

## HIST 109D: Modern Asia

### Modern East Asia: Bodies of Evidence

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Office Hours: Tues 10-12 or by appt, Wilson 2-168

Class Hours: MWF 12-12.50, Reid 104

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Welcome to the wonderful world of modern East Asian history. By the end of the course I will hopefully have you questioning the significance of most of the words in that first sentence: “world,” “modern,” “Asia,” and “history” included. MmmmwahahaHA! This course is a survey introduction to East Asia in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, explored through the theme of bodies and body parts.

History is a broad field that encompasses many different texts and approaches. During our semester together we will look at fiction, poetry, speeches, music, film, comic books, paintings, objects, essays, and other texts. This course is all about helping you realize that history is not just a matter of names and dates – it’s about finding a way to make another time and place come alive for you. Some of you will develop that fire with Sun Yat-sen’s speeches; some will be more excited by *Akira*. In either case, try to give each of the readings a chance. This is **your** class. Take initiative and find your own path through it. Come talk to us if you’re having trouble, or if you’re really excited about something.

#### Grading

There are two options available for assessment in this course. You must choose by the time of the midterm, based on your ultimate goals for the semester.

**Option A:** “I’m interested in using this course to give me a broad introduction to Modern East Asia, and I really would rather take a final exam than write a paper.”

Participation (Thinkpieces & Discussion) 35%

Take-Home Midterm 25%

Take-Home Final **Due December 10 by 5 pm** 40%

(The Map Quiz will count toward participation)

**Option B:** “I was fascinated by some aspect of the course materials and would like the opportunity to investigate something in more depth. I’m possibly a history major, or am thinking of becoming one, and I’d like to write a short paper instead of taking a final exam.”

Participation (Thinkpieces & Discussion) 35%

Take-Home Midterm	25%	
Final Thinkpiece	10%	
10-pp Paper Final	<b>Due December 10 by 5 pm</b>	30%
(The Map Quiz will count toward participation)		

You must complete all requirements to pass the course. Assignments must be submitted on time. Late exams and papers will be penalized a partial grade for each day late: an A becomes an A-, a B- becomes a C+, etc. No exceptions.

### Plagiarism

All work for this course must be your own. Do not cut and paste from websites. Do not copy other students' or authors' work. Do not pass go. Do not collect \$200. Any work found to be plagiarized will automatically receive a failing grade. So say we all.

### Required Reading

It is essential that you keep up with the reading for the course. Primary sources will be the basis for weekly discussions, and you are expected to come to discussion section having done the weeks reading. Course readings will be posted on our course website via WebCT. In addition, we will be reading the following books. All are available on reserve at the library and for purchase through the bookstore:

1. Patricia Ebrey, *Modern East Asia: From 1600* (Boston & NY: Houghton Mifflin, 2006)
2. Junichiro Tanizaki, *Naomi*
3. Yu Hua, *Chronicle of a Blood Merchant* (NY: Anchor Books, 2003)
4. Katsuhiro Otomo, *Akira, Vol. 1* (Dark Horse Manga, 2000)

Treat the Ebrey textbook as a guide and reference manual throughout the course. Use it as needed to help with names, dates, and a general chronology. Though it is listed as "required," you will not be tested directly on the textbook material. It is rather meant as a resource for you.

Aside from the books, all readings are available on the WebCT site and on electronic reserve at Renne Library. See the syllabus as a guide to the names of .pdf files for each reading.

**Readings in BOLD are on the WebCT "Course Readings" page.** Otherwise, .pdf files are on e-reserves through the library website.

The "Optional" readings are just that: completely optional. They are provided as a resource for you to learn more about a topic, do a little preliminary research for papers, or just to explore.

Each week, a reading guide to the following week's materials will be posted on the course website. Use the reading guide as a way to focus your reading, prepare for discussion sections, and add girth to the pile of papers you will generate for this class by the end of the time. More handouts = More fun!

### Thinkpieces

You are required to post a thinkpiece **AND** respond to one other student's post every week. Thinkpieces and responses must be posted each week by **MONDAY at 3 PM**. These are meant for you to have a space to think about the week's readings and issues before you come to discussion. They are individually ungraded, but together they will form a significant part of your participation grade.

We will assign a particular question for some weeks' thinkpiece assignment, but for the most part they are completely free-form. There is no minimum required length, and you should feel free to use the space as creatively as you'd like: raise questions, work through something in the readings that particularly interested or troubled you, post a drawing inspired by one of the assigned paintings for the week, etc. The important thing is to demonstrate that you are engaging with the readings. Be creative. Shake it like a Polaroid picture.

Remember that you are also required to respond to another student's post each week. Be respectful of each other! This response does not need to be lengthy. It's intended to encourage you to begin discussion before you get to class, and to start forming an intellectual community with each other.

