Syllabus
01:098/214: 241 East Asian Civilizations: Traditional Era

TTh 2:50-4:10pm
Campbell Hall, A1

Instructor: XU Peng
Office: Scott Hall 337
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Office Hours: Thursday 1:30-2:30pm, and by appointment

Course Description
This course provides an introduction to “East Asian Civilizations” from ancient times through the 1700s. We will select and explore the presentation of various important historical moments, key intellectual and cultural trends, and culturally significant texts. Students will not only read a concise textbook while being guided through primary texts, but also learn to analyze written, visual and media sources through a historical perspective. Meanwhile, they are encouraged to reflect upon the links between contemporary experience and historical roots, the tensions of tradition in contemporary East Asian societies. All works will be read in English translation.

Course Format
Each class will be a combination of instructor lecture and discussion. Intensive student colloquium will take place on those dates marked as “class presentations,” where 12 students will give oral presentations with visual aids. It is expected that students take an active role and participate in class discussion. Be prepared to speak.

Course Requirements
1. Read all the material assigned before each class. The average of reading load is 60 pages per week. Preparation for weekly class meetings provides the basis for your class performance. Note: readings and lectures are complimentary and do not repeat each other. They form the basis of collective conversation carried out in both class time and sakai postings.

2. Each student is required to make a posting to the discussion board on the sakai site (for specific topics and due time, please refer to Class Schedule below.) There will be a total of five postings throughout the semester. These postings should be between 300-400 words in length (write in word document before copy-and-paste, one to two pages, double space, font 12). Use your postings to raise substantive questions about the readings. You may also choose to respond to issues raised by earlier posters.

Criteria on Posting Grades:
“A”—a student posts all the five comments. Those comments reflect serious engagement with the assigned material and an excellent understanding of them.
“B”—a student misses at most one comment. Those comments reflect considerable thought and a good understanding of the assigned materials.
“C”—a student misses more than one posting but makes good contributions when s/he does;
“D”—a student misses more than two postings.
“F”—a student misses more than three postings and those postings show a hasty perusal of the materials.

3. Students will give one five-minute in-class presentation, in the form of either powerpoint or prezi presentation. Write up a script (three pages, double space, font 12, Times New Roman) for the presentation and submit it on the day of presentation. There are four general topics among which students can choose:
1) Confucianism in China/Japan/Korea Today [10/1]
2) Literary Classics in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea [10/31]
3) Reinterpretation of Historical Warfare in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea [11/14]
4) Martial Arts Tradition in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea [12/5]

Note: The topic you choose should be related to the research paper topic you wish to write on, and in this way this practice will help prepare you for the final paper project. Guidelines on finding images for presentations and constructing argument through slide organization will be provided in class and posted on Sakai.

4. Students will write one research paper (5 pages, double space, font 12, Times New Roman) based on their research for their oral presentations. This paper should show more deepened understanding and evolved insights in comparison with the earlier oral presentation. Due date: 12/10.

5. Students will take an in-class final exam on 12/23, which will consist of essay and identification questions. Note: be punctual, as there will be in-class screening in the final exam and lateness may result in your missing the screening.

Learning Outcome Goals
This course meets the following permanent core curriculum goals

II. Areas of Inquiry
B: Social Science and History
   h. Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.
B1. Historical Analysis (3 credits)
   k. Explain the development of some aspect of a society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history of science.
B2. Social Analysis (3 credits)
   m. Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations.
B3. Arts and the Humanities (3 credits)
   p. Analyze arts and/or literatures in themselves and in relation to specific
histories, values, languages, cultures, and technologies.

r. Engage critically in the process of creative expression.

III. Cognitive Skills and Processes
   A. Writing and Communication
   s. (s1) Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience.
       (s2) Respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts and revision.
   t. Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry.
   u. Evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly.
   v. Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

Grade Breakdown
Sakai Postings: 20%
Class Participation: 10%
Class Presentation (and Written Script): 20%
Research Paper: 20%
Final Exam: 30%

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to observe the highest standards of academic honesty at all times. For more information on the definition and policies regarding academic integrity at Rutgers see the website with the same title: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

Self-Reporting Absence Application: https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/

Required Texts (available at Rutgers Bookstore)

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Buckley, Ebrey, Walthall, Palais</td>
<td>Pre-modern East Asia to 1800: A Cultural, Social, and Political History</td>
<td>Houghton Mifflin</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>0618133860 9780618133864</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trans. Donald Keene</td>
<td>Chushingura: A Puppet Play</td>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>0231035314 9780231035316</td>
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All other required material will be available in electronic format on the sakai site for this course (https://sakai.rutgers.edu).
CLASS SCHEDULE

ORIENTATION

Week 1
9/3: Course Introduction

Natural Setting and Prehistory

UNIT 1 INTELLECTUAL TRENDS

Week 2
Ancient Philosophers
9/10 Pre-modern East Asia, Ch. 2 “Philosophers and Warring States During the Eastern Zhou Period” 25-42. Sakai postings (comments on readings for 9/12) due 11pm.

