

# Far Eastern History II

Spring 2019

21:510:298

Monday, 10:00 – 11:20 am

Wednesday, 10:00 – 11:20 am

Hill Hall 106

Instructor: Daniel Asen

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 4-5pm, and by appointment, Conklin Hall 328

## **1. Course Description**

This course is a survey of East Asian history (China, Japan, and Korea) from ca. 1600 AD to the present. While our approach will be chronological, we will also examine thematic issues that include political institutions and ideology, intellectual thought, education, gender, family, everyday life, and popular culture. We will also look at the political, economic, cultural, and other historical developments that have defined regional and global interactions within East Asia during this period and in the present. Students will gain the factual knowledge necessary to understand contemporary East Asia within its recent and long-term historical contexts and will apply their knowledge to analyze a range of primary documents, images, and other media.

## **2. Learning Goals**

1. Develop an understanding of the events, institutions, ideas, and figures that have shaped the course of modern East Asian history. We will approach this history comparatively by exploring the histories of China, Japan, and Korea in dialogue with each other and over time. Students will leave the course with an understanding of the historical dynamics that have defined East Asia in the early modern period as well as those which continue to inform its trajectory in the present.
2. Understand East Asian history in global context. In the period that this class covers (ca. 1600 AD - present) East Asia shifted from being a central node in early modern networks of long-distance trade to inhabiting a subordinate position in a new global system dominated by European industrial powers, a situation which has once again changed drastically with the rapid industrialization of the region during the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In order to understand this history it will be necessary to explore those historical changes that have defined the modern period for all societies across the globe, including our own. These include colonialism, imperialism, industrialization, and the rise of modern nation-states. We will think about the unprecedented economic and social forces that these changes have unleashed as

well as the human costs and consequences. In short, we will think hard about how our own globalized world came to be.

3. Read and critically analyze a range of historical documents. Over the course of the semester, we will read and analyze a range of historical sources, including memoirs, philosophical texts, propaganda posters, cartoons, and films. When analyzing these sources we will think about questions of historical context (i.e. when and where was it written?), intended audience (i.e. for whom was it written?), and the politics of the text (i.e. which social or political interests is it serving?). In sum, we will think about how we interpret the raw material of history and how we can use it as evidence when making historical claims.

### **3. Assignments and Grading**

Class participation / Attendance – 10%

Writing assignments (2) – 40%

Map quizzes (2) – 10%

Midterm – 20%

Final – 20%

Class participation / Attendance (10%). To receive full credit, you must arrive on time, participate in in-class discussions and activities, and be respectful of your classmates. If you cannot come to class because of an emergency, please try to contact me in advance. I will record attendance in each class session.

**Note: Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.**

Writing assignments (40% total). This course has two writing assignments: Paper #1 (3-4 pages, 20%), and Paper #2 (4-5 pages, 20%). For each paper you will be asked to do a close reading and analysis of primary source documents drawn from East Asian history. I will give you a handout for each paper which includes a detailed explanation of the topic. Papers should be written in size 12 type and double spaced. We will discuss paper writing in class as well as how I will grade them. If you have any questions at all about the papers or writing in general, feel free to raise them in class, send me an email, or meet with me during my office hours.

Map Quizzes (10% total, 5% each). Over the semester, there will be two map quizzes. For each quiz, you will be asked to identify important places and geographical features of East Asia on a map. You will be provided with a list of the places/features in advance as well as a map with the place names already filled in. For the quiz, you will be given this same map, and will have to identify the places from memory.

Midterm (20%) and Final (20%). You will receive a detailed handout explaining the format of the midterm and final exams and how they will be graded.

#### **4. Course Readings**

Weekly reading assignments will usually include two parts – a selection from our textbook (“East Asia”) and a couple of short historical documents (“Documents”). Unless otherwise noted, these documents are available on Blackboard.

You will be required to read significant portions of the textbook for weekly homework readings and class writing assignments. It will be made available on reserve at Dana Library, at the Campus Bookstore, and can be purchased from other sources as well (i.e. Amazon.com):

Patricia Ebrey et al.. *East Asia: A Cultural, Social, and Political History*. Second Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2009. ISBN 13: 978-0-547-00534-8. (“East Asia”).

Note: This book has several editions. You can use either the Second (ISBN: 9780547005348) or Third edition (ISBN: 9781133606475).

