This course, in part, is a survey of the major social, intellectual and political developments in China in the century and a half prior to the Chinese Communist victory of 1949. In part, it is an inquiry into the historical origins and the social nature of the Chinese Communist Revolution. Part I of the course examines the decay of the traditional Chinese imperial order and the nature of the Taiping Rebellion. Part II is concerned with the impact of 19th century Western imperialism on traditional Chinese society and the emergence of modern revolutionary movements, culminating in the Revolution of 1911. Parts III and IV focus on the history of Marxism and Communism in China from the May Fourth era to the founding of The People's Republic in 1949. No prior knowledge of Chinese history is presupposed.

Requirements:

1. A final take-home examination based on the lectures and required readings listed below. Exam questions will be distributed on December 11 and your essays are due on or before December 16.

2. Three short essays (about 3-5 pages each) based on the books listed under "Readings" in Parts I, II and III, as indicated below. The three essays, the form and nature of which will be discussed in class, are due on October 2, October 23, and December 2.

3. A term paper (10-12 typewritten pages, doubled-spaced) is optional. Should you elect the option, your grade for the paper will be used in calculating your course grade only if it serves to raise the latter. Some suggested paper topics (or general areas of inquiry) and readings are listed below, although you need not limit yourself to what you find on this list. Papers are due on or before December 9.

Grading: Without term paper: 50% for the final exam; 50% for the three essays.

With paper: 1/3rd for the final exam; 1/3rd for the essays; 1/3rd for the paper.
History 341 (Fall, 1986): Lectures and Readings

Part I: The Decay of the Old Order, 1800-1865

Sept. 2: Introduction to Modern Chinese History
Sept. 4: Feudalism and Capitalism in Chinese History
Sept. 9: State and Society in Traditional China: The Gentry as a Ruling Class
Sept. 11: Confucianism as a Conservative Ideology
Sept. 16: Early Sino-Western Relations and the Opium Wars
Sept. 18: Traditional Peasant Rebellions and the Taiping Rebellion
Sept. 23: The Revolutionary Character of Taiping Christianity

Readings:
1. Frederic Wakeman, The Fall of Imperial China, chapters 1-8 (pp. 1-162)
2. Franz Michael, The Taiping Rebellion

Essay #1 on Michael, Taiping Rebellion due Oct. 2

Part II: Reaction and Revolution, 1865-1911

Sept. 25: The Failure of Conservative Modernization
Sept. 30: The Defection of the Intellectuals and the Hundred Days Reform
Oct. 2: Nationalism versus Anti-Foreignism: The Case of The Boxer Rebellion
(Essay #1 Due)
Oct. 7: Sun Yat-sen and the Origins of the Kuomintang
Oct. 9: Socialism and Anarchism in the Early Revolutionary Movement
Oct. 14: Imperialism and Capitalism in Modern China
Oct. 16: The Revolution of 1911

Readings:
1. Wakeman, The Fall of Imperial China, chapters 9-11 (pp. 163-256)
History 341 (Fall, 1986): Lectures and Readings (2)

Essay #2 on Wright, China in Revolution, due Oct. 23

Part III: The Origins of Marxism and Communism in China, 1915-1927

Oct. 21: The New Culture Movement (1915-1919)

Oct. 23: The May Fourth Movement and the Politicization of the Intellectuals
         (Essay #2 Due)

Oct. 30: Nationalism and Iconoclasm in the May Fourth Era

Nov. 4: The Introduction of Marxism

Nov. 6: The Birth and Early Years of the Chinese Communist Party

Nov. 11: The Soviet Union and the Kuomintang-Communist Alliance

Nov. 13: Nationalism and Social Revolution, 1925-27

Readings:

1. James Sheridan, China in Disintegration, Chs. 1-5

2. Either Harold Isaacs, The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution
   or Maurice Meisner, Li Ta-chao and the Origins of Chinese Marxism
   or Andre Malraux, Man's Fate
   Essay #3 on Isaacs, Meisner or Malraux Due Dec. 2

Part IV: The Chinese Communist Revolution, 1927-1949

Nov. 18: Politics and Culture in Revolutionary China

Nov. 20: Lu Xun and the Left-Wing Literary Movement

Nov. 25: No Meeting (Note: an additional session will be held Wednesday
        evening, December 10)

Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Recess

Dec. 2: Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung) and the Peasantry
        (Essay #3 Due)

