

HIST 573  
Sem. 3

China and Utopianism  
Fall 1990  
Thurs. 10-12

Lynch  
5125 Humanities  
263-1822

In this seminar we will test the usefulness of the Western concept, utopianism, in understanding modern China. We will begin by looking briefly at the origins and development of the term in the West and then turn to utopian phenomena in China, attempting to apply some of the ideas developed in the first section of the seminar.

Texts: The following books are available in the bookstore. Other readings will be on reserve or at Kinko's or distributed in class.

Manuel and Manuel, Utopian Thought in the Western World  
Thomas More, Utopia  
Edward Bellamy, Looking Backward  
Karl Mannheim, Ideology and Utopia  
Stuart Schram, ed., Chairman Mao Talks to the People  
Maurice Meisner, Marxism, Maoism, and Utopianism

#### Course Requirements:

This course is a seminar, consisting primarily of class discussions, in which it is imperative that students come to class having read and thought about the assignments. Students will each take a turn introducing major themes of a week's readings and will turn in an essay (c. 4-5 pp.) to accompany their discussion. Early in the semester students should develop a topic for a seminar paper (c. 20-30 pp.), which will be presented to the class at the end of the semester. Papers must be distributed to the entire class in advance of their presentation, and, in addition to presenting their own paper, each student will serve as a commentator for another's paper. Those students who have slight familiarity with Chinese history should read Michael Gasster, China's Struggle to Modernize (on reserve) or an equivalent text by the sixth week. The course grade will be based equally on class participation and writing.

#### Schedule of Class Meetings and Readings:

Sept. 6      Introductory meeting

Sept. 13     Manuel and Manuel, "Introduction: The Utopian Propensity"  
                  (Also, "The Passion of Thomas More")  
                  More, Utopia

Sept. 20     Bellamy, Looking Backward  
                  (Manuel and Manuel, "Utopian Victoriana", pp. 759-764)

- Sept. 27 Marx, "Manifesto of the Communist Party, Part III, Socialist and Communist Literature", in Marx and Engels, Basic Writings on Politics and Philosophy, Lewis Feuer, ed., pp. 29-39  
Engels, "Socialism: Utopian and Scientific", in Basic Writings, pp. 68-132  
(Manuel and Manuel, "Marx and Engels in the Landscape of Utopia", also "The Union of Labor and Love")
- Oct. 4 Mannheim, "Ideology and Utopia" and "The Utopian Mentality", in Ideology and Utopia, pp. 55-108 and pp. 192-263
- Oct. 11 "Li Yun" in the Li Ji (The Book of Rites)  
Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching, D. C. Lau trans., p. 142  
The Complete Works of Chuang Tzu, Burton Watson, trans., pp. 104-106, 211  
Mencius, D. C. Lau, trans., Book III, Part A, no. 3, pp. 97-100  
T'ao Ch'ien, "Peach Blossom Spring" in Anthology of Chinese Literature, Cyril Birch, ed., pp. 167-168  
(Jos. Levenson, "Ill Wind in the Well-field" in Confucian China and Its Modern Fate, Vol. III, pp. 16-43)
- Oct. 18 Jonathan Spence, The Search for Modern China, pp. 170-178  
Franz Michael, The Taiping Rebellion, vols. I, II, III; skim vol. I and read especially Document 46, "The Land System of the Heavenly Dynasty", and Document 203, "A New Treatise of Aids to Administration"  
Wolfgang Bauer, China and the Search for Happiness, "Sleep and the Message of the Heavenly Father"
- Oct. 25 K'ang Yu-wei, Ta T'ung Shu: The One-World Philosophy of K'ang Yu-wei, Laurence G. Thompson, trans.  
Jonathan Spence, The Gate of Heavenly Peace, pp. (29-63), 63-74  
Bauer, "The Vision of 'The Great Equality'"
- Nov. 1 Bauer, "The Confusion of Ideals"  
Michael Gasster, Chinese Intellectuals and the Revolution of 1911, pp. 177-182
- Nov.8 William Hinton, Shenfan, pp. 205-257  
Spence, Search, pp. 574-583  
Bauer, "The New Empire and the Salvation of the World"
- Nov. 15 Mao Tse-tung, "The Great Union of the Popular Masses" and "Report of an Investigation into the Peasant Movement in Hunan", in The Political Thought of Mao Tse-tung, Stuart Schram, ed., pp. 239-241 and 250-259  
Chairman Mao Talks to the People, Schram, ed.  
Maurice Meisner, Marxism, Maoism, and Utopianism, chaps. 2 and 7, (also 1, 3, or 5)  
Manuel and Manuel, "Epilogue: The Utopian Prospect"
- Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 Presentation of papers