

Texas Southern University

HISTORY OF MODERN CHINA

HIST 362 Public Affairs Building 307 TR 9:30–10:45 AM

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a history of China from the end of the imperial period (1911 CE) up to the present. We will cover the major historical events, developments, and trends—social, political, economic, military, philosophical, literary, and cultural. One focus of the course will be on primary sources. We will read (in translation) the most important writings from the period, focusing on political writings, including Sun Yat-Sen, Chiang Kia-shek, Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, and Xi Jinping. In the final weeks we will analyze the rise of China. We will take an interdisciplinary approach in order to better understand these primary texts in their historical context. Three hours of lecture per week.

Please note: This syllabus may be revised over the course of the term. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced on Blackboard.

II. PREREQUISITES

HIST 231 and HIST 232.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through successful completion of this course, students will achieve the following:

1. An understanding of the basic facts about modern China in their historical context, including important facts about the social, political, economic, and cultural features.
2. An ability to summarize and evaluate secondary sources.
3. Students will complete a ten-page (double-spaced) critical essay on one aspect of modern China (to be specified), analyzed in historical context. The paper should present (i) a well-formulated thesis, (ii) clear supporting arguments, (iii) persuasive evidence for each supporting argument, and (iv) a conclusion that synthesizes the central arguments.

IV. REQUIRED TEXTS

Required texts The following texts are required for the course:

Wm. Theodore de Bary et al., eds., *Sources of Chinese Tradition: From 1600 Through the Twentieth Century*, 2nd ed., vol. 2 (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000). ISBN-10: [0231112718](#). ISBN-13: [978-0231112710](#).

Immanuel Chung-yueh Hsü, *The Rise of Modern China*, 6th ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999). ISBN-13: [978-0195125047](#).

Note: Please make sure you purchase the correct edition of these textbooks—use the ISBN-13 to make sure that you are purchasing the correct edition.

Recommended texts In addition, students should consider consulting the following texts, which will be available through Blackboard and the TSU Library:

Wm. Theodore de Bary et al., eds., *Sources of Chinese Tradition: From Earliest Times to 1600*, 2nd ed., vol. 1 (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999). ISBN-10: [0231109393](#). ISBN-13: [978-0231109390](#).

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010). ISBN-10: [0521124336](#). ISBN-13: [978-0521124331](#).

Ezra F. Vogel, *Deng Xiaoping and the Transformation of China* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2011).

Deng Xiaoping, *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping, 1982–1992* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1994).

Xi Jinping, *The Governance of China* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 2014).

Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook* (Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency, 2020).

“China Rules,” 120th Anniversary Issue, *MIT Technology Review* 122, no. 1 (2019).

John R. Trimble, *Writing with Style: Conversations on the Art of Writing*, 3rd ed. (Boston: Prentice Hall, 2011). ISBN-10: 0205028802. ISBN-13: 978-0205028801.

V. CLASS ORGANIZATION

Classes will be organized around lectures and discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions at any time. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and for all assigned readings. The focus of the lectures will be close readings of the primary sources (translated into English) in their historical context. The secondary sources will usually not be discussed in class unless students raise specific questions about the readings. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and all announcements made in class

VI. TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All TSU History classes make use of Blackboard. All students need to obtain access to Blackboard. In addition, they must have a TSU computer account, an e-mail account linked to Blackboard, and they must have a TSU Blackboard account. Students who do not have a computer or internet access can use computers in the various open labs on campus, or in various branches of the Houston Public Library. All students must have an e-mail account, and must link this e-mail account to Blackboard, and university accounts giving them access to Blackboard in order to function effectively in this course. If you do not have TSU computer accounts, you must acquire them as soon as possible. While you can link any e-mail account to Blackboard, we suggest you use a TSU account.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week 1 (Jan. 22 and 24): Confucianism and Neo-Confucianism

Background reading: Ebrey, *History of China*, pp. 10–37.

Primary sources: *Analects* (*Lun yu* 論語, 500?–250? BCE), attributed to Confucius (Kongzi 孔丘, c. 551–479 BCE), de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 1, pp. 41–63.

Zhu Xi, *Great Learning by Chapter and Phrase, The Mean by Chapter and Phrase*, and proposals and proclamations, de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 1, pp. 720–751.

