

HIS 306N (39215) / ANS 302C (30875)

INTRODUCTION TO CHINA

Spring 2010

T&Th 12:30-2:00 p.m.

BUR 216

Office Hour: T&Th 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Huaiyin Li

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Teaching Assistants:

Eubna Tran, email: etran@mail.utexas.edu; office hours: Tue. and Thur. 10-11:30 am @WMB 1.114

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Course description:

This course introduces the study of Chinese history, society, and culture through an examination of the cultural unities and diversities, continuities and discontinuities that comprise the historical development of Chinese civilization. Topics include philosophy and religion; population and economy; power and authority; gender, ethnicity, and cultural identity. This course provides a foundation for continued study of Chinese history and society for students who plan to go on to more specialized, upper-division courses including Chinese anthropology, history, psychology, sociology, economics, law, policy, international business, art history, architecture, environmental science, and philosophy.

Required readings:

J. K. Fairbank & M. Goldman, *China: A New History* (Belknap, 2006)

P. J. Ivanhoe & B. W. Van Norden, *Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy* (Hackett, 2006)

Ray Huang, *1587, A Year of No Significance* (Yale, 1982)

Jung Chang, *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China* (Touchstone, 2003)

C. Fred Bergsten et al, *China: The Balance Sheet* (PublicAffairs, 2007)

Grading:

Mid-term exam (30%): Thursday, March 11.

Final exam (30%): Wednesday, May 12.

Two short essays (15% each, 30% total): 5 double-spaced pages each, due Feb. 16 (Tuesday) and Apr. 22 (Thursday), respectively.

Attendance and participation (10%): Students are expected to attend all class meetings and are responsible for signing in on an attendance sheet to be distributed during each class. More than three absences will lower one's final grade by 1% for each missed class and up to 10%.

Note: 1) Plus/minus grades will be assigned for the final grade.

2) Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations.

Schedule:

Jan. 19 (Tuesday)	Introduction
Jan. 21 (Thursday)	Historical patterns Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , “Introduction”
Jan. 26 (Tuesday)	Origins of Chinese civilization Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , Chaps. 1-2
Jan. 28 (Thursday)	The making of Chinese empires Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , Chap. 3
Feb. 2 (Tuesday)	Confucius and Confucianism Readings: <i>Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chaps. 1 & 3
Feb. 4 (Thursday)	Alternatives to Confucianism Readings: <i>Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chaps. 2, 4, & 7
Feb. 9 (Tuesday)	Movie: “Confucius: Words of Wisdom”; discussion Readings: <i>Readings in Classical Chinese Philosophy</i> , Chaps. 5 & 6
Feb. 14 (Thursday)	Buddhism in China Readings: (To be assigned)
Feb. 16 (Tuesday)	The Taoist religion; short essay #1 due Readings: (To be assigned)
Feb. 18 (Thursday)	“Early modern” China Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , Chaps. 4-5
Feb. 23 (Tuesday)	The Qing empire Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , Chaps. 6-7
Feb. 25 (Thursday)	Population and economy Readings: <i>China: A New History</i> , Chap. 8
Mar. 2 (Tuesday)	State and society in imperial China Readings: <i>1587, A Year of No Significance</i> , Chaps. 1-3
Mar. 4 (Thursday)	Women, gender, and family Readings: <i>1587, A Year of No Significance</i> , Chaps. 4-6
Mar. 9 (Tuesday)	Movie: “The Rise of the Dragon”; discussion Readings: <i>1587, A Year of No Significance</i> , Chap. 7
Mar. 11 (Thursday)	Mid-term exam

[March 16 & 18, Spring break; no class]

- Mar. 23 (Tuesday) Art and architecture in traditional China
Readings: to be assigned
- Mar. 25 (Thursday) Chinese literature
Readings: to be assigned
- Mar. 30 (Tuesday) Imperialism in modern China
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chap. 8-9
- Apr. 1 (Thursday) Rebellion and reform in modern China
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chaps. 10-12
- Apr. 6 (Tuesday) The rise of nationalism
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chaps. 13-16
- Apr. 8 (Thursday) The Communist revolution
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chap. 17
- Apr. 13 (Tuesday) Movie: "Battle for Survival"; discussion
Readings: *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China*, Chaps. 1-8
- Apr. 15 (Thursday) Chinese socialism
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chaps. 18-19; *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China*, Chaps. 9-11
- Apr. 20 (Tuesday) The Cultural Revolution
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chap. 20; *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China*, Chaps. 12-28
- Apr. 22 (Thursday) The economic miracle; short essay #2 due
Readings: *China: A New History*, Chap. 21; *China: The Balance Sheet*, Chap. 1-2
- Apr. 27 (Tuesday) Chinese politics
Readings: *China: The Balance Sheet*, Chaps. 3
- Apr. 29 (Thursday) Chinese society
Readings: *China: The Balance Sheet*, Chaps. 4
- May 4 (Tuesday) The rise of China in historical perspective
Readings: *China: The Balance Sheet*, Chaps. 5-6
- May 6 (Thursday) Discussion
- May 12 (Wednesday) Final Exam (2:00–5:00 pm)