The 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 (circa, 1919) to the founding of The People's Republic in 1949. No prior knowledge of Chinese history is presupposed.

In addition to lectures (Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1-2:15), there will be one 50 minute discussion section each week (beginning with the third week) to discuss readings and essays.

Requirements:

1. A final take-home examination based on the lectures and required readings listed below. Exam questions will be distributed on December 12 and your essays are due on or before Monday, December 18.

2. Three short essays (about 5 pages each) based on the books listed under "Readings" in Parts I, III, and IV, as indicated below. The three essays, the form and nature of which will be discussed in class, are due on October 5, November 21, and December 12.

Grading: 40% for the final exam; 40% for the three essays; 20% for work in discussion sections.
History 341 (Fall 1989: Lectures and Readings)

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

Sept. 5: Introduction to Modern Chinese History
Sept. 7: Feudalism and Capitalism in Chinese History
Sept. 12: State and Society in Traditional China: The Gentry as a Ruling Class
Sept. 14: Confucianism as a Conservative Ideology
Sept. 19: Early Sino-Western Relations and the Opium Wars
Sept. 21: Traditional Peasant Rebellions and the Taiping Rebellion
Sept. 26: The Revolutionary Character of Taiping Christianity
Sept. 28: 7:00pm, Bruce Cumings, "Who Started the Korean War", Wisconsin Center.

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. 5.

Part II: Reaction and Revolution, 1865-1911

Sept. 29: The Failure of Conservative Modernization
Oct. 3: The Defection of the Intellectuals and the Hundred Days Reform
Oct. 5: Nationalism versus Anti-Foreignism: The Case of the Boxer Rebellion (Essay #1 due)
Oct. 10: Sun Yat-sen and the Origins of the Kuomintang
Oct. 12: Socialism and Anarchism in the Early Revolutionary Movement
Oct. 17: Imperialism and Capitalism in Modern Chinese History
Oct. 19: The Revolution of 1911: the failure of bourgeois revolution

Readings:
1. Wakeman, The Fall of Imperial China, chapters 9-11 (pp. 163-256)
2. Mary C. Wright, China in Revolution: The First Phase, pp. 1-63, 229-295 (on library reserve)
History 341 (Fall, 1989): Lectures and Readings (2)

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


Oct. 26: The May Fourth Movement and the Politicization of the Intellectuals

Oct. 31: Nationalism and Iconoclasm in the May Fourth Era

Nov. 2: The Introduction of Marxism

Nov. 7: The Birth and Early Years of the Chinese Communist Party

Nov. 9: The Soviet Union and the Kuomintang-Communist Alliance

Nov. 14: The Kuomintang and The National Revolution

Nov. 16: Nationalism and Social Revolution, 1925-27

Readings:

1. Lucien Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 1915-1949, Chs. 1-3 (pp. 1-81)

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
   or Arif Dirlik, The Origins of Chinese Communism

Essay #2 due November 21

Part IV: The Chinese Communist Revolution, 1927-1949

Nov. 21: The Significance of 1927

Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Recess

Nov. 28: The Emergence of Maoism and its relationship to Marxism & Leninism

Nov. 30: The Kiangsi Soviet and the Long March

Dec. 5: Yanan Communism (1935-45)

Dec. 7: On the Nature of the Chinese Communist Revolution; the theory of "peasant nationalism"


Dec. 14: A Comparison of the Chinese and Russian Revolutions

Readings:

1. Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, Chs. 4-7 and Conclusion (pp. 82-208)

2. Edgar Snow, Red Star Over China or William Hinton, Fanshen

Essay #3 due December 12
Suggested Supplementary Readings

1. The Nature of the Gentry Class
   Fei Hsiao-t'ung, China's Gentry
   F. Wakeman, Fall of Imperial China, ch. 2
   Chang Chung-Ti, The Chinese Gentry
   Ho Ping-ti, The Ladder of Success in Imperial China

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 Chi-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
   Lin Yu-sheng, The Crisis of Chinese Consciousness: Radical
   Anti-traditionalism in the May Fourth Era
   Chow Tse-tsung, The May Fourth Movement
   Jerome Grieder, Hu Shih and the Chinese Renaissance
   Vera Schwarz, The Chinese Enlightenment

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
   Arif Dirlik, The Origins of Chinese Communism

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
10. The Kuomintang in Power
   Lloyd Eastman, The Abortive Revolution
   Sterling Seagrave, The Soong Dynasty
   James Sheridan, China in Disintegration
   Parks Coble, The Shanghai Capitalists and the Nationalist Government, 1927-37

11. Marxism in China: Theories of History and Literature
   Arif Dirlik, Revolution and History: Origins of Marxist Historiography in China
   Paul Pickowicz, Ch’u Chiu-pai and the Origins of Chinese Marxist Literary Criticism

12. Chinese Women in an Era of Revolutionary Change
   Marilyn Young (ed.), Women in China
   Helen F. Snow, Women in Modern China
   Elisabeth Croll (ed.), The Women’s Movement in China
   Agnes Smedley, Portraits of Chinese Women in Revolution

13. Mao Tse-tung (Mao Zedong)
   Mao’s autobiography in Edgar Snow, Red Star Over China
   Stuart Schram, Mao Tse-tung
   Jerome Chen, Mao and the Chinese Revolution

14. Maoism as a Variant of Marxism-Leninism
   Benjamin Schwartz, Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao
   Stuart Schram, Mao Tse-tung
   Maurice Meisner, Marxism, Maoism and Utopianism
   Raymond Wylie, The Emergence of Maoism
   Stuart Schram (ed.), The Political Thought of Mao Tse-tung

15. Social and Economic Origins of Rural Revolution
   R.H. Tawney, Land and Labour in China
   Fei Hsiao-tung, Peasant Life in China
   Robert Marks, Rural Revolution in South China: Peasants and the Making of History in Haifeng County, 1570-1930

   Chalmers Johnson, Peasant Nationalism and Communist Power
   Mark Selden, The Yenan Way in Revolutionary China

17. The Kuomintang-Communist Struggle; the Last Phase
   Suzanne Pepper, Civil War in China: The Political Struggle, 1945-49
   Jack Belden, China Shakes the World

18. Other Aspects of the History of Chinese Communism
   Angus McDonald, Urban Origins of Rural Revolution
   Dick Wilson, The Long March
   Agnes Smedley, The Great Road: The Life and Times of Chu Teh
   William Hinton, Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village
   Conrad Brandt, Stalin's Failure in China, 1924-27
   Allen Whiting, Soviet Policies in China, 1917-24
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 - 8 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, 1928-1949

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

Conventional Chinese Marxist Characterizations:

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