

Hist. 670-401  
Fall 2009  
Thurs., 1:30-4:30  
E. Asia Reading Room, Van Pelt

Prof. F. Dickinson  
Office: 317C College Hall  
Office hrs: Mon., 1-2, Wed., 10-11 & apptmnt  
e-mail: frdickin@sas.upenn.edu

### History and Historiography in Transnational Asia

This seminar aims to reconceptualize conventional notions of East Asia and restore the region to a central place in the history of the early modern and modern worlds. It will do so, first, by introducing a handful of recent scholarly works on East Asia that attempt to rethink orthodox themes of historical inquiry, such as geography, nation, industrialization, women, trade, empire, etc. Second, it will look at how East Asianists have, over the last decade, contributed to one of the most exciting new scholarly trends, transnational history--the study of political, economic, social and cultural developments across national boundaries. We will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of this trend and attempt to determine what, in fact, constitutes a "transnational" perspective.

#### Readings

All of our readings will either be distributed in class or available on our course website.

#### Requirements

There are three components of your grade, which break down as follows.

	<u>Points</u>	<u>% grade</u>
1) Class attendance and participation (5 each session)	50 pts	33
2) Two short writing assignments (1 3-page review) [25 pts], 1 syllabus [25 pts]	50 pts	33
3) One transnational history/historiography [50 pts] (proposal = 5 pts; panel = 10 pts; paper = 35 pts)	50 pts	33

#### Course itinerary

##### Week I

9/10 Intro

#### Part I: East Asia in World History

##### Week II

9/17 Visions of Asia/Transnationalism, Old and New

Karl A. Wittfogel, "Chinese Society: An Historical Survey," *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 16, No. 3. (May, 1957), pp. 343-364

Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System: Concepts for Comparative Analysis," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 16, No. 4. (Sept., 1974), pp. 387-415

Stephen Kotkin, "Mongol Commonwealth?: Exchange and Governance across the Post-Mongol Space" *Kritika* 8, 3 (Summer 2007), pp. 487-531

##### Week III

9/24 Rethinking European Centrality

Kenneth Pomeranz, "'Traditional' Chinese Business Forms Revisited: Family, Firm, and Financing in the History of the Yutang Company of Jining, 1779-1956," *Late Imperial China*, Volume 18, Number 1, June 1997, pp. 1-38

Peter Perdue, *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia* (2005), chp. 15

Andre Gunder Frank, "No Civilization/s: Unity and Continuity in Diversity; or, Multilateral and Entropic Paradigms for the World Today and Tomorrow," *positions: east asia cultures critique*, Volume 15, Number 2, Fall 2007, pp. 225-249

Week IV

10/1 Rethinking National Histories

Prasenjit Duara, *Rescuing History from the Nation* (1995), intro, chps. 1-2Karen Wigen, "Cartographies of Connection: Ocean Maps as Metaphors for Inter-Area History," in Hanna Schissler and Yasemin Soysal, eds. *The Nation, Europe, the World: Textbooks and Curricula in Transition* (New York: St. Martin's Press / Berlin: Berghahn Books, 2005)Laura Briggs, Gladys McCormick and J. T. Way, "Transnationalism: A Category of Analysis," *American Quarterly*, Volume 60, Number 3, September 2008**Part II "Transnationalism" in East Asia**Week V

10/8 Trade and Tribute

**Paper #1 due**David Christian, "Silk Roads or Steppe Roads? The Silk Roads in World History," *Journal of World History*, Volume 11, Number 1, Spring 2000, pp. 1-26Dennis Owen Flynn & Arturo Giraldez, "Cycles of Silver: Global Economic Unity through the Mid-Eighteenth Century," *Journal of World History*, Volume 13, Number 2, Fall 2002, pp. 391-427Kenneth R. Robinson, "Centering the King of Choson: Aspects of Korean Maritime Diplomacy, 1392-1592," *Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 59, no. 1. (Feb. 2000)Takeshi Hamashita, "Tribute and Treaties: Maritime Asia and Treaty Port Networks in the Era of Negotiation, 1800-1900," in *The Resurgence of East Asia*, pp. 17-50Week VI

10/15 Ethnicity

Erica Brindley, "Barbarians or not? Ethnicity and Changing Conceptions of the Ancient Yue (Viet) Peoples (~400-50 B. C.)," *Asia Major* 16.1 (2003), 1-32Mark Elliott, "The Limits of Tartary: Manchuria in Imperial and National Geographies," *Journal of Asian Studies* (Aug. 2000), pp. 603-46Andre Schmid, "Looking North toward Manchuria," *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, Vol. 99, no. 1 (Winter 2000), pp. 219-240David L. Howell, "Making "Useful Citizens" of Ainu Subjects in Early Twentieth-Century Japan" *Journal of Asian Studies* (Nov. 2003)4:30 p.m. **Public Talk** Erica Brindley, "Representations and Uses of Yue Identity Along the Southern Frontier of the Han, ~200- 111 BCE"Week VII

