

HUMA2633

Before Mao: Traditional Chinese Society from 1800 to 1949

Course Offered in: Fall 2017

Course Instructor: Dr. Emily Chen

Time and Venue: Monday 15:00-16:50, Rm 1104, Academic Concourse

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Course Description

This subject provides students with no previous training in the studies about China a broad overview of traditional Chinese society, from High Qing Empire till the establishment of People's Republic of China, touching upon topics that are essential to the understanding of the Chinese rapid transformation. The subject will systematically cover state and local governance, the ideal and reality of life, and the practices of the elites as well as the ordinary people from the traditional to the modern period in China.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, students should be able to

1. Gain some insights on traditional Chinese society
2. Understand the key issues of the Chinese rapid transformation
3. Develop skills of critical thinking and Chinese historical materials
4. Exploring new research methods using textual, material, and visual sources, including films, photographs

Assessment

1. Participation (10%)
 - a. Active engagement in lectures and tutorials, including comments on tutorial group presentations.
 - b. Preparation before class.

2. Tutorial Presentation (30%)

There are 4 tutorials and students are required to attain them all. Each group has to pick one from a list of topics that the instructor will provide in due course. Students are expected to narrow down the given-topic and choose a specific aspect of the topic to elaborate on. They could give critical thoughts and demonstrate their knowledge on the topic.

- a. Group oral presentation (15%)

Students will be grouped into groups of 8 in order to make a power-point presentation. Each presentation will last for 20 minutes. The remaining time should be used for open discussion including any relevant questions and answers.

Before making the presentation, the group should submit the power-point in soft-copy to the instructor via email **2 days ahead**.

Absence or late arrival, for any reason, will be reflected in final grade, and no homework replacement shall be accepted.

b. Written report of the presentation (2000 words, 15%)

The due date for the written report is set at **one week after the presentation** in class. With feedback from the instructor and fellow students incorporated in it, the written report should reflect a more in-depth exploration of the issues raised in the oral presentation.

Papers have to adhere to the strictest standard of academic honesty. Students who are found cheating or guilty of plagiarism will be dealt with seriously.

Groups

Students will have a week to form into groups. On or before September 17, send instructor a message on Canvas System, giving the full names in English and Chinese, the student numbers, and the email addresses of all the members of your group.

Students who fail to find themselves in a group will be assigned to one by the instructor.

On Week 3, the order of group presentation will be decided by lot.

3. Book Review (20%)

Students are expected to write critical reviews (800 words) of a book from the Book List in the course. They should outline the book's structure, state its main arguments and comment on its sources and methodology, and offer critiques of its project.

Please submit the essay on Canvas System on or before **November 13**.

4. Final exam (40%)

The final exam will be assigned a take-home exam including two questions related to the course textbook, readings and notes. The exam questions will be released in Week 10 (13 Nov) in class. Please submit your take-home exam on Canvas System **on or before November 27**.

All papers have to adhere to the strictest standard of academic honesty. Students who are found cheating or guilty of plagiarism will be dealt with seriously.

If you have any question, please feel free to discuss with me after class, or send me an email, schedule a meeting.

Textbook and Main References

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, Cambridge, Mass: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2006.

Spence, Jonathan. *The Search for Modern China*, New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

徐中約，《中國近代史》，香港中文大學出版社，2001年。

Class Topics and Readings

Week 1 4-Sep

Introduction: What does “Traditional Chinese Society” Mean?

Readings:

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, pp.1-25.

徐中約，《中國近代史》，1-13頁。

Week 2 11-Sep

High Qing: an overview of the imperial state

Readings:

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, pp.143-162.

徐中約，《中國近代史》，41-73頁。

Week 3 18-Sep

Opium Wars: Was China opened?

Readings:

Spence, Jonathan. *The Search for Modern China*, pp. 147-163.

