History 341 is a survey of the major social, political and intellectual developments in China from the time of the Opium War until the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Its main (but not sole) aim is to understand the historical conditions that yielded the Chinese Communist Revolution and to understand the nature of that revolution. The course is divided into three parts. Part I examines the decay of the old Chinese imperial order in the 19th century and the impact of Western imperialism on traditional Chinese society. Part II, dealing with the period 1895-1927, is concerned with the emergence of modern revolutionary movements, especially the Guomindang (Kuomintang) of Sun Yat-sen and the Chinese Communist Party, which culminate in the great revolutionary upsurge of 1925-27. Part III examines Republican China in the Chiang Kai-shek era and especially the origins and history of the Maoist phase of the Chinese Communist revolution, 1927-49. You are required to read six books over the course of the semester. Three books will serve as texts to be read in conjunction with the lectures and discussions. These are:

Frederic Wakeman, *The Fall of Imperial China* (Free Press)
Lucien Bianco, *The Origins of the Chinese Revolution* (Stanford)
Ono Kazuko, *Chinese Women in a Century of Revolution, 1850-1950* (Stanford)

Assignments in the Wakeman and Bianco books are listed below. Assignments for the Ono Kazuko volume will be announced in the discussion sections. All three volumes are available for purchase in local bookstores.

You are required to read one additional book (more if you wish) for each of the three parts of the course. At the conclusion of Parts I, II, and III, you will be asked to write a short interpretive essay (about 5 double-spaced typewritten pages) based upon the volume you have selected from those listed below under section "B" of "Required Readings" for each of the three parts into which the course is divided. The three essays, the form and nature of which will be discussed in class, are due (respectively) on Tuesday October 15, Tuesday November 19, and Tuesday December 10. To satisfy particular interests which you may have or acquire, you may substitute books other than those listed below with the consent of the TA.

There will be a final take-home examination based on lectures, required readings, and work in the discussion sections. Exam questions will be distributed on December 12 and your exam is due on or before December 20.

No prior knowledge of Chinese history is presupposed.
Grading:
The three short essays -- 40%
The final exam -- 40%
Participation in discussion section -- 20%

LECTURE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

Part I: The Decay of the old Regime, 1800-1895 (Sept. 3 -- Oct. 3)

Feudalism and Capitalism in Chinese History
State and Society in Traditional China: The Gentry as a Ruling Class
Confucianism as a Conservative Ideology
Early Sino-Western Relations and the Opium Wars
Traditional Peasant Rebellions and the Taiping Rebellion
The Revolutionary Character of Taiping Christianity
"Self-Strengthening": The Failure of Conservative Modernization
The Sino-Japanese War, 1894-95
Imperialism in Modern Chinese History
The Origins and Nature of Modern Chinese Capitalism

Required Readings for Part I
Frderic Wakeman, The Fall of Imperial China, chapters 1-10.
Franz Michael, The Taiping Rebellion OR
Mary C. Wright, The Last Stand of Chinese Conservatism

Essay #1 due Oct. 15

Part II: The Rise of the Modern Revolutionary Movement, 1895-1927 (Oct. 8-Nov. 7)

The Defection of the Intellectuals
The Hundred Days Reform
The Transition from Culturalism to Nationalism: Yen Fu and Liang Qichao
Nationalism versus Anti-Foreignism: The Case of the Boxer Rebellion
Sun Yat-sen and the Origins of the Guomindang
The Revolution of 1911 and the Failure of Bourgeois Democracy
Socialism and Anarchism in the Early Revolutionary Movement, 1900-1919
The Modern Chinese Intelligentsia and the New Culture Movement, 1915-1919
The Modern Women's Liberation Movement
The May Fourth Movement and the Politicization of the Intelligentsia
The Tension between Nationalism and Cultural Iconoclasm
The Introduction of Marxism
The Chinese Labor Movement
The Birth and Early Years of the Chinese Communist Party
The Soviet Union and the Guomindang-Communist Alliance
Nationalism and Social Revolution, 1925-1927

Required Readings for Part II
Wakeman, chapter 11.
Harold Isaacs, The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution OR
Andre Malraux, Man's Fate
Maurice Meisner, Lita-chao and The Origins of Chinese Marxism

Essay #2 due Nov. 19.

The Significance of 1927
Maoism as a Variant of Marxism
The Kiangsi Soviet and the Long March
Guomindang China, 1927-37
Bureaucratic Capitalism in Traditional & Modern China.
Yenan Communism, 1935-45
On Interpreting the Chinese Communist Revolution: the theory of "peasant nationalism"
The Civil War, 1945-49
A Comparison of Chinese and Russian Revolutions

Required Readings for Part III

Bianco, *Origins of the Chinese Revolution*, chs. 4-7 and Conclusion

Edgar Snow, *Red Star Over China* OR

William Hinton, *Fanshen: Documentary of Revolution in A Chinese Village* OR

Mark Selden, *The Yenan Way in Revolutionary China*.

Essay #3 due Dec. 10

The questions for the final take-home exam will be distributed on the last class day, Thursday, December 12. You will be asked to write two essays, of which one must discuss specifically a topic relevant to Part III of the course dealing with the 1927-49 period. Your essays are due no later than high noon on Friday Dec. 20.
Suggested Supplementary 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-tsun, *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 Te-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*

10. The Kuomintang in Power

Lyoyd Eastman, *The Abortive Revolution*
Sterling Seagrave, *The Soong Dynasty*
James Sheridan, *China in Disintegration*

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’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*

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*

16. The Nature of the Chinese Communist Revolution: Nationalism and Social Revolution

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

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, 1928-49

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