

Revolution and Reform in East Asia

HTS 3803
Fall 2010
TTh 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
208 D. M. Smith

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Office: 122 Old CE Building
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Office Hours: TTh 11 am - 1 pm, W 9 am - 11 am, and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A little over 60 years ago, East Asia was a devastated region: China was torn apart by civil war and revolution, Japan was a defeated and occupied nation, the first Indochina War raged in Vietnam, and the Korean War was imminent with Soviet and US troops dividing that nation.

Today, East Asia is the world's most dynamic region. Japan is a prosperous democracy created from a legendary postwar economic miracle much admired throughout the world. South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong are known as "little tigers" for their economic vitality, while China is rapidly rising to become a world power, generating much talk about the 21st century being the "Chinese century." Even communist Vietnam is undergoing some measure of reform to integrate into the global economy.

This course will examine the major revolutions and reforms since the 19th century that have brought East Asian nations to their respective status in the world today. The extraordinary events in the region, including ongoing events such as the transformation of China from communism to capitalism, have not only dramatically changed the political system, economic patterns, and social customs of East Asia and affected the lives of billions of people, but have also had a profound impact on the geopolitical world map. This special-topic course will prepare college students to understand this vibrant, changing region and help the intellectually active prepare for the increasingly diversified world that they are soon to enter.

REQUIRED READINGS:

R. Keith Schoppa, *East Asia: Identities and Change in the Modern World, 1700 to Present*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008.

Hanchao Lu, *The Birth of A Republic: The Birth of a Republic: Francis Stafford's Photographs of China's 1911 Revolution and Beyond*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 2010.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Michael Dutton, *Streetlife China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

David Suzuki, *The Other Japan: Voices Beyond the Mainstream*. Golden, Colorado: Fulcrum Publishing, 1999.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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| 1. Quizzes | 40% |
| 2. Take-home Final Essays | 40% |
| 3. Attendance and Participation | 20% |

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

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND READINGS

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| Week 1 | August 24 & 26
East Asian Civilization: An Overview
Schoppa, Chapter 1 |
| Week 2 | August 31 & September 2
The Last Chinese Empire
Schoppa, Chapter 2 |
| Week 3 | September 7 & 9
Reform and Rebellion in 19 th century China
Schoppa, Chapter 3 |
| Week 4 | September 14 & 16
Tokugawa Japan
Schoppa, Chapter 5 |
| Week 5 | September 21 & 23
Meiji Japan
Schoppa, Chapters 6-7 |
| Week 6 | September 28 & 30
The Birth of the Chinese Republic
Schoppa, Chapter 9 |
| Week 7 | October 5 & 7
The Rise of Japanese Militarism and the Fall of Korean Dynasty
Schoppa, Chapter 8, pp.188-200; Schoppa, Chapter 10 |
| Week 8 | October 12 & 14
World War II in Asia
Schoppa, Chapter 12 |

October 16-19, Fall 2010 Student Recess

- Week 9 October 21
The Korean War and Identity
Schoppa, Chapter 15
- Week 10 October 26 & 28
The Rise of Mao and Maoism
Schoppa, Chapter 13, pp.311-322
- Week 11 November 2 & 4
Postwar Reform in Japan
Schoppa, Chapter 14
- Week 12 November 9 & 11
Mao's Continued Revolution
Schoppa, Chapter 13, pp.322-338
- Week 13 November 16 & 18
China's "Quiet Revolution"
Schoppa, Chapter 17
- Week 14 November 23
Japan as a "fragile superpower"
Schoppa, Chapter 18
- Happy Thanksgiving!
- Week 15 November 30 & December 2
East Asia in the 21st Century
Schoppa, Chapter 20
- Week 16 December 7 & 9
Review and Preparation for Final Essays

Take-home final essays are due on Tuesday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 122 of the Old Civil Engineering Building.