#### **5. Course Policies**

1. Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>.

If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’ disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible.

To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information please contact the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219, by phone at 973-353-5375 or by email at [odsnewark@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:odsnewark@newark.rutgers.edu).

2. Rutgers faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. Rutgers has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more.

The University strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the University. Please be aware that all Rutgers employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers as listed in Appendix A to Policy 10.3.12) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the University. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the University's Title IX Coordinator.

If you wish to speak with a staff member who is confidential and does not have this reporting responsibility, you may contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance at (973)-353-1918, or at [run.vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run.vpva@rutgers.edu). Learn more about the office here: <http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/vpva>

3. Academic dishonesty in this class will not be tolerated. Period. This includes plagiarism, cheating, and any other behavior described in the Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy. For this reason it is absolutely crucial that you familiarize yourself with this policy, which describes the actions that will be counted as violations of academic integrity: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

You must include the following Rutgers Honor Code Pledge statement on every assignment that you turn in: "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment. (Name) (Signature – typing your name is fine) (Date)".

If anyone has any questions at all about this policy, what counts as a violation of academic integrity, or even simply how to cite sources on a paper (a topic which we will cover in class), I am always willing to discuss these issues with you. Students who plagiarize assignments or otherwise violate academic integrity will receive serious penalties, ranging from a failing grade in the class to suspension.

## **6. Schedule**

### **Jan. 23                    Welcome to Far Eastern History II!**

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- Introduction to the class

### **Jan. 28                    Confucianism in Early Modern East Asia**

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- Document: "Confucian Teachings" (10 pages)
- Francesca Bray, *Technology and Society in Ming China*, 56-61 ("The Ancestral Altar" and "Women's Quarters")

### **Jan. 30                    Ming China I: Politics and Society**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 14: The Ming Empire in China

- Timothy Brook, *Confusions of Pleasure* 17-27
- Documents: “A Censor Accuses a Eunuch” (3 pages) and “Widows Loyal Unto Death” (4 pages)
- **Map Quiz #1**

#### **Feb. 4                    Ming China II: Diplomacy and Trade**

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- Start working on Paper #1

#### **Feb. 6                    Rise of the Manchus**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 16: The Creation of the Manchu Empire
- Document: “‘Horrid Beyond Description’: The Massacre of Yangzhou” (21 pages)
- We will spend some time discussing strategies for writing academic papers as well as my expectations for Paper #1

#### **Feb. 11                  The Qing Empire**

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- Documents: “Village lectures and the Sacred Edict” (3 pages) and “Lan Dingyuan’s Casebook” (5 pages)
- Continue working on Paper #1

#### **Feb. 13                  Choson Korea I: Kingship and Aristocracy**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 15: Choson Korea
- Document: “Etiquette and Household Management” (5 pages)

#### **Feb. 18                  Choson Korea II: Gender, Family, and Society**

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- Martina Deuchler, “Propagating Female Virtues in Chosŏn Korea” in *Women and Confucian Cultures in Premodern China, Korea, and Japan*, edited by Dorothy Ko, JaHyun Kim Haboush and Joan R. Piggott (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 142-169. (Available on Blackboard)

#### **Feb. 20                  Tokugawa Unification**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 17: Edo Japan
- Document: “*Hagakure* and the Way of the Samurai” (3 pages)

#### **Feb. 25                  Society and Culture in Edo Japan**

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- Documents: “Closing of the Country” (8 pages, stop at “Growth of Commerce”) and “Sugita Genpaku” (5 pages)
- **Paper #1 Due**

**Feb. 27                    Opium War**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 18: China in Decline (stop at “The Failures of Reform”)
- Document: “Qianlong’s Edict to King George III of England (September 23, 1793)” (3 pages)
- Document: “Placards Posted in Guangzhou” (2 pages)
- Glance through “The First Opium War: The Anglo-Chinese War of 1839-1842,” Essay by Peter C. Perdue, *Visualizing Cultures*.  
([http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/opium\\_wars\\_01/ow1\\_essay01.html](http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/opium_wars_01/ow1_essay01.html))

