

History 103 - Introduction to East Asian History: China

Fall 2004

9:55 MWF, 1641 Humanities

Class Website: <http://history.wisc.edu/sheehan/103/103home.htm>

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Readings: (available at University Book Store or on reserve at College Library)

Conrad Schirokauer, [A Brief History of Chinese Civilization](#)

Kenneth J. Hammond, ed., [The Human Tradition in Premodern China](#)

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, ed., [Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook](#)

Themes:

The course material will be presented in roughly chronological order. In addition, I will focus on three important themes.

- 1) What is China and what does it mean to be Chinese? Is there a single geographical or political entity that can, over time, be identified as China, or are there beliefs, family structures, ideologies or cultural patterns which can be defined as Chinese?
- 2) Who were the Chinese elites, how did they exercise dominance and how did hierarchies change over time? How can Chinese history help us understand the concept of monarchy or “kingship”?
- 3) What has been China’s place in the larger world context and how does that affect our understanding of Chinese and world history?

Requirements:

Map Quiz (5%)

A list of items you must know and a sample map will be handed out in class in advance of the quiz.

Section (15%)

Your section grade is determined by attendance and participation in weekly section meetings. You should have the readings completed before section each week to facilitate discussion. You will be allowed one free absence in section for the semester; each additional unexcused absence will result in a one-half letter grade deduction.

Once during the semester you will be required to bring a current newspaper or periodical article about China to section and discuss its implications (bring copies for all section members). Possible sources for articles (most have web versions):

The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Far Eastern Economic Review, Asian edition of Time Magazine, South China Morning Post

Midterm (15%) and Final (20%)

The midterm will include identifications of terms (see ID handout) and identification and analysis of quotes from the Ebrey readings. The final will be similar with the addition of an essay question related to the themes of the class. Examinations will not be rescheduled without a medical excuse or other valid excuse in accordance with University policy.

Three Two-Page papers (45%, or 15% each)

Over the course of the semester, you must write **two analytical** papers and **one creative** paper. See the Two-Page Paper Handout for further guidelines.

Papers will be **due in section the week after the reading is assigned** on the syllabus. In other words, if you do a paper on week three readings, it will be due in section week four. You will decide when to hand in the paper and which will be creative and which two will be analytical.

First Paper due no later than Week Six

Second Paper due no sooner than Week Seven and no later than Week Ten

Third Paper due no sooner than Week Eleven and no later than Week Sixteen

Handouts

The following handouts, as well as the syllabus, are available for viewing and download on the course website <http://history.wisc.edu/sheehan/103/103home.htm>. Those marked with asterisks (*) will not be handed out in class, but must be downloaded

***Geography Handout** - a list of items you need to know for the map quiz

***Practice Map** - a blank map of China like the one you will use to take the map quiz

***ID Handout** - List of items you will need to be able to identify for the midterm and final.

***The Two-Page Paper** - detailed instructions on writing your two-page paper assignments

Week One - Course Organization, Geography and the Origins of Chinese Civilization

Schirokauer v-xii, map and timeline (unpaged sections after the table of contents), 3-8;

Hammond, xiii-xx

Fri 9/3

Week Two – The Shang and other Bronze Age Cultures

Schirokauer 8-26; Hammond, 1-13; Ebrey Reading # 1

Mon 9/6 **Labor Day Holiday**

Wed 9/8

Friday 9/10

Week Three - The Zhou Period and Its Classic Texts

Schirokauer 27-49; Ebrey, Readings # 2-10

Mon 9/13

Wed 9/15

Fri 9/17

Week Four - The Qin and Han: Empire and the Transformation of the Confucian Vision

Schirokauer 50-76, Hammond 15-26; Ebrey Readings # 11-15, 17, 19

Mon 9/20

Wed 9/22 (**Map Quiz**)

Fri 9/24

Week Five - Division and Change

Schirokauer 82-85, 90-92; Hammond, 27-55; Ebrey Readings # 20, 21, 24

Mon 9/27

Wed 9/29

Fri 10/1

Week Six - Religion

Schirokauer 79-82, 85-89, 98-100, ; Hammond, 57-76; Ebrey Readings # 18, 22, 23, 27,

31, 33, 34, 37

Mon 10/4

Wed 10/6

Fri 10/8

Week Seven - The Sui and Tang: Reunification and Splendor

Schirokauer 101-129; Hammond, 77-92; Ebrey Readings # 25, 26, 28-30

Mon 10/11

Wed 10/13

Fri 10/15

Week Eight - The Song: The Dawn of Late Imperial China

Schirokauer 132-161, Hammond, 93-109; Ebrey Readings # 32, 35, 36, 38-41

Mon 10/18

Wed 10/20

Fri 10/22

Week Nine - Mongol China

Schirokauer 162-181; Hammond, 111-125; Ebrey Readings # 44-46

Mon 10/25

Wed 10/27

Fri 10/29 (**Midterm**)

Week Ten - The Ming

Schirokauer 182-208; Hammond, 143-164; Ebrey Readings # 47, 48, 53-56, 58

Mon 11/1

Wed 11/3

Fri 11/5

Week Eleven - Reflections on China's Place in the World

Schirokauer 209-224

Mon 11/8

Wed 11/10

Fri 11/12

Week Twelve - The Qing: Founding and Flourishing

Schirokauer 225-250; Ebrey Readings # 59, 61-63, 66, 67

Mon 11/15

Wed 11/17

Fri 11/19

Week Thirteen - The Qing: Crisis, Renewal, Decline

Schirokauer 251-307; Ebrey Readings # 68-70, 73-75

Mon 11/22

Wed 11/24

Fri 11/26 (**Thanksgiving Recess**)

Week Fourteen - The Republic

Schirokauer 310-350; Ebrey Readings # 76-80, 82, 84

Mon 11/29

Wed 12/1

Fri 12/3

Week Fifteen - The People's Republic of China

Schirokauer 351-382; Ebrey Readings # 85, 86, 89, 91, 93, 99

Mon 12/6

Wed 12/8

Fri 12/10

Week Sixteen - China Today and Review

Mon 12/13

Wed 12/15

Final Exam

Exam # 4, Saturday December 18th, 12:25 pm, room to be announced.