

Asia in the Modern World

HTS 2062
Summer 2011
National University of Singapore

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Georgia Tech

This course is a survey of Asian civilizations from the late eighteenth century to the present. Emphasis will be placed primarily on the distinctive aspects of the culture of Asian nations and their modern experiences in a rapidly transformed world. In particular, we will focus on China, Japan, and the so-called Four Mini-dragons (South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore) to examine the changes and continuities in Asia's political, economic, and social systems.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Primary Textbooks:

W. Scott Morton, *China: Its History and Culture*. Fourth Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005.

W. Scott Morton, *Japan: Its History and Culture*. Fourth Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Richard Gunde, *Culture and Customs of China*. Westpoint, CT: Greenwood Press, 2001.*

* This book is assigned for writing a take-home book report as part of the final examination. Students may choose one of the alternative readings for the take-home book report:

Noriko Kamachi, *Culture and Customs of Japan*. Westpoint, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999.

Donald Clark, *Culture and Customs of Korea*. Westpoint, CT: Greenwood Press, 2000.

Mark Mcleod and Nguyen Thi Dieu, *Culture and Customs of Vietnam*. Westpoint, CT: Greenwood Press, 2001.

Paul Rodell, *Culture and Customs of Philippines*, 2001.

Carol Henderson, *Culture and Customs of India*, 2002.

Arne Kislenko, *Culture and Customs of Thailand*, 2004.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1) Quizzes	50%
2) Take-home Final Exam	40%
3) Attendance	10%

Note: In evaluating a student's performance, consideration will also be given to informed participation in discussions.

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND READINGS

Mon. June 6

Lecture 1 Introduction: Common Cultural Patterns of Asia
Reading: *China*, 1-10; *Japan*, 1-3

Lecture 2 Western Encroachments on Asia
China, 123-147

Tu. June 7

Lecture 3 China in the 19th century

Lecture 4 The End of Chinese Monarchy
China, 148-174

Wed. June 8

Lecture 5 The Republican China
China, 175-193
Quiz One

Lecture 6 The Rising of Communism
China, 193-200

Th. June 9

Lecture 7 The Birth of the People's Republic
China, 201-214

Lecture 8 Mao's China
China, 215-226

Fri. June 10 Fieldtrip "The Image of Singapore," a museum on the Santosa inland

Mon. June 13

Lecture 9 The End of Mao's Era

Lecture 10 Deng Xiaoping and the "Quiet Revolution"
China, 227-260

Tu. June 14

Lecture 11 China Today: The Emergence of the "Chinese Century"?
China, 261-285
Quiz Two

Lecture 12 Japan before Perry
Japan, 119-146

Wed. June 15

Lecture 13 Meiji Japan
Japan, 147-177

Lecture 14 The Rise of Militarism and WWII
Japan, 178-198

Th. June 16

Lecture 15 Postwar Japan
Japan, 199-230

Lecture 16 The Road toward Modernization: The Mini-Dragons
Japan, 261-295

Mon. June 20

Lecture 17 Asia in the 21st century
China, Japan, and the “Mini-dragons” Compared
Quiz Three

Lecture 18 Review for the Final Examination

Tu. June 21 Final Examination:
Take-home essays due at 12noon.

The topics and guidelines for the take-home final essays will be available at Lecture 1.

Two fieldtrips in Beijing, dates to be arranged:

Fieldtrip 1 Yuanmingyuan: the ruins of the Qing dynasty summer palace that was burned down by the Anglo-French troops in 1860

Fieldtrip 2 Mao’s Memorial Hall at Tiananmen Square