**Mar. 4                    Unequal Treaties and Self-Strengthening**

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- *East Asia*: Finish reading Ch. 18: China in Decline
- Document: Excerpts from “Treaty of Nanjing” (2 pages)
- Document: “Moderate Reform and the Self-Strengthening Movement” (7 pages)

**Mar. 6                    Midterm Review Session (Mandatory)**

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- Bring questions that you have about anything that we have covered so far
- We will spend the class session reviewing material and discussing larger themes and connections

**Mar. 11                    Midterm**

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**Mar. 13                    Meiji Restoration**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 19: Japan in Turmoil
- Documents: “The Charter Oath and Constitution of 1868” (3 pages) and “Japanese Enlightenment and Saying Good-Bye to Asia” (8 pages)
- If you have time, glance through “Throwing Off Asia I: Woodblock Prints of Domestic ‘Westernization’ (1868-1912),” Essay by John W. Dower, *Visualizing Cultures*.  
([http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/throwing\\_off\\_asia\\_01/toa\\_essay01.html](http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/throwing_off_asia_01/toa_essay01.html))

**Spring Break**  
**(No class March 18<sup>th</sup> or March 20<sup>th</sup>)**

**Mar. 25                    Revolution and Nationalism in China**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 24: Remaking China and Ch. 25: War and Revolution, China
- Documents: “Liang Qichao on His Trip to America” (6 pages) and “The Twenty-One Demands” (5 pages)

**Mar. 27                    Japanese Imperialism and Occupied Korea**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 21: Korea in the Turbulent Nineteenth Century and Ch. 23: Modernizing Korea and Colonial Rule
- Documents: “Cartoons: The ‘New Woman’ in Korea” (13 pages)

#### **Apr. 1                    Asia-Pacific War I: Causes**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 26: War and Aftermath in Japan
- Documents: “Diary of a Student Volunteer for Suicide Mission, 1945,” (3 pages) and “Imperial Rescript on Surrender” (2 pages)

#### **Apr. 3                    Asia-Pacific War II: Aftermath**

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- John W. Dower, *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1999), 87-120. (Available on Blackboard)

#### **Apr. 8                    Communist Revolution and Civil War in China**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 27: China under Mao
- Document: Mao Zedong, “In Memory of Norman Bethune” (1939)  
([http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-2/mswv2\\_25.htm](http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-2/mswv2_25.htm))

#### **Apr. 10                  Maoist China**

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- Document: “Red Guards” (9 pages)
- Take a look at “Chineseposters.net” (<http://chineseposters.net/themes/index.php>). Find several collections of propaganda posters that interest you.
- **Map Quiz #2**

#### **Apr. 15                  Reform and Opening in China**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 28: China since Mao
- Document: Zhao Ziyang, “Advance Along the Road of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics” (8 pages, stop at “Reforming the Political Structure”)
- Glance through “Tables and Figures on Trends and Developments in post-1978 China” (15 pages)

#### **Apr. 17                  Divided Korea I: Dictatorship to Democracy in South Korea**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 29: Korea (1945 to the Present)
- Document: “Declaration of the Seoul National University Students Association, April 1960” (2 pages)

#### **Apr. 22                  Divided Korea II: Ideology and the State in North Korea**

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- Document: “Kim Ilsong [Kim Il Sung] and Chuch’e Thought in North Korea” (3 pages)

- Take a look at the website of the Korean Central News Agency, the official state-run news agency of North Korea. Find some articles that interest you:  
<http://www.kcna.kp/kcna.user.home.retrieveHomeInfoList.kcmsf.jsessionid=4B46FB97E304C336AD2CEDC047836483?lang=eng>

**Apr. 24                      Postwar Japan I: Politics and Society**

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- *East Asia* Ch. 30: Contemporary Japan
- Document: 1947 Japanese Constitution (3 pages)

**Apr. 29                      Postwar Japan II: Cultural Exports**

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- Theodore C. Bestor. "How Sushi Went Global." *Foreign Policy* 121 (2000), 54-63.
- Douglas McGray, "Japan's Gross National Cool." *Foreign Policy* 130 (2002), 44-54.

**May 1                        East Asia Today**

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- Reading TBA

**May 6                        Final Exam Review Session (Mandatory)**

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- We will spend the class reviewing material that will be on the final exam and thinking about the larger themes and questions of the course
- **Paper #2 Due**

**Final Exam: Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-11:30am**