

HIST 354 (001): History of Modern China, 1600-1950

Professor Michael Chang

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Office hrs: Mon 3-5 pm & by appt

Course time and location:

Mon/Wed 1:30-2:45 pm

Nguyen Engineering Building, Rm 1109

Course webpage: <http://hist354.wordpress.com>

Course Description: This course is a survey of modern Chinese history from the seventeenth to the mid-twentieth centuries (1600-1950s). The course will explore the momentous changes in the relationship between state and society from the founding of the Qing dynasty to the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Themes to be covered include imperialism, nationalism, ethnicity & race, gender, and revolution (political, social, and cultural) during these three and a half centuries of Chinese history.

Required Texts: The titles below are all available for purchase at the GMU Barnes & Noble in Johnson Center.

1. Jonathan D. Spence. *The Search for Modern China*. 3rd edition. Norton, 2013.
2. Henrietta Harrison. *The Man Awakened from Dreams*. Stanford, 2005.
3. Wang Zheng. *Women in the Chinese Enlightenment: Oral and Textual Histories*. U.C. Press, 1999.
4. William Hinton. *Fanshen: Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village*. Monthly Review, 2008.

In addition to the titles above, readings in the schedule marked by a **single asterisk (*)** and followed by (.pdf) are available on our course website (password = modchina).

Requirements & Grading: You must complete (that is, demonstrate serious engagement with) every requirement in order to receive a passing grade. The instructor reserves the final right to determine what constitutes "completion" of a requirement.

- 1. Participation (25%):** I expect you to attend every one of our scheduled meetings and to be fully prepared. This means finishing the assigned readings listed for that day before coming to class. The quality of your written and oral contributions both in class and online will be considered as indicators of your participation and engagement.
- 2. In-class Map Quiz (5%):** see 2nd map in front of *Search for Modern China* (3rd ed., 2013) **W 9/3/2014**.
- 3. Papers (45%):** In order to hone your critical reading & writing skills, you will be asked to complete **three (3) short (5-6 pg.) papers due in-class on Mon. 9/15/2014, Mon. 10/20/2014, & Mon. 11/10/2014**. More detailed instructions will be provided in class. Guidelines and procedures for the submission of written work are listed below (see Course Policies, points d and e).
- 4. Take-Home Final Examination (25%):** essays; **due in my departmental mailbox (Robinson B, Room 359) by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday 12/8/2014**. No late work will be accepted for the final exam.

Course Policies, Reminders, and Helpful Tips

a) Class absences: Students are expected to attend all meetings of the course. In the event that you must miss class, you are responsible for the contents of the lecture or discussion. **Students are expected to come to class on time.** Late arrivals are disruptive, and late-comers may miss important information or hand-outs.

b) Cell phones: During class all phones must be switched off and put away. Neither students nor instructors should compose, read, or respond to text messages during class. If you are an emergency responder (such as an EMT) and must receive calls or messages, please notify the instructor within the first week of class.

c) Laptop computers: Students who wish to use a laptop computer for note-taking are welcome to do so. However, students who use laptops for purposes other than taking notes (i.e., email, instant messaging, internet browsing unrelated to the course) will be asked to leave and no longer be permitted to use a computer in class.

d) Submission of written work: All written work is due at the beginning of class in hard copy on the day indicated on the syllabus. All written assignments should be typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins and in a 12-point font. Your name should be on the paper, and all pages should be stapled and numbered. You must submit your work in hard copy only; no email attachments will accepted (unless prior arrangements with the instructor have been made). You should, however, retain electronic copies of all written work, and your instructor may ask for an electronic copy of your paper in order to use it as an example in teaching or to submit to a plagiarism detection site like Turnitin.com.

e) Late policy: All students are responsible for knowing and adhering to the deadlines for course assignments. Late work will be penalized **ONE FULL LETTER GRADE (10 pts.) per day (including weekends & holidays)**. The only exceptions will be when you have explicit, advance permission from your instructor. If you anticipate a problem in completing or submitting your work on time, you must contact the instructor in a timely manner. If you do not hear back from your instructor, you should assume that your work is due on the original date. Regardless of whether or not you have been granted an extension, you must contact your instructor for how to submit late work. Late assignments will not be considered as “received” until a hard copy is in the instructor’s hands. **No late work will be accepted for the take-home final exam.**

f) Plagiarism: Don’t do it. It’s easy to spot & can result in expulsion from the University and loss of degree. **What is plagiarism?** As noted by the American Historical Association (AHA), “Writers plagiarize... when they fail to use quotation marks around borrowed material and to cite the source, use an inadequate paraphrase that makes only superficial changes to a text, or neglect to cite the source of a paraphrase.” For details see pgs. 3-4 of this document: http://www.historians.org/Documents/Plagiarism/Curriculum_Plagiarism.pdf

If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, or about when or how to properly cite a source, talk to your instructor before you write! For more information see these very helpful websites: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm#plagiarism>

g) Academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented condition that warrants academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474. **All academic accommodations must be arranged through ODS** (<http://ods.gmu.edu/>). Additional support may be obtained through Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): <http://caps.gmu.edu/>

h) Electronic communication. It is best to contact me at mchang5[at]gm[u]dot[edu]. I usually check email during normal business hours, namely M-F, 8 am-5 pm. Please allow 24-48 hours for a reply to an email request or inquiry (excluding weekends). Please sure to indicate your course number in your email subject line and include both your first and last name in your signature. For general advice on the best way to communicate via email, see: <http://web.wellesley.edu/SocialComputing/Netiquette/netiquetteprofessor.html>
<http://mleddy.blogspot.com/2005/01/how-to-e-mail-professor.html>

i) Academic Integrity: All George Mason University students have agreed to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Honor Code (<http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>)

