



**HTST 317**  
**Modern East Asia**  
**MWF 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.**  
**ST 139**  
**University of Calgary**  
**Winter Semester 2020**

Instructor: David C. Wright

Office: 616 SS

Phone: 220-6408

Office hours: MWF 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.; other hours by appointment. *Please respect these office hours.*

Course description

This course is a survey of East Asian history from 1800 to the 1990s. “East Asia” means essentially 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 goals

By the end of this course, students will have gained an appreciation and working knowledge of the modern history of East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea) from 1800 through the end of the twentieth century.

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

- Understand and discuss the impact of Western (and later Japanese) imperialism on East Asian countries
- Describe the differing responses of China and Japan to Western imperialism
- Assess the end of China’s Qing dynasty in February 1912 as the end of two thousand years of imperial history in China, and not just as one more dynastic transition
- Give a brief account of the disintegration of China into rival warlord spheres of power after 1912
- Discuss the rise of the two Chinese republics in the twentieth century (the Republic of China in 1912 and the People’s Republic of China in 1949)
- Describe the rise of Nationalist and Communist ideologies in early twentieth-century Chinese history
- Give some possible reasons for the victory of the Chinese Communists against the Chinese Nationalists in 1949

- Understand the historical background and reasons for the issue of Taiwan today
- Understand the historical background and reasons for the division of the Korean Peninsula
- Understand the reason for the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950
- Discuss the Cultural Revolution in China and understand why it is now thoroughly repudiated in China
- Discuss the outbreak of the Pacific War between Japan and the U.S. from 1941-1945
- Discuss Japan's transition to full democracy under American occupation
- Understand the reasons for continuing animosity between Japan and China

### Course requirements

Students will write midterm and final examinations and submit a written essay.

You should regularly check both the course's home page and your email account. I will periodically put updates, news items, and other information there. (If you're not accustomed to using email, become so; you're in college now.) I won't be communicating with you via SMS, Facebook Messenger, text message, Twitter, or any other way.

### 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. *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 handed out approximately one week prior to the midterm and final examinations.

### TERM ESSAY

Write your term essay in formal academic style with footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical references. I will mark it according to the quality of its focus, analysis, structure, use of sources, and correctness of grammar and language usage. The term essay should be between 3000 and 3500 words in length and in the style specified in the Department of History's "Essay Guide" at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/>. Submit your term papers *on paper* and not electronically; I dislike clicking on email attachments and do not want to read on computer screens any longer than I have to. ***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*.
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:** In North America these come *before* quotation marks, *not* after them. 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.
7. **Essay covers, ring binders, duo-tangs, etc. etc.:** Shun these. Eschew them. Abominate them. Save your money. Simply staple your typed sheets in the upper left corner. Oh, and don't even *think* of using “monster staples,” or staples meant to attach 30 or more sheets together.

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, to be stapled to the back of the paper. Please do not waste your money on expensive bond paper. There should be a cover sheet with the title of your paper and also your name, but do *not* include your student number on the cover sheet. If you want to know your mark on the term paper before the deadline to drop the course, the essay is due **30 March 2020**. For everyone else it is **due April 8, 2020**. Late essays will be docked by 10% for each week or portion thereof they are late. *I 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.*

### 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
Total	<u>100</u>

### Lecture outlines

For each lecture there is a written outline. A packet of them is available for purchase at *Bound and Copied* on the University of Calgary campus, near the university bookstore. Please bring these outlines to lectures.

### Textbook

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

Additional required reading

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

Yang Jisheng, *Tombstone: The Great Chinese Famine, 1958-1962*

Fumiko Kaneko, *Prison Memoirs of a Japanese Woman*.

Hyeonseo Lee, *The Girl With Seven Names: Escape From North Korea*

--

**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
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

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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.

### 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](http://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](http://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

Lecture topics and reading assignments

**N.B.:** These topics, dates, and reading assignments are *tentative* and approximate. They are subject to change as class needs dictate.

**January**

**CHINA**

- 13 Introduction to class; the Canton system; Holcombe 217-20
- 15 The Opium War; Holcombe 220-25
- 17 The Second and Third Opium Wars
- 20 The Taiping Rebellion; Holcombe 225-27
- 22 The Taiping Rebellion (cont'd.)

- 24 The Tongzhi Restoration and the Self-strengthening movement; Holcombe 227-30

### JAPAN

- 27 Late Tokugawa Japan; 324-332; Holcombe 190-97  
 29 The Meiji Restoration (I); Holcombe 240-55  
 31 The Meiji Restoration (II)

### February

- 3 The Meiji Restoration (III)

### CHINA

- 5 Foreign aggression in Taiwan, Xinjiang, and Vietnam  
 7 The First Sino-Japanese War and its aftermaths; Holcombe 235-40  
 10 The Hundred Days Reform  
 12 The Boxer Rebellion; Holcombe 232-35  
 14 Sun Yat-sen and the Revolution of 1911; Holcombe 259-64  
 17 *Term break; no class meeting*  
 19 *Term break; no class meeting*  
 21 *Term break; no class meeting*  
 24 The Warlord period; Holcombe 270-73  
 26 The May Fourth Movement; Holcombe 264-70  
 28 **Midterm examination**

### March

- 2 The May Fourth Movement (cont'd.)26  
 4 The Northern Expedition  
 6 Nationalist rule, 1928-1937; Holcombe 295-97  
 9 The Chinese communists  
 11 Late Meiji expansionism  
 13 The rise of Japanese militarism; Holcombe 288-95  
 16 The Second Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945; Holcombe 299-304  
 18 The Second Sino-Japanese War (cont'd.); the Pacific War; Holcombe 304-09  
 20 Truman and the decision to drop The Bombs  
 23 The American occupation of Japan  
 25 "Reinventing Japan" (film); Holcombe 311-17  
 27 The Korean War and modern Korea; Holcombe 330-49  
 30 The First decade of the People's Republic; Holcombe 359-69

### April

- 1 Cultural Revolution, 1966-1969  
 3 Cultural Revolution (cont'd.); Lingering reverberations of the Cultural Revolution

- 6 Coming Alive: China from the Death of Mao to the late 1980s; Holcombe 369-73  
8 *Term essay due*; The Tiananmen Square Massacre; Holcombe 373-76  
10 *Good Friday; no class meeting*  
13 *Eastern Monday; no class meeting*  
15 The Tiananmen Massacre (continued)

**Final examination time and place TBA**