

**Montgomery College**  
**Rockville Campus**  
**History and Political Science Department**  
**Syllabus**  
**Spring 2010**

**HS 208 (32212) Modern Asia**  
**R 6:30-9:10pm**

**Instructor: Shuping Wan**  
**Office: Humanities 270**  
**Office hours: MWF 8:30-9:55,**  
**R 6:00-6:30pm and appointment**  
**Office phone: 240-567--5024**  
**Department phone: 240-567--5178**  
**Email: *shuping.wan@montgomerycollege.edu***

**Required Textbooks**

Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, *Modern East Asia: From 1600*  
Yuki Tanaka, *Japan's Comfort Women*

**General Course Information:**

Brief Course Description:

This course is a survey of Asian societies from the sixteenth century to the present. In *The Myth of Asia* John Steadman has argued that the whole idea of Asia is an invention, since geographically speaking the separation of Asia from Europe makes little sense. We, therefore, will take this argument as the departure point of our investigation. When and why was "Asia" invented? In what ways did similar process of "invention" work in the rest of the world? Why are so many disparate societies grouped under the rubric of "Asia"? Does it continue to make sense to speak of Asia when we contemplate changing global relations in our contemporary world? These are some of the historical problems that form the core of our approach to this course. In addressing concerns raised by these problems, this course will introduce the students not only how "modern Asia" was created by the West but also how Asian societies struggled to create a modernity of their own. This course will concentrate on China, Japan, and India, and will be organized by theme, mostly, but not necessarily chronologically.

Aims and Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce to students the social, political, and intellectual changes that have occurred in Asian societies since their confrontation with the modern West. The objectives of this survey are to understand the process of the shaping of modern Asia, to develop students' skill to think critically about the complexity of historical events, and to open a window for students to see alternative versions of modernity that have been imagined and practiced by peoples in Asia.

As introductory course, HS 208 is designed to meet two broad objectives:

1. To provide the student with an overview of the historical period, and
2. To develop critical thinking skills which include, but not limited to the following:
  - a) To synthesize information from a variety of sources
  - b) To distinguish cause from effect and understand the "why" of

- historical incidents
- c) To draw inferences from the historical evidence
  - d) To distinguish facts from opinions and/or conclusions
  - e) To see art and artifacts as equally important as documents and other historical evidence
  - f) To view events from a variety of viewpoints
  - g) To present coherent and informed oral and written arguments

Course Learning Objectives:

1. To identify important events, institutions, and figures in modern Asian history
2. To generalize society, culture, politics, and economy in Mughal India, Ming/Qing China and Tokugawa Japan
3. To Analyze how the West create modern Asia
4. To illustrate the response of Asian societies to Western penetration
5. To compare and contrast nationalism in India, China, and Japan
6. To relate the issue of imperialism to the wartime experience of Japan, China, and countries in South East Asia
7. To outline post-WWII political and economic changes in Asia

**Assessment:**

This is a lecture course, but we will make every effort to maximize class discussion. We will schedule some movies and discussions in the class. These are not optional, and you are responsible for their contents. All assigned readings should be completed prior to the class. Your course grade will be determined on the basis of two written assignments, the mid-term, and the final exam. The first written assignment is a two-page summary of book report is based on Davis Arnold's *Gandhi*, and the second is based on a book of Chs. 17-19 of the textbook by Ebrey (5 points), and the second written assignment is a book review of Tanaka's *Japan's Comfort Women* (20 points). The book review should consist of the main theme, author's arguments, evidence, and your evaluation. The requirements of the book review will be discussed in detail in the class. The length of your book report should be five to six double-spaced pages (i.e. , approximately 1,500 words: do not use larger than a 13 pt. font). You are welcome to discuss your ideas with the instructor before you start to write the report. The mid-term consists of fifteen multiple choices (1 point each), five identifications (2 points each) and one short essay question (10 points); the final exam consists of fifteen multiple choices (1 point each), five identifications (2 points each) and two essay questions (10 points each).

