

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Fall 2011

History 508A A01 Field: Chinese History I

China in Local and Global History

Instructor: Zhongping Chen Class schedule: Friday 9:30 A. M.– 12: 20 P.M.
Office: Clearihue B-209 Office hours: Wed. 1: 00-2:30 P.M. or by appointment
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CONTENTS:

An in-depth analysis of local Chinese history and a broad examination of its relations with the world up to the mid-twentieth century. Emphasis is on local history in six regions of China and on their interactions with socioeconomic and political changes in the global arena. The local and global approaches to this course will help students reexamine historical changes and characteristics of the six regions in the following aspects: the geopolitical center in North China (around Beijing) and the “periphery” in Tibet; the maritime and “modern” culture of the Yangzi delta (around Shanghai) and Taiwan; as well as the coastal society of the Pearl River delta (around Canton) and colonial polity of Hong Kong. The course will be conducted through thematic lectures, intensive reading, interactive discussion and independent research.

TEXTBOOKS:

Eastman, Lloyd E. *Family, Field, and Ancestors: Constancy and Change in China's Social and Economic History, 1550-1949*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Chen, Zhongping. *Modern China's Network Revolution: Chambers of Commerce and Sociopolitical Change in the Early Twentieth Century*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2011.

(Except for the textbooks, all required readings for presenters are reserved at the McPherson Library or the History Department's reading room. Other readings can also be borrowed from the McPherson Library).

EVALUATION:

The final grades will be made up as follows: seminar participation and presentations, 20 %; five critiques (two pages each), 50 %; and a term paper (20 pages), 30 %.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. In addition to steady attendance at weekly seminars, each student will make presentations of at least two readings, analyzing their major arguments and raising questions for group discussions. A point-format handout (1-2 pages in length and typed double-spaced) for the presentation must be prepared for each seminar participant. During weeks 11-13, each student is also required to make an informal presentation of her or his research for the term paper.

2. Each student should submit five critiques of the two textbooks and three additional books selected from the lists of readings. Hard copies of the five critiques should be submitted to the instructor on **Sept. 30, Oct. 14 and 28, Nov. 18, and Dec. 2**, respectively (also see “schedule” below). Each of these critiques must *summarize* major arguments of one specific reading, *evaluate* its strength and weakness in documentary and theoretical analyses, and use footnotes and bibliography to cite sources for such evaluation.

3. Each student should choose a topic for his or her term paper through discussion with the instructor by **Nov. 4**, and the paper is **due on Dec. 2**. It should be of approximately 20 pages in length (double-spaced), cite at least 10 sources, and follow an academic style in footnotes and bibliography. The essay mark will be based on the originality and soundness of the arguments, the adequacy of the sources, the quality of analysis, and the correctness of writing and academic style. For the academic style of critiques and term papers, refer to:

“History Department Style Guide for the Preparation of Footnotes and Bibliographies”
(<http://web.uvic.ca/history/files/styleguide.pdf>).

All written assignments should be submitted to the instructor in hard copy. Late papers will be penalized 2 marks (2% of final grade) for each day. **Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence and carries penalties ranging from failure in an assignment to debarment from the university. Please check the University's *Policy on Plagiarism* for the definitions, procedures, and penalties for dealing with plagiarism.**

Schedule of Lecture Topics, Required Readings, and Research Workshops

Week 1 (Sept. 9) **Course Orientation**

Lecture: "Beneath the Nation-State, Beyond National History."

Week 2 (Sept. 16) **Local and Global Approaches to Chinese History**

Required Readings: G. William Skinner, "President Address: The Structure of Chinese History," *Journal of Asian Studies* 44. 2 (1985): 271-292 (online); Alvin Y. So, *Social Change and Development: Modernization, Dependency, and World-System Theories* (London, UK: Sage Publications, 1990), 169-99, 225-38 (reserved at the History Department's reading room).

-Workshop on Research Tools: Databases and Reference Books

-Sign up for presentations of required readings.

