

Hist. 206-302
Fall 2004
Wed., 2-5
MCNB 309

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East Asian Diaspora

“Globalization” enthusiasts may consider dynamic international economic and cultural exchange a relatively recent phenomena originating in the expansive energies of free-market capitalism in the West. But the world’s peoples and cultures have intermingled for millennia. And the principal thrust of movement has been from East to West, not vice versa. Despite their reputation from early modern times for being “closed” societies, the countries of East Asia have continued to play an active role in global events, remaining not only open to outside influence but projecting their own people, values and goods abroad. This seminar will highlight the varieties of movement of Chinese, Japanese and Korean peoples abroad from the fifteenth century to the present. From Chinese merchants in Malaya (15th century), to Japanese castaways in Russia (18th century) to Korean laborers in Japan (20th century), we will study the patterns of migration and intercultural contact within Asia and without over the last 600 years with a view to understanding what makes East Asia one of the most dynamic regions of economic growth and intercultural exchange today.

Objectives

The course is divided into three parts, each of which is designed to expose you to a critical facet of historical inquiry. Readings in Parts I and II will introduce you to the basic history and historiography of the East Asian diaspora, in the premodern (Part I) and modern (Part II) periods . In these sections, we will survey the major events in the history of the diaspora and discuss the different ways in which historians have treated those events.

Part three will highlight the primary source material used by historians to assess the East Asian diaspora: the letters, memoirs, formal proclamations and oral histories of participants in the events. These materials focus primarily upon the modern period. They are designed to give you a sense of how contemporaries viewed their world and to develop the critical skills needed to interpret primary sources.

Texts

Please purchase at the Pennsylvania Book Center, 130 S. 34th Street (215-222-7600):

Tiziano Terzani, *A Fortune-Teller Told Me: Earthbound Travels in the Far East* (1998)

Kenneth Pomeranz, Steven Topik, *The World That Trade Created* (1999)

Susan Whitfield, *Life along the Silk Road* (2000)

Louise Levathes, *When China Ruled the Seas: The Treasure Fleet of the Dragon Throne, 1405-1433* (1994)

J.A.G. Roberts, *China to Chinatown : Chinese Food in the West* (2002)

A good portion of our readings are in article form, accessible on the course website. Those who prefer a hard copy of these readings may obtain them in a course bulkpack from Wharton Reprographics. Please let me know if you would like to order the bulkpack.

Requirements

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

	<u>Points</u>	<u>% grade (roughly)</u>
1) Class attendance and participation (5 each session)	60 pts	40
2) One class discussion (20), 1 on-line comment (10)	30 pts	20
3) Choice of:	60 pts	40
a) Three 6-8-page thought papers on assigned topics (20 each)		
b) One 6-8-page thought paper (20), one 15-page research paper (40)		

Course itinerary

Week I

9/8 Intro

Part I: Premodern Asia

Week II

9/15 A contemporary Western view of Asia
Terzani, *A Fortune-Teller Told Me*

Week III

9/22 Overview--Asia at the Center of a Pre-modern Globalized World
Pomeranz and Topik, *The World That Trade Created*

Week IV

9/29 Silk Road
Whitfield, *Life along the Silk Road*

Week V

10/6 Koreans in Japan **[Research paper title, blurb, bibliography]**
Jon C. Covell, Alan C. Covell, *Korean Impact on Japanese Culture*, excerpts

Week VI

10/13 film

Week VII

10/20 Zheng He
Levathes, *When China Ruled the Seas*

10/22

[Paper 1 due (entire class)]

Part II: Early Modern and Modern Asia

Week VIII

10/27 Chinese Abroad

- 1) *Early Chinese in Southeast Asia (from the 16th century)*
Antony Reid, "Flows and Seepages in the long-term Chinese Interaction with Southeast Asia," pp. 15-49
- 2) *Chinese in Japan (16th to 20th centuries)*
Andrea Vasishth, "A Model Minority: The Chinese Community in Japan," pp. 106-36

Week IX

11/3 Japanese Abroad **[Research paper title, blurb, annotated bibliography due]**

- 1) *Early Japanese presence in Korea (17th, 18th centuries)*
James B. Lewis, "Penetration du corps sociale," pp. 192-209
- 2) *Early Japanese forays into Russia (17th-18th centuries)*
Katherine Plummer, *The Shogun's Reluctant Ambassadors*, pp. 38-52
- 3) *Early Japanese in China (1860s)*
Joshua Fogel, "The Voyage of the Senzaimaru to Shanghai," pp. 79-94

Week X

11/10 Koreans Abroad

- 1) *Early Koreans in China (from 13th century)*
Dae-Sook Suh, *Koreans in China*, pp. 44-77
- 2) *Early Koreans in Japan (19th century)*
Harold F. Cook, *Korea's 1884 Incident*, pp. 27-100
- 3) *Koreans in Japan (20th century)*
Michael Weiner, "The Representation of Absence and the Absence of Representation," pp. 79-104

11/12

[Paper 2 due]**Part III: Early Modern and Modern Asian voices**Week XI

11/17 Chinese abroad

- 1) *Chinese in Philadelphia (1876)*
Li Gui, *A New Account of a Trip Around the Globe*, pp. 73-103
- 2) *Chinese in Japan (20th century)*
Marius Jansen, *The Japanese and Sun Yat-sen*, pp. 59-81
- 3) *Chinese in Southeast Asia (20th century)*
Djao Wei, *Being Chinese: Voices from the Diaspora*, excerpts

11/19

[Research pap draft due (optional)]Week XII

11/24 Japanese abroad

- 1) *Japanese view of the world (18th century)*
Honda Toshiaki, "A Secret Plan of Government" (1798), pp. 175-204
"Tales of the West (1798), pp. 204-26
- 2) *Japanese in Korea (19th century)*
Isabella Bird, "First Impressions of Korea," pp. 23-34
- 3) *Japanese in China (1920s)*
Yosano Akiko, "Travels in Manchuria and Mongolia" (1930), excerpts

Week XIII

12/1 Koreans abroad

- 1) *Koreans in Siberia (19th century)*
Isabella Bird, "Korean Settlers in Siberia," pp. 223-38
- 2) *Koreans in China (20th century)*
Dae-Sook Suh, "The Dragon Village: Liangjincun in Yanbian" (1930), pp. 164-74
- 3) *Koreans in Japan (20th century)*
TBA

Week XIV

12/8 Asianization of the West

JRoberts, *China to Chinatown*

12/10

[Paper 3/Research paper due]