

Department of History

Semester I

1980-81

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
573	MUKDEN, PEARL HARBOR, HIROSHIMA: JAPAN & THE CRISIS IN ASIA, 1931-1945 "Consent of Instructor Required to register for this course"	J. W. Dower 5114 Humanities 263-1972

COURSE CONTENT.

History 573 explores the causes and consequences of what is known in Japan and China as the Fifteen-Year War--beginning with the Manchurian Incident of 1931 and proceeding through the undeclared Sino-Japanese war to the extension of World War Two to Asia and the Pacific. The period is seen primarily from the Japanese perspective, but the approach is necessarily multi-national and multi-disciplinary.

COURSE STRUCTURE & REQUIREMENTS.

The course is designed to involve students in research and discussion. Once a general background and framework has been established, each student will prepare a research paper of roughly 25 pages on a particular aspect of the Far Eastern crisis. A list of suggested topics will be provided. Use of primary materials is strongly encouraged, and a bibliography will be distributed which includes the many resources available in English in this area: official publications, memoirs, translations from the Japanese, propaganda, transcripts of hearings and trials on the war, and a wide range of newspapers, journals, and yearbooks published at the time.

There is no examination. Students will prepare a general 'chronology of significant developments' as a basis for discussion early on in the course. A research topic (with proposed bibliography) must be submitted by the 4th week, and students will report on their research to the class during the latter part of the semester. These projects will be discussed individually with the instructor at various stages.

GRADING.

The paper will account for 75 percent of the final grade, with class performance (discussion and report) comprising the remaining 25 percent.

RECOMMENDED READINGS.

Ienaga, Saburo. The Pacific War: World War II and the Japanese, 1931-1945  
(Pantheon, 1978).

Butow, Robert J. C. Tojo and the Coming of the War (Stanford paperback, 1961)