Week 3 (Sept. 23) **Rethinking Chinese History beyond the Nation-State Framework (1)**

READING: Eastman, *Family, Field, and Ancestors*, Preface-Chapters 5.

-Lecture: "From Sinology to Chinese studies in the West."

Week 4 (Sept. 30) **Rethinking Chinese History beyond the Nation-State Framework (2)**

READING: Eastman, *Family, Field, and Ancestors*, Chapter 6- "Conclusion."

-Lecture: "From traditional to modern Chinese historiography."

-Critique of Eastman's book is due on Sept. 30.

Week 5 (Oct. 7) **Rethinking Local Chinese History from a Global Perspective (1)**

READING: Chen, *Modern China's Network Revolution*, "Preface"-Chapter 3.

-Lecture: "Primary sources in Chinese history, 1368-1949."

Week 6 (Oct. 14) **Rethinking Local Chinese History from a Global Perspective (2)**

READING: Chen, *Modern China's Network Revolution*, Chapter 4- "Conclusion."

-Lecture: "Theoretical issues in Chinese history, 1368-1949."

-Critique of Chen's book is due on Oct. 14.

Week 7 (Oct. 21) **Reexamining China's Political Center and "Periphery":
North China (around Beijing) and Tibet (1)**

Reserved readings for presentations: Joseph W. Esherick, *The Origins of the Boxer Uprising* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987), 1-166; David Strand, *Rickshaw Beijing: City People and Politics in the 1920s* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989), 1-141; Tatiana Shaumian, *Tibet: The Great Game and Tsarist Russia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), 1-87; Eva K. Dargyay, *Tibetan Village Communities : Structure and Change* (Warminster, UK: Aris and Phillips, 1982), 1-48.

Other required readings: Lanxin Xiang, *The Origins of the Boxer War: A Multinational Study* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 1-180; Madeleine Yue Dong, *Republican Beijing: The City and Its Histories* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003); 1-141; Dawa Norbu, *China's Tibet Policy* (Richmond, UK: Curzon Press, 2001), 1-85; Janet Gyatso and Hanna Havnevik, *Women in Tibet: Past and Present* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2004), 1-109.

-Workshop: "How to choose a research topic."

Week 8 (Oct. 28) **Reexamining China's Political Center and "Periphery":
North China (around Beijing) and Tibet (2)**

Reserved readings for presentations: Esherick, *The Origins of the Boxer Uprising*, 167-331; Strand, *Rickshaw Beijing*, 142-293; Shaumian, *Tibet: The Great Game and Tsarist Russia*, 88-187; Dargyay, *Tibetan Village Communities*, 49-97.

Other required readings: Xiang, *The Origins of the Boxer War: A Multinational Study*, 181-357; Dong, *Republican Beijing*, 142-307; Norbu, *China's Tibet Policy*, 86-176, 263-82; Gyatso and Havnevik, *Women in Tibet*, 111-366.

-Workshop: "How to analyze historical sources."

-Critique of a selected reading for weeks 7-8 is due on Oct. 28.

Week 9 (Nov. 4) **Reexamining China's Maritime and "Modern" Culture:
The Yangzi Delta (around Shanghai) and Taiwan (1)**

Reserved readings for presentations: Philip C.C. Huang, *The Peasant Family and Rural Development in the Yangzi Delta, 1350-1988* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1990), 1-92; Bryna Goodman, *Native Place, City, and Nation: Regional Networks and Identities in*

Shanghai, 1853-1937 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995), 1-175; Shih-shan Henry Tsai, *Maritime Taiwan: Historical Encounters with the East and the West* (Armonk, N. Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2009), 1-104; Tonio Adrade, *How Taiwan Became Chinese: Dutch, Spanish, and Han Colonization in the Seventeenth Century* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010) [e-book], “Introduction”-Chapter 5.