All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee for review.

j) Final disclaimer: This syllabus is subject to revision as the semester proceeds. Announcements of changes will be made online and during class meetings. Students are responsible for being aware of any changes.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Lectures & Discussions	Assignments & Readings	Notices
8/25 & 8/27	M: Course introduction W: State & society in late imperial China	M: buy your books W: Spence, ch. 1 (p. 3-25); study for map quiz	Hand out map guide.
9/1 & 9/3	M: LABOR DAY-no class W: The 17th Century Crisis	M: Spence, ch. 2 (p. 26-47); study for map quiz W: Spence, ch. 3 (p. 48-71); IN-CLASS MAP QUIZ <i>*download Opium Debate docs. (Cheng & Lestz, 7.1 & 7.2) (.pdf)</i> & read guidelines for Paper #1	M 9/1 Labor Day-no class Tu 9/2 Last day to add
9/8 & 9/10	M: Qing Conquest & High Qing W: The Opium Wars	M: Spence, ch. 4-6 (p. 72-135) W: Spence, ch. 7 (139-142 and 143-163)	
9/15 & 9/17	M: Mid-Century Rebellions W: Self-Strengthening/Reform	M: Spence, ch. 8 (p. 164-185); PAPER #1 due in class W: Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 1-50.	Hand out Harrison rdg. guide.
9/22 & 9/24	M: High Imperialism W: The Boxer Uprising	M: Spence, ch. 9 (p. 186-207) . W: Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 50-82.	F 9/26 Last day to drop.
9/29 & 10/1	M: New Policies & New Elites W: Sun Yat-sen & the Revolutionary Movement	M: Spence, ch. 10-11 (p. 208-254) W: Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 83-112.	
10/6 & 10/8	M: The 1911 Revolution & Failure of Republicanism W: New Culture & May 4 th Era	M: Spence, Ch. 12 (p. 257-278) and Ch. 13 (p. 279-295) W: Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 113-135	
10/13 & 10/15	M: Columbus Day-no class <i>(Mon classes meet on T 10/14)</i> T 10/14: discuss <i>Man Awakened</i> W: Founding of the CCP & 1 st United Front	M: Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 136-170; online reply for Man Awakened due 5 pm T 10/14: written exercise for Man Awakened due in-class (see webpage) W: Spence, ch 13 (p. 295-300) and ch 14 (p. 301-326)	Hand out Wang Zheng rdg. guide.
10/20 & 10/22	M: read & discuss docs. W: Chiang Kai-shek & the Nanjing Decade	M: PAPER #2 due in class ; <i>*download Chen Duxiu, "New Youth" manifesto, c. 1919; and CCP & GMD manifestoes, c. 1921-1922. (.pdf)</i> W: Spence, ch. 15 (p. 327-355)	F 10/24 end of selective withdraw
10/27 & 10/29	M: Rural Revolution: the Long March & the Rise of Mao W: <i>China in Revolution, pt. 1: Struggle for Survival, 1911-36</i>	M: Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , Intro (p. 1-32) & Ch. 1 (p. 35-66) [65] W: Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 3-5 (p. 119-220) [101]	
11/3 & 11/5	M: read & discuss <i>*Xian Incident docs.</i> W: discuss Wang Zheng book	M: Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 8 (p. 287-356) and Epilogue (p. 357-366) [80]; <i>*download Xian Incident docs. (Cheng & Lestz, 16.6-16.7) (.pdf)</i> Online reply for Wang Zheng book due by 5 pm Tue 11/4/2014 W: review <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , esp. Intro & ch 1	
11/10 & 11/12	M: <i>Red Sorghum</i> (1987, 91min) W: finish & disc <i>Red Sorghum</i>	M: PAPER #3 due in-class W: Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , ix-xiii, p. 3-68 [69]	Hand out Hinton rdg. guide.
11/17 & 11/19	M: <i>China in Rev.pt. 2: Fighting for the Future, 1937-1949</i> W: Taiwan, 1895-1950	M: Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , p. 69-100 (anti-Japanese resistance) [31] W: Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> p. 101-146 (initial village struggle), 157-160 (women), 168-187 (CP), & 198-250 (land reform errors) [122]	Hand out final exam guide
11/24 & 11/26	M: Building New China W: Thanksgiving-no class	M: Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , p. 319-331, 350-359 (judging the party); 374-377, 382-387, 394-395 (county meetings & land reform); 396-399, 454-460 (women); 478-487 (civil war); 518-527 ("extreme democracy"); 535-547 (People's Congress); 592 (landholding chart); and 601-613 (conclusion) [92] W: finish reading assigned pages in Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> .	11/26-11/30 Thanksgiving recess.
12/1 & 12/3	M: discuss <i>Fanshen</i> W: discuss <i>*Goldstein article & Tibet</i> ; wrap-up	Online reply for Fanshen due 5 pm Sun 11/30/2014 M: Spence, ch. 18 (433-459) and ch. 19 (460-483) W: <i>*M. Goldstein, "Tibet & China in the 20th Century,"</i> only pgs. 186-199 (.pdf); start working on take-home final	
12/10-12/17 exams	Take-home Final Exam due in my dept. mailbox (Robinson B, Room 359) by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday 12/8/2014. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.		