Spring 2018
HUMA 5755 Ethnicity in Chinese Context

Course Instructor: Ma Jianxiong
E-mail: hmjxm@ust.hk
Time: 19:00-21:50, Tuesday
Venue: Room 5560
Office Hours: 15:00-18:00 Wednesday
Office: Room 3342

Course Description:
Ethnicity is an important socio-cultural institution in China. This course aims to explore the issue of ethnicity in China in the context of a nation-state, including identity construction, ethnic classification system and local reactions in Chinese society. In addition, nationalism, ethnic identities, and ethnic diversity will be examined from anthropological perspectives. Historical changes and contemporary development of the phenomenon of ethnicity will be discussed from anthropological perspectives as well.

This course explores the issue of ethnicity in China in the context of a nation-state. Issues of nationalism, ethnic identities, and ethnic diversity will be examined from anthropological perspectives. Ethnicity has become an important socio-cultural institution in China. This course explores issues of identity construction, ethnic classification system and local reactions in Chinese society. Historical changes and contemporary development of the phenomenon of ethnicity will be examined in anthropological perspectives.

Major Objectives
The main purposes of this course is to guide students to (1) understand the major ethnic issues such as identity formation, ethnic classification system, ethnic relations, assimilation, social conflicts, nation-building, and ethnic hierarchy, (2) learn the approaches to study the multiethnic history of Chinese society, the Communist and Western theories on nationality and ethnicity, and the formation of distinctive minority cultures in the context of the Chinese nation-state, and (3) appreciate ethnic diversity in Chinese society.

Requirements and Evaluation: Regular attendance is expected; Required readings and any other assignments should be completed before class-time, and questions prepared in advance for discussion. Final grades will be calculated on the following basis:

- Class participation and reading reports (20%).
- Presentation, discussion, and attendance (30%).
- Research paper (50%).

Texts and Main References:

Honing, Emily.
Blake, C. Fred,  

Confino, Alon  

**Course content and teaching components:**

**February 4. Week 1. Introduction: Defining ethnicity**

Fenton, Steven,  

Eriksen, Thomas,  

Weber, Max and Smith, Anthony,  

**February 11. Week 2. The Chinese ethnicity as an imperial legacy.**

Prasenjit Duara,  

Townsend, James,  

王明珂，  
1997  《华夏边缘：历史记忆与族群认同》，台北：允晨文化实业股份有限公司。

葛兆光，  
2011  “重建关于‘中国’的历史论述”，“‘中国’意识在宋代的凸显”&“山海经、职贡图和旅行记中的异域记忆”，《宅兹中国：重建有关‘中国’的历史论述》，北京：中华书局，页3-90.

Dikotter, Frank,  
1992  *The discourse of race in Modern China.* Stanford, Stanford University Press.

Fitzgerald, John,  

黄兴涛,  
2017  《重塑中华：近代中国“中华民族”观念研究》，绪论：“‘中华民族’：近代国人民族自觉的新概念与新符号”、第一章：“清代中国‘中华民族’观念的酝酿”、& 第二章：“现代中华民族观念的确立与传播”，北京：北京师范大学出版社，2017，页1-164。

*Reading Report on Creating Chinese Ethnicity is due on February 26.*


Engels, Frederick,  

Dreyer, June Teufel,  

March 3.  Week 5.  The making of the Chinese Communist’s policy on minority nationalities.

Dreyer, June Teufel,  

Diamond, Norma,  

Fei, Xiaotong,

Mullaney, Thomas S.,

Cohen, Myron L.


Cheung, Sui-woo,

Khan, Almaz,


Gladney, Dru C.

Schein, Louisa,

*Reading Report on Ethnic Groups and Social Change in a Chinese Market Town is due on April 9.

Lipman, Jonathan N.

Harrell, Stevan.

Ma, Jianxiong.
2012 “Salt and Revenue in the Frontier Formation: State Mobilized Ethnic Politics in Yunnan-Burma Borderland since the 1720s.” In Modern Asian Studies.

April 14. Week 10. Southwestern minorities and their recent situations.

Harrell, Stevan.

Mueggler, Eric.

Ma, Jianxiong.

April 21. Week 11. Theories of nationality and ethnicity in Western social sciences.

Harrell, Stevan.
1996 “Introduction: civilizing projects and the reaction to them.” In Stevan Harrell (ed.), Cultural encounters on China’s ethnic frontiers. Pp. 3-36.

Ma, Rong.

Fenton, Steve.
*Reading Report on *A World without Jew* is due on April 30.

April 28 & May 5. Week 12. Student research paper project presentations.