

## **History 103 - Introduction to East Asian History: China**

**Fall 2005**

**9:55 MWF, 19 Ingraham**

**Class Website:** <http://history.wisc.edu/sheehan/103/103home.htm>

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**Readings: (available at University Book Store or on reserve at College Library)**

Conrad Schirokauer and Miranda Brown, [A Brief History of Chinese Civilization](#),  
Second Edition

Kenneth J. Hammond, ed., [The Human Tradition in Premodern China](#)

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, ed., [Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook](#)

### **Themes:**

The course material will be presented in roughly chronological order. In addition, I will focus on three important themes.

- 1) What is China and what does it mean to be Chinese? Is there a single geographical or political entity that can, over time, be identified as China, or are there beliefs, family structures, ideologies or cultural patterns which can be defined as Chinese? Alternatively, is “China” just a modern construct?
- 2) Who were the Chinese elites, how did they exercise dominance and how did hierarchies change over time? How can Chinese history help us understand the concept of monarchy or “kingship”?
- 3) What has been China’s place in the larger world context and how does that affect our understanding of Chinese and world history?

### **Requirements:**

#### **Map Quiz (5%)**

A list of items you must know and a sample map will be handed out in class in advance of the quiz.

### **Section (15%)**

Your section grade is determined by attendance and participation in weekly section meetings. You should have the readings completed before section each week to facilitate discussion. You will be allowed one free absence in section for the semester; each additional unexcused absence will result in a one-half letter grade deduction.

Once during the semester you will be required to bring a current newspaper or periodical article about China to section and discuss its implications (bring copies for all section members). Possible sources for articles (most have web versions):

*The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Far Eastern Economic Review, Asian edition of Time Magazine, South China Morning Post*

### **Midterm (15%) and Final (20%)**

The midterm will include identifications of terms (see ID handout) and identification and analysis of quotes from the Ebrey readings. The final will be similar with the addition of an essay question related to the themes of the class. Examinations will not be rescheduled without a medical excuse or other valid excuse in accordance with University policy.

### **Three Two-Page papers (45%, or 15% each)**

Over the course of the semester, you must write **two analytical** papers and **one creative** paper. See the Two-Page Paper Handout for further guidelines.

Papers will be **due in section the week after the reading is assigned** on the syllabus. In other words, if you do a paper on week three readings, it will be due in section week four. You will decide when to hand in the paper and which will be creative and which two will be analytical.

First Paper due no later than Week Six

Second Paper due no sooner than Week Seven and no later than Week Ten

Third Paper due no sooner than Week Eleven and no later than Week Sixteen

### **Handouts**

The following handouts, as well as the syllabus, are available for viewing and download on the course website <http://history.wisc.edu/sheehan/103/103home.htm>. Those marked with asterisks (\*) will not be handed out in class, but must be downloaded

**\*Geography Handout** - a list of items you need to know for the map quiz

**\*Practice Map** - a blank map of China like the one you will use to take the map quiz

**\*ID Handout** - List of items you will need to be able to identify for the midterm and final.

**\*The Two-Page Paper** - detailed instructions on writing your two-page paper assignments

**Week One - Course Organization, Geography and the Origins of Chinese Civilization**

Schirokauer preface, map and timeline (unpaged sections after the table of contents), 3-8;  
Hammond, xiii-xx  
Fri 9/2

**Week Two – The Shang and other Bronze Age Cultures**

Schirokauer Chapter 1; Hammond, 1-13; Ebrey Reading # 1  
Mon 9/5 **Labor Day Holiday**  
Wed 9/7  
Friday 9/9

**Week Three - The Late Zhou Period and Its Classic Texts**

Schirokauer, Chapter 2; Ebrey, Readings # 2-10  
Mon 9/12  
Wed 9/14  
Fri 9/16

**Week Four - The Qin and Han: Empire and the Transformation of the Confucian Vision**

Schirokauer 51-77, Hammond 15-26; Ebrey Readings # 11-15, 17, 19  
Mon 9/19  
Wed 9/21 (**Map Quiz**)  
Fri 9/23

**Week Five - Division and Change**

Schirokauer 77-85, 88-92, 97-103, 104-end of the chapter; Hammond, 27-55; Ebrey  
Readings # 20, 21, 24  
Mon 9/26  
Wed 9/28  
Fri 9/30

**Week Six - Religion**

Schirokauer (all readings on religion in chapter four) 85-88, 92-97, 103-104; Hammond,  
57-76; Ebrey Readings # 18, 22, 23, 27, 31, 33, 34, 37.  
Mon 10/3  
Wed 10/5  
Fri 10/7

**Week Seven - The Sui and Tang: Reunification and Splendor**

Schirokauer, Chapter 5; Hammond, 77-92; Ebrey Readings # 25, 26, 28-30  
Mon 10/10  
Wed 10/12  
Fri 10/14

**Week Eight - The Song: The Dawn of Late Imperial China**

Schirokauer, Chapter 6, Hammond, 93-109; Ebrey Readings # 32, 35, 36, 38-41  
Mon 10/17  
Wed 10/19  
Fri 10/21

**Week Nine - Mongol China**

Schirokauer, Chapter 7; Hammond, 111-125; Ebrey Readings # 44-46

Mon 10/24

Wed 10/26

Fri 10/28 (**Midterm**)

**Week Ten - The Ming**

Schirokauer, Chapter 8; Hammond, 143-164; Ebrey Readings # 47, 48, 53-56, 58

Mon 10/31

Wed 11/2

Fri 11/4

**Week Eleven - Reflections on China's Place in the World**

Schirokauer, Chapter 9

Mon 11/7

Wed 11/9

Fri 11/11

**Week Twelve - The Qing: Founding and Flourishing**

Schirokauer, Chapter 10; Ebrey Readings # 59, 61-63, 66, 67

Mon 11/14

Wed 11/16

Fri 11/18

**Week Thirteen - The Qing: Crisis, Renewal, Decline**

Schirokauer Chapter 11 and 296-306; Ebrey Readings # 68-70, 73-75

Mon 11/21

Wed 11/23

Fri 11/25 (**Thanksgiving Recess**)

**Week Fourteen - The Republic**

Schirokauer 306-333 and Chapter 13; Ebrey Readings # 76-80, 82, 84

Mon 11/28

Wed 11/30

Fri 12/2

**Week Fifteen - The People's Republic of China**

Schirokauer, Chapters 14 and 15; Ebrey Readings # 85, 86, 89, 91, 93, 99

Mon 12/5

Wed 12/7

Fri 12/9

**Week Sixteen - China Today and Review**

Schirokauer, Afterword

Mon 12/12

Wed 12/14

**Final Exam:** Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:25 pm, room to be announced.