Continuity and change in selected nation/state (History of modern China)
HIST 7720—Fall 2011

Instructor: Dr. Jiayan Zhang
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T 6: 30pm-7: 45pm, SO #3032
Office hours: T 4: 30pm-6: 30pm or by appointment
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Please read carefully and KEEP a copy, you are responsible for the contents.

Contact policy

Please do not leave message to my office phone, contact the Department of History and Philosophy (770-423-6294) for emergency.

Course prerequisites

Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study in education.

Catalog course description

An examination of the development of a particular nation/state including its relative place in the world. Themes will include economic and political systems, social structures, belief systems, population and migration, and environmental and geographic influences. Candidates will read selected works and consider teaching applications for engaging adolescents and young adults in responding to and interpreting a variety of sources.

Course description

This course will focus on the examination of the history of China and Chinese civilization, and seminar participants will study the changes and continuity of China in the past few centuries. The basic reading materials will be translations of original Chinese works, supplementary with western interpretations, seminar participants are encouraged to understand China from Chinese point of view first and then to form their own interpretations. Seminar participants will consider teaching applications for engaging adolescents and young adults.

Required reading materials

4. Reader (will be posted on course GeorgiaView-Vista)
Classroom policies

1. Behavior properly; in an attempt to create an efficient learning environment, disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated. Some examples of disruptive behaviors include arriving late and/or leaving early, moving around and/or leaving the classroom, talking to your neighbor, reading newspapers, playing computer games, and texting during lecture, etc. Failure to comply with these requests will not only result in a penalty towards your attendance (e.g. two tardiness [15 minutes late]/leaving early etc. may count as one absence), but may also result in your dismissal from the classroom.

2. An atmosphere of mutual trust is essential to the success of this course. Lively debates are strongly encouraged. Students are required to respect each other’s opinions. Expressions of intolerance are discouraged. Those who interfere with the opportunity of other students to learn will be asked to leave, and this will affect their course grade negatively.

3. PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELLPHONE.

Attendance policies

1. This is a hybrid course, full attendance and active participation are required. Students will be graded on the quality of their comments as well as quantity. You are expected to read your assignment prior to class time and to engage in a factual and analytical discussion over the material. Students are required to arrive punctually for class meetings and remain in the classroom until the class is dismissed; students are responsible for any changes in schedules announced in class even if they did not attend when the announcement was made.

2. It is rude to wander in and out of class; the instructor reserves the right to lower any student’s participation grade due to tardiness. Students engaged in inappropriate behavior (see classroom policies) may be counted absent, as well any student who leaves before class is dismissed. If you have to leave class early, inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

3. In case of family emergencies, illness, or university mission (that is reported on or before the day of absence), students may miss ONE class meeting without penalty; two and three absences will result in an attendance grade of 20 and 0 points respectively. Four absences will automatically result in a final grade of F for the course.

4. Students who cannot commit to regular class attendance should immediately drop this class and enroll in another.

In the case of borderline grades, the instructor reserves the right to adjust grades upward for good class behavior or downward for frequent violation of class policies and repeated absences.

Class discussion

This is a graduate course and it is NOT a lecture course. It will be a discussion-driven, student-focused class. The quality of the course will largely depend on your dedication and participation.
In the first half of the course, we will focus on Chinese history from the Late Ming to the present; in the second half we will focus on the changes and continuities of selected thematic topics. Each week there will be some common readings, and each class one student will be assigned as discussion leader. Each student must serve in this capacity for at least two class meetings during the semester.

**Online participation**

This is a hybrid course which includes both an online and in-class component. Class will meet on Tuesdays, the remainder of the class is online. Students are required to read all reading assignments before next face-to-face class meeting, to read all online notes on weekly base, and to finish all writing assignments on time through the semester.

**Reading reports/essay reports**

There will be five essay reports and six reading reports through the semester. Each report must be 500-800 words (typed, double-spaced) in length (ten points for each, a hard copy to me, an e-copy to www.turnitin.com, no late report, the lowest two [one essay report, one reading report] will be dropped). Any short report will be docked ONE point for each 50 words that is less than 500 words.

Try to follow this outline to write your reading report: a one paragraph statement in your own words of the theme of the assigned reading materials, then several paragraphs summarizing the main supporting arguments and evidence, then your own observations and criticisms.