10/22 Migration

Song Nai Rhee, et al., "Korean Contributions to Agriculture, Technology, and State Formation in Japan: Archaeology and History of an Epochal Thousand Years, 400 B.C.–A.D. 600," *Asian Perspectives*, Volume 46, Number 2, Fall 2007, pp. 404-459Adam McKeown, "Conceptualizing Chinese Diasporas, 1842-1949," *Journal of Asian Studies* (May 1999), pp. 306-37Hyun Ok Park, "Korean Manchuria: The Racial Politics of Territorial Osmosis," *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, Volume 99, Number 1, Winter 2000, pp. 193-21Week VIII

10/29 Disease and Medicine

Shigehisa Kuriyama, "Visual Knowledge in Chinese Classical Medicine," in Don Bates, ed., *Knowledge and the Scholarly Medical Traditions* (1995)Joseph S. Alter, "Yoga in Asia—Mimetic History: Problems in the Location of Secret Knowledge," *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2009, pp. 213-229

Ann Jannetta, "Jennerian Vaccination and the Creation of a National Public Health Agenda in Japan, 1850–1900," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, vol. 83, no. 1 (Spring 2009)

4:30 p.m. **Public Talk** Shigehisa Kuriyama  
"On the strange convergence of fears: money and the body in E. Asian & Western medicine"

#### Week IX

11/5 Borderlands **Title, blurb of final paper due**  
Peter Perdue, *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia* (2005), chp. 1  
Kenneth R. Robinson, "An Island's Place in History: Tsushima in Japan and in Choson, 1392–1592," *Korean Studies*, Volume 30, 2006, pp. 40–66  
Seonmin Kim, "Ginseng and Border Trespassing Between Qing China and Chosŏn Korea," *Late Imperial China*, Volume 28, Number 1, June 2007, pp. 33–61

#### Week X

11/12 Religion **Syllabus due**  
Richard Jaffe, "Seeking Sakyamun: Travel and the Reconstruction of Japanese Buddhism," *Journal of Japanese Studies* (Winter 2004), pp. 65–96  
David Scott, "Rewalking Thoreau and Asia: 'Light from the East' for 'A Very Yankee Sort of Oriental,'" *Philosophy East and West*, Volume 57, Number 1, January 2007, pp. 14–3  
Eric Tagliacozzo, "The Skeptic's Eye: Snouck Hurgronje and the Politics of Pilgrimage from the Indies," in Tagliacozzo, ed., *Southeast Asia and the Middle East* (2009), pp. 135–55

#### Week XI

11/19 Empire  
**Special guest** Eiichiro Azuma, Dept. of History  
Eiichiro Azuma, *Between Two Empires* (2005), intro, chps. 2, 4, 8, epilogue  
Byrna Goodman, "Improvisations on a Semi-colonial Theme, or How to Read a Celebration of a Transnational Urban Community," *Journal of Asian Studies* (Nov. 2000), pp. 889–926  
Prasenjit Duara, "The Discourse of Civilization and Pan-Asianism," *Journal of World History*, Volume 12, Number 1, Spring 2001, pp. 99–130  
John C. de Boer, "Circumventing the Evils of Colonialism: Yanaihara Tadao and Zionist Settler Colonialism in Palestine," *positions: east asia cultures critique* 14.3 (2006) 567–595

#### Week XII

11/23 4:30 p.m. Public Talk Eric Tagliacozzo  
"A Sino-Southeast Asian Circuit: Ethnohistories of the Marine Goods Trade between China and Southeast Asia"  
**11/26 Thanksgiving Break**

#### Week XIII

12/3 History 670 symposium  
**Presentation of panels/papers**

#### Week XIV

12/10 Transnational in the present  
Adam McKeown, "Periodizing Globalization," *History Workshop Journal*, Issue 63, Spring 2007, pp. 218–230  
Leo Ching, "Globalizing the Regional, Regionalizing the Global: Mass Culture and Asianism in the Age of Late Capital," *Public Culture*, Volume 12, Number 1, Winter 2000, pp. 233–257  
Daqing Yang, "Challenges of Trans-National History: Historians and the Nanjing Atrocity," *SAIS Review* 19.2 (1999), pp. 133–147

#### Week XIV

12/17 **Final paper due**