

**MAO ZEDONG (1893-1976):  
PORTRAITS OF THE CHAIRMAN**

History 376.01  
Spring 2009  
Mears 217

Andrew C. Hsieh  
Mears 201, x3093  
**Office Hours:** Wed.,  
10:00-11:50 a.m.

This seminar will examine the various stages of the life of Mao: his childhood, his rise to prominence in the revolution, and his roles first as Chairman of the Communist Party and later as the undisputed ruler of the Peoples Republic. Themes for this course will include Mao's family life and his struggles against rivals both inside and outside of the Party; this course will also consider his thoughts on peasant organizations, guerrilla warfare, intellectuals and elites, literature and art, mass will and energy, and the continuing revolution. As well, the course will analyze changing depictions of Mao both by himself and by other individuals of differing political persuasions. Readings will include Mao's early autobiographical account, selected biographies published in the West over the past decades, and portions of Mao's speeches and writings relevant to our themes.

**Week 1**

W Jan. 21 Introduction

**Week 2**

M Jan. 26  
Review Jonathan Spence, MAO ZEDONG

W Jan. 28  
Early Years, 1893-1927.  
Edgar Snow, RED STAR OVER CHINA, 129-162  
Philip Short, MAO, A LIFE. Chapters 1-4  
Stuart Schram, MAO TSE-TUNG, 12-94

**Week 3**

M Feb. 2  
Mao in Opposition, 1927-1941  
SNOW, 163-181  
SHORT, chapters 5-10  
SCHRAM, 95-174

MAO, "Report of An investigation into the Peasant Movement in Hunan

- W Feb. 4  
Yenan and the War Against Japan 1937-1945  
SHORT, CHAPTER 11  
SCHRAM, 175-228  
MAO, “On Contradiction”; “Talks at the Yanan Forum on Art and Literature”;  
Strategic Problems in the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla War”

#### **Week 4**

- M Feb. 9  
Winning the Civil War and “Changing the Sky, 1945-1956  
SHORT, chapter 12-13  
SCHRAM, 229-254  
MAO, “Two Possible Destinies”; “On Coalition Government”  
SCHRAM, 255-287

- W Feb. 11  
FILM

#### **Week 5**

- M Feb. 16  
Going Alone (1956-1965)  
Mao, “On the Ten Major Relationships”; “On Correct Handling of  
Contradictions among the People”; “Speech at the Lushan Conference”

- W Feb. 18  
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [I]  
MacFarquhar & Schoenhals, MAO’S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 1-10

#### **Week 6**

- M Feb. 23  
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [II]  
MAO’S LAST REVOLUTUION, chapters 11-14

- W Feb. 25  
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [III]  
MAO’S LAST REVOLUTUION, chapters 15-19

### **Week 7**

M March 2  
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [IV]  
MAO'S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 20-25

W March 4  
FILM

### **Week 8**

M March 9  
FILM

W March 11 (No Class)

SPRING RECESS (March 14 – 29)

### **Week 9**

W April 1  
Confirmation of Research Topics

### **Week 10**

### **Week 11**

M April 13  
Individual Conferences (Outlines and Bibliography)

### **Week 12**

### **Week 13**

W April 29  
Students Presentations

F May 15  
FINAL PAPER DUE, 4:30 PM,

Submit paper copy to Academic Support Office in Mears Cottage