

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

## Professor Michael Chang

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## Course time and location:

Tue/Thu 1:30-2:45 pm,

Enterprise 276

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*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Norton, 1999.
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 (e-reserve) are available on E-Reserves at: <http://furbo.gmu.edu/cgi-bin/ers/OSCRgen.cgi> (password = china).

**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 in class will be considered as indicators of your participation and engagement.
- 2. In-class Map Quiz (5%):** Based on Spence, *Search for Modern China*, A134-A135. **Tues. 9/4/2012.**
- 3. Papers (45%):** In order to hone your critical reading & writing skills, you will be asked to complete **three (3) short (5 pg.) papers due in-class** on **Tues. 9/18/2012, Thurs. 10/23/2012, & Tues. 11/13/2012**. 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 12/17/2012.** **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 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: [http://www.historians.org/governance/pd/Curriculum/plagiarism\\_defining.htm#Defining](http://www.historians.org/governance/pd/Curriculum/plagiarism_defining.htm#Defining)

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>

<http://classweb.gmu.edu/rcherubi/ancient/plagiarism.htm>

**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 at 703-993-2474. **All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.** (<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]gmuedu. I usually check email during normal business hours, namely M-F, 8 am-5pm. Please allow 24-48 hours for a reply to an email request or inquiry (excluding weekends). Please sure to note 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://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. You can find a copy of the Honor Code at: <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu> All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee for review.

**j) Final disclaimer:** This syllabus is subject to changes, which will be made online (see course webpage) and announced during class meetings. Students are responsible for being aware of all updates and changes.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Lectures & Discussions	Assignments & Readings	Notices
8/28 & 8/30	<b>T:</b> Course introduction <b>Th:</b> State & society in late imperial China	<b>T:</b> buy your books <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 1 (p. 3-25); study for map quiz	Hand out map guide.
9/4 & 9/6	<b>T:</b> The 17th Century Crisis <b>Th:</b> Qing Conquest & High Qing	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 2 (p. 26-48); <b>IN-CLASS MAP QUIZ</b> <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 3 (p. 49-73)	M 9/3 Labor Day-no class Tu 9/4 Last day to add
9/11 & 9/13	<b>T:</b> The Opium Wars <b>Th:</b> Mid-Century Rebellions	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 4-6 (p. 74-137); * Hand out Cheng & Leitz docs. 7.1 & 7.2 (p. 110-119) (also on <a href="#">e-reserve</a> ) & guidelines for Paper #1 <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 7 (145-166)	
9/18 & 9/20	<b>T:</b> Self-Strengthening/Reform <b>Th:</b> High Imperialism	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 8 (p. 167-191); <b>PAPER #1 due in class</b> <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 1-50.	Hand out Harrison rdg. guide.
9/25 & 9/27	<b>T:</b> The Boxer Uprising <b>Th:</b> New Policies & New Elites	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 9 (p. 192-214) . <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 50-82.	F 9/28 Last day to drop.
10/2 & 10/4	<b>T:</b> Sun Yat-sen & the Revolutionary Movement <b>Th:</b> <b>NO CLASS—SF conf</b>	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 10-11 (p. 229-263) <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 83-112.	
10/9 & 10/11	<b>T:</b> <b>Columbus Day-no class</b> <b>Th:</b> The 1911 Revolution & Failure of Republicanism	<b>T:</b> <b>Columbus Day-no class (Mon classes meet)</b> <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 113-170.	Hand out Wang Zheng rdg. guide.
10/16 & 10/18	<b>T:</b> discuss <i>Man Awakened from Dreams</i> <b>Th:</b> New Culture & May 4 <sup>th</sup> Era	<b>Online reply for Man Awakened due 5 pm on M 10/15/12</b> <b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 12 (p. 267-289) ; <b>written exercise for Man Awakened due in-class (see course webpage for details)</b> <b>Th:</b> Spence, Ch. 13 (p. 290-295)	
10/23 & 10/25	<b>T:</b> read and discuss docs by Chen Duxiu and He Zhen <b>Th:</b> Founding of the CCP & 1 <sup>st</sup> United Front	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 13 (p. 295-313); <b>PAPER #2 due in class</b> <b>Th:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 1 (p. 35-66) & ch. 3 (p. 119-143) [57]	F 10/26 end of selective withdraw
10/30 & 11/1	<b>T:</b> Chiang Kai-shek & the Nanjing Decade <b>Th:</b> Rural Revolution: the Long March & the Rise of Mao	<b>T:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 4-5 (p. 145-220) [73] <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 15 (p. 352-374)	Hand out Hinton rdg. guide.
11/6 & 11/8	<b>T:</b> <i>China in Revolution, pt. 1: Struggle for Survival, 1911-1936</i> <b>Th:</b> discuss Wang Zheng book	<b>T:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 8 (p. 287-356) and Epilogue (p. 357-366) [80] <b>online reply for Wang Zheng book due by 5 pm Wed. 11/7/12</b> <b>Th:</b> review <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i>	
11/13 & 11/15	<b>T:</b> <i>Red Sorghum</i> (1987, 91min) <b>Th:</b> finish & disc <i>Red Sorghum</i>	<b>T:</b> <b>PAPER #3 due in-class</b> <b>Th:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , ix-xiii, p. 3-68 [69]	
11/20 & 11/22	<b>T:</b> read Xian Incident docs (16.6-16.7) <b>Th:</b> <b>Thanksgiving-no class</b>	<b>T:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , p. 69-100 (anti-Japanese resistance) [31] <b>Th:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> p. 101-146 (initial village struggle), 157-160 (women), 168-187 (CP), & 198-250 (land reform errors) [122]	11/21-11/25 Thanksgiving recess.
11/27 & 11/29	<b>T:</b> <i>China in Rev.pt. 2: Fighting for the Future, 1937-1949</i>  <b>Th:</b> discuss <i>Fanshen</i>	<b>T:</b> 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] <b>Online rely for Fanshen due 5 pm Wed. 11/28/12</b> <b>Th:</b> finish reading assigned pages in Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> .	Hand out Final Exam Question
12/4 & 12/6	<b>T:</b> Building New China <b>Th:</b> Tibet/Taiwan; wrap-up	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 18 (459-488) and ch. 19 (489-513) <b>Th:</b> *M. Goldstein, “Tibet & China in the 20th Century,” only pgs. 186-199 ( <a href="#">e-reserve</a> ); start working on your take-home final	
12/11-12/19 exams	<b>Take-home Final Exam due in my dept. mailbox (Robinson B, Room 359) by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday 12/17/2012. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.</b>		