**Grading:**

A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F= 59 or less.

**Policies:**

Make-up: If exceptional circumstances necessitate student absence on the day of the mid-term/final exam, the student should contact the instructor prior to the exam and timely submit a written request, along with an official document, for a make-up exam.

Late work: You are required to turn in all assignments prior to the class in the day indicated in the syllabus. Late work will be penalized 20% a day. Absence does not

excuse the student from the due date.

Attendance: Attendance is required. You are allowed to have two unexcused absences in the whole semester. Excessive unexcused absences may result in your involuntary withdrawal from the course or a reduced grade.

Email: Use your MC email to communicate with the instructor. Email is to be used for short messages only. The instructor does not accept assignments via email..

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will result in awarding an “F” for the course.

In addition, it is your responsibility to understand other policies indicated in the Code of Student Conduct.. Relevant information is available on the College’s web page.

Student who has a disability might want to contact the Disability Support Services office (CAB 122) and to obtain an authorizing letter for accommodations. Please feel free to talk to the instructor in regard to necessary arrangements.

### **Course Schedule:**

Week 1	Jan. 28	Introduction to the Course Asia before Europe <i>Silk Road</i>
Week 2	Feb. 4	Arrival of the West Mughal India Ming China Ch. 16
Week 3	Feb.11	Edo Japan Late Choson Chs. 17-18 <b>First assignment due</b> <i>The Coming of the Barbarians</i>
Week 4	Feb. 18	Imperialism and Modern Asia Qing China Ch. 19
Week 5	Feb. 25	Emergence of Modern Japan Chs. 20-22
Week 6	Mar. 4	<b>Mid-term Exam</b> Nationalism in Asia Gandhi
Week 7	Mar.11	Remaking China Ch. 23
Week 8	Mar. 18	Spring Break
Week 9	Mar. 25	Japan’s Drive toward Modernization Chs. 24-25 <i>Sandakan #8</i>

Week 10 Apr. 1	Asia at War <b>Book Review due</b> <i>In the Name of the Emperor</i> <i>Senso Daughters</i>
Week 11 Apr. 8	Cold War in Asia <i>Vietnam War</i>
Week 12 Apr. 15	Post-war Japan Ch. 27
Week 13 Apr. 22	Mao's China Ch. 28
Week 14 Apr. 29	Post-Mao China Ch. 29
Week 15 May 6	Asia in the Era of Global Capitalism Chs. 30-31 <i>Modern Heroes, Modern Slaves</i>
<b>Final Exam May 13 (R) 7:15-9:15pm</b>	

#### Recommended Readings

Ballhatchett, K. Race, Sex, and Class Under the Raj.  
 Bearce, G. D. British Attitudes Toward India, 1784-1858.  
 Beeching, Jack. The Chinese Opium Wars.  
 Benton, Gregor. China's Urban Revolutionaries.  
 Bernstein, Gail Lee. Japanese Marxist: A Portrait of Kawakami Hajime, 1879-1946.  
 Borg, Dorothy and Okamoto, Shumpei, eds. Pearl Harbor as History.  
 Brown, J. Brown, J. Gandhi: Prisoner of Hope.  
 Butow, Robert. Tojo and the Coming of the War.  
 Chan, Anita. Children of Mao.  
 Chesneaux, Jean. The Chinese Labor Movement.  
 Cohen, Paul. China and Christianity: The Missionary Movement and the Growth of Chinese Antiforeignism, 1860-1870.  
 Cole, Robert E. Japanese Blue Collar: Changing Traditions.  
 Craig, Albert M. Choshu in the Meiji Restoration.  
 Cumings, Bruce. The Origins of the Korean War.  
 Dirlik, Arif. Origins of Chinese Communism.  
 Dore, Ronald. City Life in Japan.  
 Dower, John. War Without Mercy.  
 Dull, Paul S. A Battle History of the Japanese Navy.  
 Eastman, Lloyd E. The Abortive Revolution: China under Nationalist Rule, 1927-1937.  
 Fairbank, John. China Perceived: Images and Policies in Chinese-American Relations.  
 Fay, Peter Ward. The Opium War, 1840-1842.  
 Foster, W. England's Quest for Eastern Trade.  
 Galeson, Walter. Economic Growth and Structural Change in Taiwan--The Postwar Experience of the Republic of China.  
 Havens, Thomas R. H. The Japanese People and World War Two.  
 Hersey, John. Hiroshima.  
 Huber, Thomas. Revolutionary Origins of Modern Japan.