Other required readings: Bozhong Li, *Agricultural Development in Jiangnan, 1620-1850* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1998), 1-115; Marie-Claire Bergère, *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2009), 1-176; Melissa J. Brown, *Is Taiwan Chinese? The Impact of Culture, Power, and Migration on Changing Identities* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2004), 1-133; Lai Tse-han, Ramon H. Myers, and Wei Wou, *A Tragic Beginning: The Taiwan Uprising of February 28, 1947* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1991), 1-98.

-Workshop: “How to write a term paper.”

-Choose topics for term papers

-Sign up for presentations on research for term papers.

Week 10 (Nov. 11) **Reading Break**

Week 11 (Nov. 18) **Reexamining China's Maritime and “Modern” Culture:**

The Yangzi Delta (around Shanghai) and Taiwan (2)

Reserved readings for presentations: Huang, *The Peasant Family and Rural Development in the Yangzi Delta, 1350-1988*, 93-161, 305-34; Goodman, *Native Place, City, and Nation*, 176-314; Tsai, *Maritime Taiwan*, 105-206; Adrade, *How Taiwan Became Chinese*, [e-book] Chapters 6-11.

Other required readings: Li, *Agricultural Development in Jiangnan, 1620-1850*, 116-80; Bergère, *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity*, 177-364; Brown, *Is Taiwan Chinese?* 134-250; Lai, Myers, and Wei, *A Tragic Beginning*, 99-205.

-Presentations of individual research for term papers

-Critique of a selected reading for weeks 9-11 is due on Nov. 18.

Week 12 (Nov. 25) **Reexamining Coastal Society and Colonial Polity in Modern China:**

The Pearl River Delta (around Canton) and Hong Kong (1)

Reserved readings for presentations: Paul A. Van Dyke, *The Canton Trade: Life and Enterprise on the China Coast, 1700-1845* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2005), 1-93; Madeline Yuan-yin Hsu, *Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home: Transnationalism and Migration between the United States and South China, 1882-1943* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2000), 1-89; Jung-fang Tsai, *Hong Kong in Chinese History: Community and Social Unrest in the British Colony, 1842-1913* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1993), 1-181; John M. Carroll, *Edge of Empires: Chinese Elites and British Colonials in Hong Kong* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005), 1-107.

Other required readings: Steven B. Miles, *The Sea of Learning: Mobility and Identity in Nineteenth-Century Guangzhou* (Cambridge, MA: the Harvard University Asia Center, 2006), 1-163; Janice E. Stockard, *Daughters of the Canton Delta: Marriage Patterns and Economic Strategies in South China, 1860-1930* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1989), 1-89; Chan Lau Kit-ching, *China, Britain and Hong Kong, 1895-1945* (Hong Kong : Chinese University Press, 1990), 1-167; Stephanie Po-yin Chung, *Chinese Business Groups in Hong Kong and Political Change in South China, 1900-25* (Houndmills, UK: Macmillan, 1998), [e-book] "Introduction" –Chapter 3.

-Presentations of individual research for term papers

Week 13 (Dec. 2) **Reexamining Coastal Society and Colonial Polity in Modern China:
The Pearl River Delta (around Canton) and Hong Kong (2)**

Reserved readings for presentations: Dyke, *The Canton Trade*, 95-181; Hsu, *Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home*, 90-186; Tsai, *Hong Kong in Chinese History*, 182-296; Carroll, *Edge of Empires*, 108-94.

Other required readings: Miles, *The Sea of Learning: Mobility and Identity in Nineteenth-Century Guangzhou*, 164-297; Stockard, *Daughters of the Canton Delta*, 90-183; Chan, *China, Britain and Hong Kong, 1895-1945*, 169-329; Chung, *Chinese Business Groups in Hong Kong and Political Change in South China, 1900-25* [e-book], Chapters 4-7.

-Presentations of individual research for term papers

-Critique of a selected reading for weeks 12-13 is due on Dec. 2.

-Term paper is due on Dec. 2