### The Course Website

We will be using the website every week to discuss the material via thinkpieces and responses. Make friends with it:

<http://webct.montana.edu/>

Log in with your WebCT ID. You all should be signed up for the course website already – if not, let me know ASAP.

To post thinkpieces and responses:

1. Log in to WebCT
2. Click on Tab for **HIST109D01f07 Modern Asia**
3. Click the link to **Discussions**
4. Each discussion section has its own weekly thread for thinkpieces. **FIRST**, click on the thread appropriate to the week and your discussion section (e.g., **Week 2: Th 10-11**) to get to the appropriate board.
5. To post a thinkpiece: Click the bar for **Compose Message** and follow the directions.
6. To post a response: Click on the icon next to the thinkpiece you'd like to respond to, and hit **Reply** to post your response.

And so on, and so on. Lather, rinse, repeat.

The course website also contains vital resources such as (some) course readings, reading guides, and assorted other goodies. Do check it out regularly.

### Film

The film *Raise the Red Lantern* will be required for week 11 of the course. This will not be

shown during regular course hours, so please plan ahead. We will announce screening times for the film later in the semester.

Weekly Schedule

BUILDING A BODY

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- 01 M Aug. 27     **NO CLASS**  
01 W Aug. 29     Introduction to the Course  
01 F Aug. 31     Body Parts I: Building a Body in Modern East Asia

Readings:

1. Look at the “Basics” document on WebCT

Important Events:

**No discussion section meetings this week**  
**Study map for week three’s quiz distributed on Friday**

H A I R

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- 02 M Sept. 03    **NO CLASS - Labor Day**  
02 W Sept. 05    Queue  
02 F Sept. 07    Beards and Topknots

Required Reading:

1. Lu Xun, “The Story of Hair” 1920 (70-76) (2 - LuXunHair.PDF)
2. “The Debate over the Ako Vendetta [of 1703]” (*SJT* 2.1, 354-355) (2 - AkoDebate.PDF)
3. Fukuzawa Yukichi (1830-1901), *An Encouragement of Learning* (selection, *SJT* 2.1, 381-383) (2 - FukuEncouragement.PDF)
4. “The Ako Vendetta Dramatized” and “*Hagakure* and the Way of the Samurai” (*SJT* 2.1, 383-393) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 2 - Hagakure.PDF**)
5. Fukuzawa, *An Outline of a Theory of Civilization* (selection, *SJT* 2.2, 32-41) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 2 - FukuOutline.PDF**)

Textbook:

Ebrey, “Japan in Turmoil (1800-1867)” and “Meiji Transformation (1868-1900)”

M U S C L E

肌肉

- 03 M Sept. 10    Weakness  
03 W Sept. 12    Flexing  
03 F Sept. 14    Building

Required Reading:

1. “Memorial on Legalizing Opium” (111-114) and “Memorial on Banning Opium” (114-119) **(On WebCT Course Readings as Opium.PDF for the first 3 of these readings)**
2. “Imperial Edict, September 1836” (119) **(See above)**
3. “Lord Palmerston’s Declaration of War” (123-127) **(See above)**
4. Thomas de Quincey, “Confessions of an English Opium Eater” (selection) (3 - DeQuincey.pdf)
5. “*The Independent* and The Independence Club” 1896-1898 (278-288) **(On WebCT Course Readings as 3 - Independent.PDF)**

Textbook:

Ebrey, “China in Decline (1800-1900)” and “The Final Years of Choson Korea (1800-1895)”

Optional Reading:

1. “The Iwakura Mission” (*SJT* 2.2, 13-17) (3op - Iwakura.PDF)
2. Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine*, Ch. 3 “Muscularity and Identity” (selection, 111-151) **(On WebCT Course Readings as 3op - Kuriyama.PDF)**

Important Events:

**Map Quiz in Discussion Section!!**

F E E T

脚

04 M Sept. 17     Bound feet  
04 W Sept. 19     Stomping feet  
04 F Sept. 21     Dancing feet

Required Reading:

1. Junichiro Tanizaki, *Naomi*
2. “Ridding China of Bad Customs” (341-347) (4 - Ridding\_China.pdf)
3. “Radical Critiques of Traditional Society” (*SCT* 389-395) **(On WebCT Course Readings as 4 - RadicalCritiques.PDF)**

Textbook:

Ebrey, “The Loss of Korean Independence and Colonial Rule (1896-1945)” and “Rise of Modern Japan (1900-1931)”

Optional Reading:

1. Lu Yihan, “Two Biographies [of chaste women]” (234-235) (4op - LuAndLuWomen.PDF for this and the reading below)
2. Lu Xun, “My Views on Chastity, 1918” (235-238) (See above)

