*


(Numerous memoirs of the Cultural Revolution have been written and published in English. I won’t list them here except for the best one: Rae Yang, *Spider Eaters*)

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Joseph W. Esherick et al., eds., *The Chinese Cultural Revolution as History*
Jeremy Brown and Matthew D. Johnson, eds., *Maoism at the Grassroots*
Elizabeth J. Perry and Li Xun, *Proletarian Power: Shanghai in the Cultural Revolution*
Chunjuan Nancy Wei and Darryl E. Brock, eds., *Mr. Science and Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution*
Frederick Wakeman Jr., *History and Will: Philosophical Perspectives of Mao Tse-tung’s Thought*
Barbara, Mittler *A Continuous Revolution: Making Sense of Cultural Revolution Culture*
Xiang Cai, *Revolution and Its Narratives*
Roderick MacFarquhar and Michael Schoenhals, *Mao’s Last Revolution*
Roderick MacFarquhar, *The Origins of the Cultural Revolution*
Lynn T. White II, *Politics of Chaos: The Organizational Causes of Violence in China’s Cultural Revolution*
Woei Lien Chong, ed., *China’s Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution: Master Narratives and Post-Mao Counternarratives*
Yang Su, *Collective Killings in Rural China during the Cultural Revolution*
Anita Chan et al., *On Socialist Democracy and the Chinese Legal System: The Li Yizhe Debates*

5. “Reform era,” 1976-

Jean C. Oi, *Rural China Takes Off: Institutional Foundations of Economic Reform*
Sebastian Heilmann and Elizabeth J. Perry, eds., *Mao’s Invisible Hand: The Political Foundations of Adaptive Governance in China*
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Xiaobo Lu and Elizabeth Perry, *Danwei: The Chinese Chinese Workplace in Historical and Comparative Perspective*
* Hui Wang [Wang Hui], *China’s New Order: Society, Politics and Economy in Transition*
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Baogang He, *The Democratic Implications of Civil Society in China*
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Alexander V. Pantsov and Steven I Levine, *Deng Xiaoping: A Revolutionary Life*
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Kevin O’Brien, *Reform without Liberalization: China’s NPC and the Politics of Institutional Change*
John Makeham, *Lost Soul: “Confucianism” in Contemporary Chinese Academic Discourse*
Sébastien Billioud and Joël Thoraval, *The Sage and the People: The Confucian Revival in China*
**SOME WEBSITES**

- chinadigitaltimes.net  [news about China from a critical/dissenter point of view]
- blog.lareviewofbooks.org/chinablog  [reflections of China-scholars & observers]
- en.people.cn/  [official organ of the CCP]
- www.chinasmack.com  [newspaper basically for expats in China]
- www.hrw.org/asia/china  [Human Rights Watch]
- www.chinafile.com  [news analysis/blogging from China-journalists]
- cmp.hku.hk  [media watch group at Hong Kong University]
- www.michaelturton.blogspot.com  [“The View from Taiwan”]
- https://newbloommag.net  [“Radical perspectives on Taiwan and the Asia Pacific”]

**SOME PODCASTS**

- “Sinica” (SupChina)
- “Asia Society Podcast” (New York, NY)
- “The Little Red Podcast” (Australian National University)
- “ChinaPower” (Center for Strategic and International Studies)

**SOME FILM DOCUMENTARIES**

- “Gate of Heavenly Peace,” dir. Carma Hinton, Long Bow Group; on Youtube (on the Tiananmen Square democracy movement, 1989; free); [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Gtt2JxmQtg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Gtt2JxmQtg)

- “Li Manshan: Portrait of a Folk Daoist,” dir Stephen Jones; on Vimeo (on traditional religion in China today; free); [https://vimeo.com/155660741](https://vimeo.com/155660741)

- “Small Happiness,” dir. Carma Hinton, Long Bow Group (on the lives of village women since the Communist Revolution)