Hyatt, Jr., Irwin T. *Our Ordered Lives Confess--Three Nineteenth Century Missionaries in Shantung.*

Hsu, Immanuel. *China's Entrance into the Family of Nations: The Diplomatic Phase, 1858-1880.*

Iriye, Akira. *After Imperialism: The Search for a New Order in East Asia.*

Iyer, R. *The Moral and Political Thought of Mahatma Gandhi.*

Jansen, Maurius. *The Japanese and Sun Yat-sen.*

Jen, Yu-wen. *The Taiping Rebellion.*

Joshi, R. and Rindle, J. *Daughters of Independence: Gender, Caste, and Class in India.*

Kazuko Ono. *Chinese Women in a Century of Revolution.*

Kuhn, Philip. *Rebellions and Its Enemies in Late Imperial China.*

Laird, M. A. *Missionaries and Education in Bengal, 1793-1837.*

Latourette, Kenneth Scott. *A History of Christian Missions in China.*

Lee., Leo Ou-fan. *The Romantic Generation of Modern Chinese Writers.*

Lifton, Robert Jay. *Death in Life: Survivors of Hiroshima.*

McCoy, A. *Southeast Asia Under Japanese Occupation.*

McLane, J. R. *Indian Nationalism and the Early Congress.*

Meisner, Maurice. *Deng Xiaoping.*

Moon, P. *The British Conquest and Domination of India.*

Morley, James W. *The Japanese Thrust into Siberia, 1918.*

Murphey, R. *The Outsiders: The Western Experience in India and China.*

Norman, E. H. *Japan's Emergence as a Modern State.*

Pa Chin, Family

Patti, A. L. *Why Vietnam?*

Pearson, M. N. *The Portuguese in India.*

Pepper, Suzanne. *Civil War in China, 1945-1849.*

Purcell, Victor. *The Boxer Uprising: A Background Study.*

Rotter, A. J. *The Path to Vietnam: Origins of the American Commitment.*

Schram, Stuart R. *Continuing Revolution.*

Schurz, W. L. *The Manila Galleon.*

Schwartz Benjamin. *In Search of Wealth and Power: Yen Fu and the West.*

Sheridan, James. *Chinese Warlord: The Career of Feng Yu-hsiang.*

Shiva, Vandana. *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology, and Survival in India.*

Snow, Edgar. *Red Star Over China.*

Song, B. N. *The Rise of the Korean Economy.*

Stanley, P. W. *Reappraising an Empire: The American Impact on the Philippines.*

Subrmanyam, S. *The Portuguese Empire in Asia, 1500-1770.*

Sullivan, Michael. *Chinese Art in the Twentieth Century.*

Sutter, Robert G. *China-Watch: Sino-American Reconciliation.*

Tsurumi., E. Patrica. *Factory Girls.*

Tuchman, Barbara W. *Stilwell and the American Experience in China, 1911-1945.*

Varshney, A. *Democracy, Development, and the Countryside.*

Vlastos, S. *Peasant Protests and Uprisings in Tokugawa Japan.*

Waley, Arthur. *The Opium War Through Chinese Eyes.*

Williams, P., and Wallace, D. *Unit 731: Japan's Secret Biological Warfare in World War II.*

Wilson, Dick. *Mao Tse-tung in the Scales of History.*

Yoshino, M. Y. *Japan's Multinational Enterprises.*