**Book review**

There will be one book review, you must read the assigned book carefully and write a critical review of it. The purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to read beyond the text to expand your knowledge and to critique the work of historians on Chinese history. Your review must be at least 2,000 words in length (typed, double-spaced) and submitted in two forms: a hard copy to me and an e-copy to www.turnitin.com, any short review will be docked ONE point for each 50 words that is less than 2,000 words.

Your book review should include, but not limited to, the thesis of the book, how does the author develop his arguments, what are the work’s major strengths and weaknesses, what is the motivation for the author to write that book, and your general comments.

**Teaching module**

Each student is responsible to develop a teaching module that should be useful in his/her classroom. Post the power point presentation online.

**Peer review**
Each of you will be responsible for carefully reading, and considerately correcting and critiquing, one of your classmates’ teaching module. It is expected that you will mark errors that you find, indicate weak sections of text or flaws in argumentation, and generally make suggestions for improvement.

**Take home final**

The final is due on Tuesday, December 6, 6:30pm-8:30pm, and must be submitted in two forms (word file): electronically to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) and a hard copy to me. There will be no class that day, but you must deliver the take-home final (hard copy) in person to my office. If you failed to submit an electronic copy at the same time, your final will be a ZERO.

No late final will be accepted, unless you have very strong reason (with documented emergency or illness), in that case, final turned in any time after 6:30pm, Dec. 6, (up to Dec. 12) will be docked 10 points for each day that it is late.

**Incomplete Grade**

Incompletes will only be given in cases of dire personal and family emergencies. In all cases, the student must have satisfactorily (C average or higher) completed the course up to the last two weeks of the semester.

**NO EXTRA CREDITS.**

Please keep your returned reading reports and writing assignments through the semester.

**Points and Grade distribution**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Attendance and participation</th>
<th>40 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading reports</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Essay reports</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Book review</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teaching module</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<td>Final</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In total</td>
<td>400 points</td>
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Grade distribution

- A = 400-360 points
- B = 359-320 points
- C = 319-280 points
- D = 279-240 points
- F = 239-0 points

Grades represent what students get on assignments and attendance, and cannot be negotiated because of special circumstances. After the final exam and course grade has been given, no extra work or retakes will be allowed.
Privacy and special considerations

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects confidentiality of educational records. Grades will not be given over the phone, through a fellow student, or by e-mail in this course.

Any student who is entitled to special assistance because of a disability must present the appropriate form to the instructor. This should be done at the beginning of the term in order that arrangements can be made in a timely manner to furnish the needed assistance.

Academic Integrity

“Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.” (KSU Faculty Handbook 3.18)

Plagiarism and Cheating

NO student shall receive, attempt to receive knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated; when the languages, ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged.

NO student shall take or attempt to take, steal, or in an unauthorized manner otherwise procure, gain access to, alter or destroy any material pertaining to the conduct of a class. For further information on Academic Honesty, see the Student Code of Conduct, Section II in the current KSU Undergraduate catalog.

Cheating and plagiarism will result in an automatic failing class grade.

Interpretation of and changes to this syllabus

The instructor reserves the absolute right to make pedagogically appropriate adjustments to this syllabus. All questions on this syllabus shall be resolved by consulting the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to change the Course Calendar, the dates of exams and tests, the due
dates of written assignments, the instructor’s office hours, and other components of this syllabus, as appropriate. Announcements of such changes and/or amendments will be given in advance.

Course schedule (subject to change)

Week 1
Introduction to the course (see syllabus)

Week 2
Aug.23 Periodization and traditional Chinese ideologies

Week 3
Aug.30 Dynastic cycle in Chinese history

Week 4
Sep.6 Invasion and rebellion

Week 5
Sept. 13 Reform and revolution

Week 6
Sep.20 The battle for China

Week 7
Sep.27 The building of a socialist country

Week 8
Oct. 4 The reforming age

Week 9
Oct.11 midterm (in class)
Oct.12 Last day to withdraw without academic penalty.

Week 10
Oct.18 Women and family
Week 11
Oct. 25 Population and migration

Week 12
Nov. 1 Religions and faiths

Week 13
Nov. 8 Nation and nationality

Week 14
Nov. 15 China in western imagination

Week 15
Nov. 22 Economic achievements and social-cum-environmental cost

Week 16
Nov. 29 Reflection and review

Week 17
Final: Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:30pm-8:30pm.