

History 341: History of Modern China 1800 - 1949

Spring 2003

TR 9:30-10:45

104 Van Hise

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This course follows the incredibly turbulent century and a half from the height of the power of the Qing dynasty in approximately 1800 through the success of the Communist Revolution in 1949. The content of the course will be covered in three modules: 1) A three week introduction to modern Chinese history, 2) A six week module on changes in elite structures and state-society relations over the period, and 3) A six week module on the history of rural mass movements over the period. This course will emphasize the interconnectedness of historical phenomena and challenge students to understand links among the content of the three modules.

Readings: The following readings are available for purchase at the University Book Store or the Copy Center on the first floor of the Humanities Building or on reserve at Helen C. White. An * notes primary sources.

Textbook Used for Module One and as reference throughout the course.

R. Keith Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese History*

Course Reader Used for both Modules Two and Three, available at the Copy Center on the first floor of the Humanities building or on reserve at Helen C. White.

- 1) *Selections from Story of the Stone
- 2) Frederic Wakeman, "Gentry," and "Merchants"
- 3) Marriane Bastid-Bruguere, "Currents of Social Change," Chapter 10 in the *Cambridge History of China*, Vol. 11, Part 2.
- 4) Edward A. McCord, "Burn, Kill, Rape, and Rob"
- 5) David Strand, "Jeweler, Banker, and Restaurateur: Power Struggles in the Beijing

Chamber of Commerce"

6) Jeffrey Wasserstrom, "The May 4th Movement" and "The May 30th Movement,"

7) Frederic Wakeman Jr., "A Revisionist View of the Nanjing Decade: Confucian Fascism"

8) Frederic Wakeman, "Peasants"

Other readings Module One

*Pang-Mei Natasha Chang, *Bound Feet and Western Dress*

*Wang Fan-hsi [Wang Fanxi], *Memiors of a Chinese Revolutionary*

*Selections from Joesph Esherick, ed., *Lost Chance in China: The World War II Despatches of John S. Service*

Module Two

Jonathan Spence, *God's Chinese Son: The Taiping Heavenly Kingdom of Hong Xiuquan*

Paul Cohen, *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Event, Experience, and Myth*

*William Hinton, *Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village*

Requirements:

Map Quiz 5% (see handout for details). **In lecture 2/6**

2-page paper 10% (see handout for details and due dates).

Midterm 20% (see midterm review guidelines for details - available approximately two weeks prior to the midterm). **In lecture 3/6**

Final 35% (see final review guidelines for details - available approximately three weeks prior to the final). **Due Tuesday May 13, 4:45 pm in TA's box or professor's box (for honors students)**

Section 30% (based on attendance, participation and completion of 12 discussion-point papers. Attendance is required and more than one absence will result in reduction of your

section grade. The discussion-point papers are short, informal essays, no longer than one page, in which you describe two or three issues or questions raised by the reading that particularly interested you and that you would like to discuss in section. They may be typed or hand written and are due at the beginning of each section. Due dates for each student will be discussed in section.)

Module One: The Big Picture

Week One - Course Organization; Geography, Language and Time

Schoppa, xiv-xv, 1-82

1/21

1/23

Week Two - Merchants, Soldiers and Foreigners

Schoppa, 83-196

1/28

1/30

Week Three - Thought and Religion

Schoppa, 197-298

2/4

2/6 **Map Quiz**

Module Two: Elite Structures and Changes

Week Four - Bureaucracy and Meritocracy; Family and Association

Selections from *Story of the Stone* (reader); Frederick Wakeman, "Gentry," and "Merchants," (reader)

2/11

2/13

Week Five - Late 19th Century Elite Mobilization

Bastid-Bruguere, "Currents of Social Change" (Reader), Pang-mei Natasha Chang, *Bound Feet and Western Dress*, 1-108

2/18

2/20

Week Six: New Policies and Revolution; Warlords and Merchants

Pang-mei Natasha Chang, *Bound Feet and Western Dress*, 109-212; Edward A. McCord, "Burn, Kill, Rape, and Rob" (reader); David Strand, "Jeweler, Banker, and Restaurateur: Power Struggles in the Beijing Chamber of Commerce" (reader)

2/25

2/27

Week Seven: Students and Socialists

Jeffrey Wasserstrom, "The May 4th Movement" and "The May 30th Movement," (reader); Wang Fan-hsi, *Memoirs of a Chinese Revolutionary*, 1-131

3/4

3/6 **Midterm**

Week Eight: Parties and Politics

Wang Fan-hsi, *Memoirs of a Chinese Revolutionary*, 131-278; Frederic Wakeman Jr., "A Revisionist View of the Nanjing Decade: Confucian Fascism," (reader)

3/11

3/13

Spring Recess, 3/15-3/24

Week Nine: Parties, War and Revolution

Selections from Joseph Esherick, ed., *Lost Chance in China: The World War II Despatches of John S. Service*, pp. 42-118, 170-308

3/25

3/27

Module Three: Peasant Movements

Week Ten: Peasants and Rebellion - the Taipings I

Frederic Wakeman, "Peasants" (reader); Jonathan Spence, *God's Chinese Son*, xxi-153

4/1

4/3

Week Eleven: Peasants and Rebellion - the Taipings II

Jonathan Spence, *God's Chinese Son*, 154-332

4/8

4/10

Week Twelve: Peasants and Uprising - the Boxers I

Paul Cohen, *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Even, Experience, and Myth*, 1-145

4/15

4/17

Week Thirteen: Peasants and Uprising - the Boxers II

Paul Cohen, *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Even, Experience, and Myth*, 146-260

4/22

4/24

Week Fourteen: Peasants and Revolution - the Communist Revolution I

Fanshen, 1-197

4/29

5/1

Week Fifteen: Peasants and Revolution - the Communist Revolution II

Fanshen, 198-231, 288-302, 511-600

5/6

5/8

Final Exam: Take home exam due Tuesday May 13, 4:45 pm in TA's box or professor's box (for honors students)