Dec. 4: The Kiangsi Soviet and the Long March

Dec. 9: Yenan Communism (1935-45)

Dec. 10: 7-8:15 p.m. On the Nature of the Chinese Communist Revolution; the
         theory of "peasant nationalism"

Dec. 11: The Maoist Revolution and the Marxist-Leninist Tradition

Readings:

1. Sheridan, China in Disintegration, chapters 6-9

2. Edgar Snow, Red Star Over China
Suggested Paper Topics and Readings

1. The Nature of the Gentry Class

   Fei Hsiao-t'ung, China's Gentry
   E. Wakeman, Fall of Imperial China, ch. 2
   Chang Chung-li, The Chinese Gentry

2. The Taiping Revolution

   Franz Michael, The Taiping Rebellion
   Vincent Shih, The Taiping Ideology
   Philip Kuhn, Rebellion and Its Enemies in Late Imperial China

3. Traditional Society and the Failure of Modernization

   Mary C. Wright, The Last Stand of Chinese Conservatism
   Barrington Moore, Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, ch. 4

4. The Decay of Confucianism

   Joseph Levenson, Confucian China and Its Modern Fate
   Benjamin Schwartz, In Search of Wealth and Power: Yen Fu and the West
   Joseph Levenson, Liang Ch'i-ch'ao and the Mind of Modern China

5. The Early Revolutionary Movement

   Edward Friedman, Backward Toward Revolution
   Mary Rankin, Early Chinese Revolutionaries
   Michael Gasster, Chinese Intellectuals and the Revolution of 1911
   Harold Schiffrin, Sun Yat-sen and the Origins of the Chinese Revolution

6. The May Fourth Movement

   Chow Tse-tsung, The May Fourth Movement
   Jerome Grieder, Hu Shih and the Chinese Renaissance

7. The Origins of Marxism and Communism in China

   Lee Feigon, Chen Duxiu: Founder of the Chinese Communist Party
   Maurice Meisner, Li Ta-chao and the Origins of Chinese Marxism
   Benjamin Schwartz, Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao

8. The Urban Working Class

   Jean Chesneaux, The Chinese Labor Movement, 1919-27
   Lynda Shaffer, Mao and the Workers

9. The Revolution of the 1920s as Reflected in Western Literature

   Andre Malraux, Man's Fate
   Andre Malraux, The Conquerers
   Richard McKenna, The Sand Pebbles
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>The Kuomintang in Power</td>
<td>Lloyd Eastman, The Abortive Revolution&lt;br&gt;Sterling Seagrace, The Soong Dynasty&lt;br&gt;James Sheridan, China in Disintegration</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Maoism as a Variant of Marxism-Leninism</td>
<td>Benjamin Schwartz, Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao&lt;br&gt;Stuart Schram, Mao Tse-tung&lt;br&gt;Maurice Meisner, Marxism, Maoism and Utopianism&lt;br&gt;Raymond Wylie, The Emergence of Maoism</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>The Kuomintang-Communist Struggle: The Last Phase</td>
<td>Suzanne Pepper, Civil War in China: The Political Struggle, 1945-49&lt;br&gt;Jack Belden, China Shakes the World</td>
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Periodization of the History of China

Ancient China

Hsia (?) 2200-1750 BC
Shang 1750-1100
Chou 1100-221 BC
  Western Chou, 1100-770
  Eastern Chou, 770-221
    (Spring and Autumn period, 722-481)
    (Warring States period, 403-221)

Imperial (traditional) China

Ch'in 221-207 BC
Former Han 206 BC-2 AD
Later Han 25-220
Period of Disunity 221-589
  (Three Kingdoms 221-264)
Sui 589-617
T'ang 618-906
Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms 907-959
Northern Sung 960-1126
Southern Sung 1127-1275
Yuan (Mongol) 1276-1367
Ming 1368-1644
Ch'ing (Manchu) 1645-1911

Republican China, 1912-1949
  Kuomintang era, 1928-49

People's Republic of China, 1949 --
  Maoist era, 1949-76
  Post-Mao period, 1976 --

Conventional Chinese Marxist Characterizations:

Shang and early Chou -- slave society
Late Chou -- transition from slavery to feudalism
221 B.C. - 1842 AD -- feudalism (or "feudal-bureaucratic")
1842 - 1949 -- semi-colonial and semi-feudal (i.e., partly capitalist)
1949 - 1955 -- "new democratic"
1956 -- -- socialist