9/12 Class debates.
Group 1: The Analects of Confucius, Part 1
Group 2: The Analects of Confucius, Part 2
Group 3: Zhuangzi
Group 4: Daodejing

Confucianism and Bureaucracy
Week 3
9/17 Pre-modern East Asia, Ch. 3 "The Han Dynasty" and “Intellectual, Literary, and Religious Currents” 48-55; Ch. 6. “The Three Kingdoms” and “New Bureaucratic Developments” 122-29; Ch. 8 “The Revival of Confucianism and the Learning of the Way” 168-69; Ch. 9 “Koryo Dynasty: The Recentralized Bureaucracy and Its Problems” 176-82; Ch. 14 “Social and Cultural Trends” in Ming China 277-83; Ch. 15 “Centralization in Early Choson” 290-305. Sakai postings (comments on readings for 9/19) due 11pm.

9/19 Selections from The Unofficial History of the Scholar.

New Movements in Learning
Week 4
9/24 Pre-modern East Asia, Ch. 18 “New Movements in Scholarship and Learning” 357-58; Elman, From Philosophy to Philology, Ch. 1 “A Revolution in Discourse in Late Imperial China” 1-39.

Buddhism in East Asia
9/26 Pre-modern East Asia, Ch. 4 “The Buddhist Conquest of China” 83-85; Ch. 6 “The Introduction of Buddhism” 123; Ch. 7 “The Introduction of Buddhism” 147-48; Ch. 9 “Buddhism and Syncretism in the Koryo Period” 187-89; Ch. 11 “Buddhism” 219-220. Holcombe, A History of East Asia, “Buddhism Comes to East Asia” 69-79.
### UNIT 2: ARISTOCRATIC CULTURE

**China**

10/3 *Pre-modern East Asia*, Ch. 3 “Chinese Society in Han Times” 56-59; Ch. 4 “The Southern Dynasties and Aristocratic Culture” 80-86; Ch. 5 “The Cosmopolitan Empires of Sui and Tang China” 88-109; Ch. 8 “The Song Scholar-Official Class” 159-63; Ch. 12 “Life in China under the Mongols” 241-47; Ch. 16 “The Creation of the Manchu Empire” 319-29.

**Japan**

10/10 *Pre-modern East Asia*, Ch. 10 “Heian Japan” 192-207. Ch. 1 & Ch. 2 from *Tale of Genji* (Penguin)

**Korea**

10/17 *Pre-modern East Asia*, Ch. 18 “Late Choson Society: Slaves and Yangban” 353-54; “The Growth of Literature” 360-63. *Sakai postings (comments on Ch’un-hyang)* due 11pm.

### Week 6

10/08 Selections from Cao Xueqin, *Dream of the Red Chamber*.

### Week 7

10/15 In-class screening: “This is Nō”

Pre-Modern East Asia, Ch. 13 “Material Culture: Nō” 260-61; selections of Nō Play from Donald Keene, ed. *Twenty Plays of the Nō Theatre*

### Week 8

10/22 In-class screening: clips from *Ch’un-hyang* (2000)

Selections from “The Song of a Faithful Wife, Ch’un-hyang” in *Virtuous Women: Three Masterpieces of Traditional Korean Fiction*.

**Women from Elite Families**

10/24 Ko, *Teachers of the Inner Chambers*, part of Ch. 4 “Talent, Virtue and Beauty” 143-60; Ch. 6 “Social and Public Communities” 219-50.

### Week 9


10/31 **Class Presentation Group 2**: “Literary Classics in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea” [5 mins each]

### UNIT 3: THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR

**The Culture of War**

119-25. **Sakai postings (comments on Romance of the Three Kingdoms) due 11pm.**

11/7 Selections from Romance of the Three Kingdoms: “The Red Cliff” episode

Week 11

11/14 **Class Presentation Group 3:** “Representation and/or Reinterpretation of Medieval Warfare in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea” [5 mins each]

**The Culture of Honor**

Week 12


Week 13
11/26 *Chushingura* Part 1. **Sakai postings (comments on Chushingura) due 11pm.**

11/28 No Class. Thanksgiving Recess.

Week 14
12/3 In-class screening *47 Ronin*.  
*Chushingura* Part 2; *Pre-Modern East Asia*, Ch. 17 “Edo Japan” 331-47

12/5 **Class Presentation Group 4:** “Martial Arts Tradition in Contemporary China/Japan/Korea” [5 mins each]

Week 15
12/10 Final review. **5-page final paper due.**

Final Exam
12/23, 2013: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM Final Exam.