3. Ge Fei, "Remembering Mr. Wu You" (4op - GeFeiWuYou.PDF)

## H A N D S

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手

- 05 M Sept. 24    Fists  
05 W Sept. 26    Fingers  
05 F Sept. 28    Palms

### Required Reading:

1. Sun Yat-sen, "The Three People's Principles and the Future of the Chinese People" (1906 speech) (5 - SunYatSen1906.PDF)
2. Yuan Shikai, "Poem to the Soldiers" (5 - YuanShiKaiPoem.PDF)
3. Syngman Rhee, "The Spirit of Independence" 1904 (299-305) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 5 - RheeIndep.PDF**)

### Textbook:

Ebrey, "Remaking China (1900-1927)"

### Optional Reading:

1. Yi Hyosok, "Where the Buckwheat Blooms" 1936 (5op - Buckwheat.PDF)
2. Sun Yat-sen on knowledge vs action (1918) (5op - SunYatSen1918.PDF)
3. Sun Yat-sen, "The Three Principles of the People (*San-min chu-i*)" 1919 (222-236) (5op - SunYatSen1919.PDF)

### Important Events:

Sept. 25 is the mid-autumn festival for 2007

## B L O O D I

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血

- 06 M Oct. 01    Genes  
06 W Oct. 03    Wounds  
06 F Oct. 05    Red

### Required Reading:

1. Lu Xun, "Medicine" 1919 (6 - LuXunMedicine.PDF)
2. Yan Fu on Evolution and Progress 1895 (*SCT* 254-260) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 6 - YanFu.PDF**)
3. Rewriting the history of the Nanjing Massacre in Japan (*SJT* 563-575) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 6 - NanjingRewrite.PDF**)
4. Shuhsi Shu, *A New Digest of Japanese War Conduct* 1941 (26-35) (6 - JapanWarDigest.PDF)
5. Spence, *Modern China*, "The Rape of Nanjing" (324-330) (6 - SpenceNanjing.PDF)

### Textbook:

Ebrey, “War and Revolution, China (1927-1949)”

Optional Reading:

1. Takashi Yoshida, “A Battle over History” in Fogel, *Nanjing Massacre* (70-132) [Browse to get a sense of the general issues involved and major trends that Yoshida describes] (6op - YoshidaBattle.PDF)
2. Daqing Yang, “The Challenges of the Nanjing Massacre: Reflections on Historical Inquiry” in Joshua Fogel, ed. *The Nanjing Massacre in History and Historiography* (133-179) (6op - YangChallenges.PDF)

C E L L S

細胞

07 M Oct. 08     Atoms  
07 W Oct. 10     Mutation  
07 F Oct. 12     Division

Required Reading:

1. Kenzaburo Oe, “Hiroshima Notes” (*SJT* 2.2, 561-563) (7 - Kenzaburo.PDF)
2. See the *Quotations of Chairman Mao Zedong*: <http://art-bin.com/art/omaotoc.html> (Read selections to be announced in class)
3. Bill Tsutsui, *Godzilla on my Mind*, “The Birth of Gojira” (13-42) (7 - TsutsuiZilla.PDF)

Textbook:

Ebrey, “War and Aftermath in Japan (1931-1964)”

Important Events:

**Take-Home Midterm Distributed Friday**

N O S E

鼻

08 M Oct. 15     The Foul  
08 W Oct. 17     The Fragrant  
08 F Oct. 19     **NO CLASS**

Required Reading:

1. Lin Biao, “Why a Cultural Revolution?” (8 - LinBiao.PDF)
2. Bei Guancheng, “I Saw Chairman Mao!” (8 - ISawMao.PDF)
3. “As We Watched Them Beat Him...” (8 - WeWatchedBeat.PDF)
4. Yang Yan, “Childhood Without Toys” (8 - ChildhoodToys.PDF)
5. Yu Xiaoming, “Go on Red! Stop on Green!” (8 - GoOnRed.PDF)



Optional Reading:

1. “Vigorously and Speedily Eradicate Bizarre Bourgeois Hairstyles” (8op - BourgeoisHair.PDF)
2. “In Praise of Red Guards” (8op - InPraiseofRedGuards.PDF)
3. “Interrogation Record: Wang Guangmei” (8op - InterrogationRecord.PDF)

Important Events:

**Take-Home Midterm DUE Friday**

**Let us know by the end of this week if you plan on writing a final paper!!!**

## B L O O D I I

血

09 M Oct. 22     Poison  
09 W Oct. 24     Paint  
09 F Oct. 26     Pulse

Required Reading:

1. Yu Hua, *Chronicle of a Blood Merchant*

Textbook:

