



**HTST 209**  
**The History of China**  
**MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm**  
**ENE 243**  
**Winter Semester 2020**  
**University of Calgary**

Instructor: Prof. David Curtis Wright

Office: SS 616

Office hours: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. MWF; other hours *on MWF only* by appointment.

*Please respect these office hours.*

Course description

This course covers some major intellectual currents in Chinese history from ancient times until a few years ago. It is not a comprehensive treatment of Chinese intellectual history, much less a full survey of Chinese history. A textbook and three short works on Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism will cover varieties of Chinese thought that have influenced Chinese history.

Learning goals

By the end of this course, students will have gained a cursory appreciation of the richness and complexity of China's intellectual history, from ancient times through to the late twentieth century.

By the end of the course, students will be expected to:

- Have a basic grasp of Shang religious beliefs
- Have a basic grasp of Confucianism
- Have a basic grasp of Taoism
- Have a basic grasp of Legalism
- Have a basic grasp of Buddhism
- Be able to discuss the broad course of Chinese philosophical and religious thought as a syncretic blend of these five intellectual and religious traditions
- Identify and discuss Confucian criticisms of Buddhism
- Discuss the intellectual impact of Christianity from the seventeenth century through to the present
- Trace the development of Confucian thought from its ancient origins through the Qing dynasty (1644-1912)

- Describe the rebellion against Confucian thought
- Assess the impact and influence of Marxism in China in the twentieth century
- Discuss recent and present intellectual trends in China: What
- Wrestle with the question of how much is new about China since the 1949 revolution and how much is continuing tradition

### Marking

Marks are assigned according to performance on the midterm, final, and term essay.

Midterm examination	45
Term essay	35
Final examination	20
	100

Final marks are assigned according to the following scale:

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

The examinations will assess your knowledge of the material covered in class lectures and in assigned readings. Examination review sheets will be distributed about one week prior to each examination. Before each examination you should review your lecture notes *and* the assigned readings. Not everything in the examinations will come from the lectures; a good portion of the examination will be drawn directly from assigned readings.

The term essay is to be six to eight pages in length (double spaced, twelve-point print, around 1500 to 2000 words) and should be written with an introduction (including an obvious thesis statement), a body, and a conclusion. You should use at least *three* sources in your essay, and your essay should have a bibliography of these sources at the end. Any of the three required readings may be used as sources in your term essay, but *please note that all encyclopaedia articles and textbooks, including the one for this course, are unacceptable*. For students wishing to know their mark on the term paper before the course drop deadline, the due date is 30 March 2012. For everyone else it is due on **3 April 2020**. Graded papers will be returned on the last day of class for those who inform the instructor that they wish to know their grade by then. For everyone else, the graded term papers will be returned at the final examination.

***N.B.: Plagiarism on term papers and cheating on tests are serious academic offences. Just don't do it!***

#### Textbook

David Curtis Wright, *The History of China*, Second Edition (main textbook)

#### Required reading

Confucius, *The Analects*

Laozi (Lao-tzu), *Tao Te Ching (Daode Jing)*

*The Essential Lotus: Selections from the Lotus Sutra*

Lecture topics and assigned readings

**N.B.** These assigned topics, readings, and dates are *tentative* and subject to change as class needs and requirements dictate. Outlines for the lectures will be available at Bound and Copied; please bring them to class.

**January**

- 13 Course introduction
- 15 Xia and Shang dynasties; Wright 1-15
- 17 Zhou dynasty; Wright 17-43
- 20 Confucianism; Confucius (complete)
- 22 Confucianism (cont'd.)
- 24 Taoism; Laozi (complete)
- 27 Taoism, religious and popular
- 29 Legalism, Mohism
- 31 Minor schools of thought

**February**

- 3 Pre-imperial medical thought
- 5 Qin and Han dynasties; Wright 45-66
- 7 Han medical thought
- 10 Period of Division; Wright 60-66
- 12 Buddhism
- 14 Buddhism in China; Lotus Sutra (complete)
- 17 *Winter break; no class meeting*
- 19 *Winter break; no class meeting*
- 21 *Winter break; no class meeting*
- 24 Tang dynasty

- 26 Song dynasty
- 28 The Tang-Song transition; Wright 73-87

### March

#### 2 **Midterm examination**

- 4 How to write a term paper
- 6 The Mongol world empire
- 9 The Yuan dynasty
- 11 Neo-Confucianism
- 13 Ming dynasty; Wright 87-91
- 16 Qing dynasty; Wright, 91-98
- 18 Qing evidential scholarship
- 20 China's encounter with Christianity: The Jesuits
- 23 China's encounter with Christianity (doctrinal)
- 25 The "Century of Humiliation," 1839-1949; Wright, 99-128
- 27 The May Fourth era and China's encounter with Marxism; Wright, 129-144
- 30 The May Fourth Era (cont'd.)

### April

- 1 The first decade of the People's Republic of China; Wright, 145-162
- 3 *Term essay due*  
The Cultural Revolution; Wright 162-179
- 6 Post-Mao China and Deng's reforms; Wright 181-279
- 8 The Tiananmen Square Massacre
- 10 *Good Friday; no class meeting*

13 **Easter Monday; no class meeting**

*Term essay handed back*

15 Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao

*Final examination time and place to be announced.*

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#### **Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca), or book an appointment with an ASC advisor at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>.
- For further information on academic advising and degree planning for arts students, see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees, and assistance with MyUofC, contact Enrolment Services in MacKimmie Tower Room 116, call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- **Attention history majors:** History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.
- Registration Changes and Exemption Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>

#### **Writing:**

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in the History Student's Handbook.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

#### **Red Box Policy:**

If your instructor requires paper copies of an essay and/or assignment, and the essay/assignment can be handed in outside of class, you can drop them in the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name**, and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. are date stamped the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

#### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#).

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- Submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, [Section K](#).

### **Academic Accommodations:**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](https://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. No copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Other Useful Information:**

- Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk