

HTST 317
Modern East Asia
Fall 2021

Instructor: David Curtis Wright

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Course delivery: Entirely synchronous and online, on Zoom

Synchronous class time: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Office hours on Zoom: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Description

This course is a survey of modern East Asian history from 1800 to the beginning of the Cold War. “East Asia” means China, Japan, and Korea. Lectures for the course will cover China and Japan, but students will be assigned textbook readings on Korea and will be accountable for them on the midterm and final examinations.

Learning outcomes

At the successful completion of this course, students will be able to point to key developments and events that have made East Asia what it is today. They will have basic understanding of what China and Japan were like prior to the arrival of Western imperialism in the mid nineteenth century and what the destinies of these countries were as a result of it. They will also understand internal trends and developments in these countries that existed both before and after imperialism and how internal and external factors in them interacted, synergistically and otherwise. They will have a basic grasp of the fundamentals of modernization efforts in the two countries and be able to discuss how and why China and Japan have turned out to be such different countries today.

Reading material (all are required)

Please note that the instructor requires that these books be *read*, and not necessarily that they be *purchased*. Students may of course endeavour to secure access to these books through all lawful means.

Textbook:

Charles HOLCOMBE, *A History of East Asia*, Second Edition (ISBN 978-1-107-54489-5.

Students are to use only the second edition. This is the main textbook for the course. The instructor likes it and recommended it for publication to the University of Cambridge Press. This book has been ordered at the university bookstore, and more are in shipment.

Supplemental readings (required):

In the final examination there will be 10 multiple-choice questions for each of the following three books, for a total of 30 questions. Students who read these books will likely do well; those who don't will likely do poorly.

Hyeonseo LEE, *The Girl with Seven Names: Escape from North Korea*. (ISBN 978-0-00-755485-0. Available for purchase at the university bookstore; more copies in transit (as of 30 August 2021).

KANEKO Fumiko, *The Prison Memoirs of A Japanese Woman* (ISBN-10: 0873328027; ISBN-13: 978-0873328029 Available for purchase at the university bookstore; more copies in transit (as of 30 August 2021). Digital version also available through VitalSource <https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/products/the-prison-memoirs-of-a-japanese-woman-kaneko-fumiko-v9781134901838>

YANG Jisheng, *Tombstone: The Great Chinese Famine, 1958-1962* (ISBN-10: 9780374533991; ISBN-13: 978-0374533991). Available for purchase at the university bookstore; copies in transit as of 30 August 2021.

Assessment

Students will write midterm and final examinations and submit a written essay. The midterm and final are take-home exams; you will have 24 hours to complete them from the time they are placed on D2L. (They will also be emailed to you.) Students will submit them to the D2L drop box.

Students should regularly check both the course's home page and their email accounts. The instructor will periodically put updates, news items, and other information there. (If students are not accustomed to using email, they need to become so; they're in college now.) The instructor will not be communicating with students via SMS, Facebook Messenger, text message, Twitter, or any other non-email or non-D2L, non-Zoom means.

Examinations

The midterm and final examinations will consist of short ID and essay questions and will draw on material covered in lecture notes *and* in assigned readings. Both the midterm and the final are take-home and due at the very end of the day they are issued. *Students should not assume that lectures will cover all aspects of the assigned readings or vice versa.* The final examination will be comprehensive but will concentrate more heavily on the material covered since the midterm. Review sheets will be distributed approximately one week prior to the midterm and final examinations.

Term essay

Each student will write a term essay in formal academic style with footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical references. The instructor (and not the TA) will mark them according to the quality of focus, analysis, structure, use of sources, and correctness of grammar and language usage. The term essay should be between 2500 and 3000 words in length and in the style specified in the

Department of History's very useful and informative PDF [The History Student's Handbook](#). *If you are not a native Anglophone, please have one review and correct your essay before you submit it.*

Please take note of the following list of *the instructor's pet peeves*:

1. **The distinction between *its* and *it's*:** *Its* is the possessive form of *it*, while *it's* is a contraction of *it is*. The failure to observe the distinction between *its* and *it's* is one of the major contributing factors to the continuing decline of Western civilisation.
2. **Contractions:** Avoid them.
3. **The apostrophe:** Do *not* use the apostrophe to indicate plurality: the plural of *apple* is *apples*, not *apple's*.
4. **Commas and periods:** They come *before* quotation marks, *not* after them. (British Anglophones take note.) Footnotes or endnotes come *after* the period or comma, not before them.
5. **Quotations over four lines in length:** Indent these, single space them, and do not include quotation marks; the indentation itself is indication that the material is quoted.
6. **Page numbers:** Include them. Cherish them. Do not forget them.

The essay is to be double spaced and *must include page numbers*. It will make use of at least **three** sources, *none of which may be from any textbook, encyclopaedia, or lectures presented in class*. The essay must have these sources listed in a bibliography at the back of the paper. There should be a cover sheet with the title of the paper and also the student's name. **The term essay is due 30 November 2021.** Late essays will be docked by 10% for each week or portion thereof they are late. *The instructor will not accept any late essay after the final examination.*

The term essay is to be just that: an *essay*. That is, it is to have an introduction, substantiation, and a conclusion. In your term essay you are out to prove or argue a point, and not simply to describe a topic. Find information or perspectives that substantiate your point, but also address and evaluate the opposite point(s) of view. *Students aspiring to high marks on the term essay will structure it as such and will not write mere descriptions.*

Submit term papers to the instructor via email or from the course homepage.

Marking

Students who attend lectures regularly and read the assigned material carefully stand a good chance of doing well in this course. Those who attend lectures sporadically and do only piecemeal reading will likely earn the fair to poor marks they deserve. Point allotments for the final course mark are as follows:

| | |
|------------|----------------------------------------|
| Midterm | 25 |
| Term essay | 35 |
| Final | 40 (registrar-scheduled and take-home) |
| Total | <hr/> 100 |

Course grades are assigned according to the Department of History's grading scale below. There is no limited supply of any grade. (In other words, the instructor does not grade on the curve.)

| Percentage | Letter Grade | Grade Point Value | Description |
|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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. |

N.B.: Students are expected to reach the grade range to receive that letter grade (i.e., to receive an A- a student will have earned an 80 or 3.7 in the course). There is no rounding up for grades. The line must be drawn somewhere.

Grading policies

If students feel that a mark they have received is unfair or inaccurate, they may speak with the TA or instructor. Term paper and examination extensions may be granted on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the instructor.

Learning technologies requirements

As a course delivered entirely online and entirely synchronously via Zoom, there are of course some basic technological requirements for the successful completion of it. Email access and use is required, as is basic familiarity with Zoom. As well, there is a D2L site for this course that contains relevant class resources and materials. In order to successfully engage in learning experiences in this class, students will need reliable internet access and a computer, tablet, or other such device to access live lectures. Since office hours are conducted entirely online, students will need to have access to a microphone.

Schedule

For each lecture there is a written outline. Please access these from the course homepage.

September

CHINA

- 7, 9 Introduction to class; the Canton system; Holcombe 217-20
 The Opium War; Holcombe 220-25
- 14, 16 The Second and Third Opium Wars
 The Taiping Rebellion; Holcombe 225-27
- 21, 23 The Taiping Rebellion (cont'd.)
 The Tongzhi Restoration and Self-strengthening movement; Holcombe 227-30

JAPAN

- 28 Late Tokugawa Japan; 324-332; Holcombe 190-97

30 *National Truth and Reconciliation Day; no class meeting*

October

- 5, 7 The Meiji Restoration (I); Holcombe 240-55
 The Meiji Restoration (II)
 The Meiji Restoration (III)

CHINA

- 12, 14 Foreign aggression in Taiwan, Xinjiang, and Vietnam
 The First Sino-Japanese War and Its aftermaths; Holcombe 235-40
 The Hundred Days Reform
- 19, 21 The Boxer Rebellion; Holcombe 232-35
 Sun Yat-sen and the Revolution of 1911; Holcombe 259-64
 The Warlord period; Holcombe 270-73
- 26, 28 The May Fourth Movement; Holcombe 264-70
 The May Fourth Movement (cont'd.)
 How to write a term paper (TA presentation, Thursday 18 October 2018)

November

- 2, 4 The Northern Expedition
 Nationalist rule, 1928-1937; Holcombe 295-97
 The Chinese communists
- 9, 11** *Term break; no classes*

16 Midterm examination (take-home; due at end of the day in D2L Dropbox) ***There will be no class meeting on this day.***

JAPAN

18 Late Meiji expansionism
The rise of Japanese militarism; Holcombe 288-95

23, 25 The Second Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945; Holcombe 299-304
The Pacific War; Holcombe 304-09
Truman and the decision to drop The Bombs

30, 2 **November 30: Term essay due in D2L Dropbox by the end of the day**
The American occupation of Japan
“Reinventing Japan” (film); Holcombe 311-17

December

CHINA

7, 9 The Korean War and modern Korea; Holcombe 330-49
The First decade of the People’s Republic; Holcombe 359-69
Cultural Revolution, 1966-1969

Final exam time to be announced. It will be registrar-scheduled and take-home.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

| Percentage | Letter Grade | Grade Point Value | Description |
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| 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. |

Please Note: Students are expected to reach the grade range to receive that letter grade (ie. to receive an A- a student will have earned an 80 or 3.7 in the course). Assume that there will be no rounding up unless a faculty member announces otherwise.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the [Arts Students Centre](#) (ASC).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact [Enrolment Services](#)
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see the [Registration Changes and Exemption Requests](#) page.

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take this course in your second year.

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](#).

Academic Misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information, please see the U of C Student Academic Misconduct [Policy](#) and [Procedure](#) documents, and visit the [Academic Integrity Website](#).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#) for more details, but to summarize, 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 calendar](#).

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to [the Student Accommodations policy](#). Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the [Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [Student Accessibility Services](#).

Research Ethics

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the [CFREB Ethics](#) website before beginning the assignment.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on [Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright](#) and requirements of [the Copyright Act](#) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under [the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

Copyright of Educational Materials

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. Please see the [University of Calgary copyright page](#).

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard.

Media Recording

The instructor may use media recordings to record the delivery of a lecture for various reasons, including lecture capture and self-assessment. Students will be informed of media recordings in advance and the recording device will be fixed on the instructor. In the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent from identifiable students, before making a recording available to the class.

Media Recording for the Assessment of Student Learning

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students, by prior arrangement. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the [sexual violence policy](#).

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page 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

Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Fall 2021 (in-person)