茅海建：《天朝的崩潰——鴉片戰爭再研究》，北京三聯書店出版社，2005年，第七章。

Week 4 25-Sep

Religion and State: From the White Lotus Rebellion to the Taiping Rebellion

Readings:

Philip A. Kuhn, *Rebellion and its Enemies in Late Imperial China: militarization and social structure, 1796-1864*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1980, pp.37-51; pp.194-217.

路遙：《山東民間秘密教門》，當代中國出版社，2000年，1-29頁。

Week 5 9-Oct

China's Attempt to Modernize: from Self-Strengthening and Dynastic Reform

Readings:

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, pp.217-221.

徐中約，〈《中國近代史》〉，41-73頁。

Week 6 16-Oct

From Empire to Nation: Crisis and Revolution

Readings:

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, pp.235-255.

馬國川訪談：〈《沒有皇帝的中國：辛亥百年訪談錄》〉，牛津大學出版社，2012年。

Week 7 23-Oct

The Making of New Youth: Educational Reform and Intellectual Revolution

Readings:

徐中約：〈《中國近代史》〉，495-513頁。

羅志田：〈《權勢轉移——近代中國的思想與社會》〉，北京師範大學出版社，1999年，第四章。

陳平原：〈《歷史、傳說與精神——中國大學百年》〉，三聯書店（香港）有限公司，2009年。

Week 8 30-Oct

State Building and Bureaucracy: Nation and Beyond

Readings:

John K. Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: a New History*, pp.279-294.

William Kirby, "Engineering China: Birth of the Developmental State, 1928-1937," in Wen-hsin Yeh eds., *Becoming Chinese: Passages to Modernity and Beyond*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

國都設計技術專員辦事處編：〈《首都計劃》〉，南京出版社，2006年。

Week 9 6-Nov

Traditional Social Structure: Family and Lineage Organization

Readings:

費孝通：〈《鄉土中國》〉，三聯書店香港有限公司，1991年，33-38，42-46頁。

鄭振滿：《明清福建家族組織與社會變遷》，中國人民大學出版社，2009年，172-206頁。

Week 10 13-Nov

Remaking the City: Tradition and Modernity

Readings:

白吉爾：《上海史——走向現代之路》，上海社會科學院，2005年，95-114頁，179-202頁。

Peter Carroll, *Between Heaven and Modernity: Reconstructing Suzhou, 1895-1937*, Stanford University Press, 2006, pp. 6-19.

Week 11 20-Nov

New Cultures: the Rise of Popular Entertainment

Readings:

Lee, Leo Ou-fan, *Shanghai Modern: the flowering of a new urban culture in China, 1930-1945*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1999, chapter 1.

《良友》雜誌，香港：良友圖書公司。

吳昊：《都會雲裳：細說中國婦女服飾與身體革命（1911—1935）》，香港：三聯書店，2006。

Week 12 27-Nov

Conclusion: What is the Modern State?

Philip Kuhn, *Origins of the Modern Chinese State*, Stanford University Press, 2002, chapter 4.

Henrietta Harrison, *The Man Awakened from Dreams: one man's life in a north China village*, Stanford University Press, 2003, chapter 4.

Book List for Book Review

DS757.5 .M36 1995

茅海建：《天朝的崩潰——鴉片戰爭再研究》，北京三聯書店出版社，1995年。

DS755 .K83 1980

Philip A. Kuhn, *Rebellion and its Enemies in Late Imperial China: militarization and social structure, 1796-1864*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1980.

DS773.4 .M25 2011

馬國川訪談：《沒有皇帝的中國：辛亥百年訪談錄》，牛津大學出版社，2012年。

LA1133 .C4842 2009

陳平原：《歷史、傳說與精神——中國大學百年》，三聯書店（香港）有限公司2009年。

HN733.5 .F45 1991

費孝通：《鄉土中國》，三聯書店（香港）有限公司，1991年。

DS754.17 .K8413 2002

Philip Kuhn, *Origins of the Modern Chinese State*, Stanford University Press, 2002.

DS797.75.C45 H374 2005

Henrietta Harrison, *The Man Awakened from Dreams: one man's life in a north China village*, Stanford University Press, 2005.