

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I Year 1981-1982

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
103	Introduction to East Asian History: China	Yu-sheng Lin

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 103 is an introductory and yet comprehensive survey of political, social, economic, cultural and philosophical developments in Chinese history from the dawn of Chinese civilization circa 1500 BC to the founding of the Communist State in 1949. The course is intended for freshmen, sophomores who wish a general exposure to the history of China and/or those who intend to take a preparatory course for the Department's upper division offerings in East Asian history. Although a chronological sequence will be followed, the vast areas of subject matters that are covered in this course necessitates a topical approach to provide depth in understanding the basic patterns and themes of Chinese history. The course is concerned in particular with an elucidation of the essential features of Chinese civilization developed in the classical and traditional period (1500 BC- 1840 AD) and their transformation under the impact of the West during the modern era (1840-1949).

LECTURES

Two lectures per week supplemented by discussion sections. Considerable use is made of filmstrips and movies in class.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

- (1) a midterm and a final in-class examination (50% identifications; 50% short essays)
- (2) two short (4-7 page) typewritten (double spaced) reports on the assigned readings or on topics of the student's choice approved by the instructor.
- (3) An "Incomplete" is rarely permitted in this course. In other words, it is granted only under extremely unusual circumstances, such as a prolonged illness substantiated by a letter from the student's physician.

GRADING SYSTEM

Papers 45%

Performance in Discussion Sections 10%

Exams 45%

REQUIRED READINGS

Charles O. Hucker, China's Imperial Past (Stanford, 1975)

John T. Meskill, ed., An Introduction to Chinese Civilization (Heath, 1973)

Recommended Text

James E. Sheridan, China in Disintegration (Free Press, 1975)