Ebrey, “China Under Mao (1949-1976)”

Optional Reading:

1. Chon Kwangyong “The Bandmaster” (from *Postwar Korean Short Stories: An Anthology*) (9op - Bandmaster.PDF)

## S T O M A C H

肚

10 M Oct. 29     Famine  
10 W Oct. 31     Fish  
10 F Nov. 02     Buns

Required Reading:

1. Haruki Murakami, “The Year of Spaghetti” (10 - Murakami Year of Spaghetti)
2. Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney, “McDonald’s in Japan: Changing Manners and Etiquette” (161-182) in James Watson, ed. *Golden Arches East: McDonald’s in East Asia* (10 - McDonaldsJapan.PDF)
3. Judith Farquhar, *Appetites*, “Preamble to Part I” (37-45), “A Feast for the Mind” (79-119), and “Mo Yan’s ‘I Can’t Forget Eating’” (128-136) (10 - FarquharAppetites.PDF)
4. Mo Yan, “The Cure” (172-181) [Note: This story is particularly gruesome.] (10 - MoYanCure.PDF)

Optional Reading:

1. Lu Xun, "Diary of a Madman" (10op - DiaryOfAMadman.PDF)
2. Mo Yan, *The Republic of Wine*, "Ape Liquor, by Li Yidou" (276-294) [Note: This is a very small selection from a much longer book. The story of ape liquor is based on an actual historical account. More background is available on this if you read it and are interested – come see us!] **On WebCT Course Readings as 10op - MoYanRepublicWine.PDF)**
3. James Watson, "Introduction" and "Update" to James Watson, ed. *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia* (10op - WatsonArchesIntro.PDF and 10op - WatsonArchesUpdate.PDF)

P R I V A T E   P A R T S

私

- 11 M Nov. 05    Sex  
11 W Nov. 07    Love  
11 F Nov. 09    Poop

Required Reading:

1. Watch *Raise the Red Lantern* (on Monday evening, or on DVD some time before discussion section)
2. Kim Tongin, "Potatoes" 1925 (11 - Potatoes.PDF)

Optional Reading:

1. Su Tong, "Raise the Red Lantern" (novella, on reserve in Renne)

C Y B O R G S

半机

- 12 M Nov. 12    **NO CLASS - Veteran's Day**  
12 W Nov. 14    Akira  
12 F Nov. 16    Kim

Required Reading:

1. Katsuhiro Otomo, *Akira, Book 1*
2. "President Syngman Rhee's Inaugural Address, 15 August 1948" (384-387) (12 - SyngmanInaug.PDF)
3. "Kim Il Sung and Juche Thought in North Korea" (419-425) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 12 - Juche.PDF**)

Textbook:

Ebrey, "Korea (1945 to the Present)"

Optional Reading:

1. Guy Delisle, *Pyongyang* (on reserve in Renne)

M U M M I E S

木 乃 伊

- 13 M Nov. 19 Mao (a discussion)  
13 W Nov. 21 **NO CLASS - Thanksgiving**  
13 F Nov. 23 **NO CLASS - Thanksgiving**

Required Reading:

**\*\*Note: Please have the following reading done for class on MONDAY!**

1. Li Zhisui, *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*, "The Death of Mao" (3-30) (13 - LiZhiSui.PDF)
2. Mao Zedong, "Seal the Coffin and Pass the Final Verdict!" (13 - MaoCoffin.PDF)
3. Li Jie, "The Mao Phenomenon: A Survivor's Critique" (13 - LiJie.PDF)
4. He Xin, "A Fan from Way Back" (13 - HeXin.PDF)
5. Wei Jingsheng, "Who's Responsible?" (13 - WeiJingSheng.PDF)

Optional Reading:

1. Kim Sungok, "Seoul: 1964, Winter" (1964) (13op - Seoul.PDF)
2. Suo Guoxin, "A Prologue that is Really an Epilogue" (13op - SuoGuoXin.PDF)
3. CCP Central Committee resolution (13op - CCPResolution.PDF)

Important Note:

No section this week! We will have a discussion in Monday's class.

E A R S

耳 朵

- 14 M Nov. 26 Gunshots  
14 W Nov. 28 Rock  
14 F Nov. 30 Opera

Required Reading:

1. Week 14 Soundfiles on WebCT
2. Spence, "Testing the Limits" (487-506) (**On WebCT Course Readings as 14 - SpenceTestingLimits.PDF**)

S K I N

皮 膚

- 15 M Dec. 03 Needles  
15 W Dec. 05 Tattoos

15 F Dec. 07      Body Parts II: Building a Body in Modern East Asia

Required Reading:

1. File of Week 15 images on WebCT

Important Events:

**Final Wrap-Up Thinkpiece Due!!!**