Week 2 (Jan. 29 and 31): Manchus, Imperialism, and Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace

Background reading: Ebrey, *History of China*, pp. 220–261.

Primary sources: Documents on the Qing Dynasty, Opium Wars, and the Taiping Rebellion, de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 198–223.

Week 3 (Feb. 5 and 7): Nationalist Revolution

Background reading: Ebrey, *History of China*, pp. 262–293.

Primary sources: Sun Yat-sen, “Three Principles of the People,” de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 321–330.

Week 4 (Feb. 12 and 14): Republic of China

Background reading: Ebrey, *History of China*, pp. 294–331.

Primary sources: Chiang Kai-Shek, selections, de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 5 (Feb. 19 and 21): Communist Revolution

Background reading: “The Civil War, 1945–49,” chap. 25 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 619–44.

Primary sources: Mao Zedong, “Report on an Investigation of the Hunan Peasant Movement”; “The Question of Land Redistribution”; “The Mass Line On New Democracy The Dictatorship of the People’s Democracy,” “The Rectification Campaign Report of the Propaganda Bureau of the Central Committee on the Zhengfeng Reform Movement,” (April 1942); “Leaning to One Side” and “Stalin Is Our Commander.” de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 6 (Feb. 26 and 28): Mao Era and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

Background reading: “The People’s Republic: Its First Decade,” chap. 26; “The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution,” chap. 28 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 689–706.

Primary sources: Mao Zedong, “The Question of Agricultural Cooperation” (July 31, 1955) and “On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People”; “The Sixteen Points: Guidelines for the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution”; Quotations from Chairman Mao Zedong. de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 7 (March 5 and 7): Review and mid-semester exam

Review for mid-semester exam (March 5)

Term paper outline due (in class, March 5)

Mid-semester exam (March 7)

Spring Break (March 11–17)

Week 8 (March 19 and 21): Deng’s Modernizations

Background reading: “Building Socialism with Chinese Characteristics,” chap. 37 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 841–71.

Primary sources: End of the Cultural Revolution: Zhou Enlai, “Report on the Work of Government” (Delivered on January 13, 1975, at the First Session of the Fourth National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China); “Communiqué of the Third Plenary Session Of the 11th Central Committee Of the Communist Party of China” (December 22nd, 1978). de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

New Policies: Deng Xiaoping, “Building Socialism with Chinese Characteristics”; Chen Yun, Speech Given At the Chinese Communist National Representative Conference (September 23, 1985). de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 507–11.

Week 9 (March 26 and 28): Reform and Westernization

Background reading: “China in Transition, 1986–88: the Cultural Impact of the Open-Door Policy” and “The Violent Crackdown at Tiananmen Square, June 3–4, 1989,” chaps. 38 and 40 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 872–903 and 926–41.

Primary sources: Democracy Movement: Fang Lizhi, “Democracy, Reform, And Modernization,” “Reform and Intellectuals” (talk given in 1986), “The Social Responsibility of Today’s Intellectuals” (speech given at Beijing University, November 4, 1985); Li Xiaojiang, “Awaking Of Women’s Consciousness.” de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 512–19.

Term paper writing sample due (in class, March 20)

Week 10 (April 2 and 4): Reconstruction of Chinese Culture

Discussion of term paper writing samples.

Primary sources: Xiong Shili, “Manifesto for a Reappraisal of Sinology and the Reconstruction of Chinese Culture”; Mou Zongsan, “The Sensitivity and Steadfastness and Humaneness (*ren* 仁)”; Feng Youlan, “China—An Ancient Nation with a New Mission.” de Bary et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 545–63.

Week 11 (April 9 and 11): Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

Background reading: “The Chinese Model of Development: Quasi-Capitalism in a Political Dictatorship,” chap. 41 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 942–80.

Primary sources: Deng, *Selected Works, 1982–1992*, selections.

Week 12 (April 16 and 18): Deng Xiaoping Era

Background reading: Vogel, *Deng Xiaoping*, selections.

Primary sources: Deng, *Selected Works, 1982–1992*, selections.

Week 13 (April 23 and 25): Xi Jinping Era

Background reading: “The Rise of China,” chap. 42 of Hsü, *Rise of Modern China*, pp. 981–1020.

Primary sources: Xi, *Governance of China*, selections.

Week 14 (April 30 and May 2): Rise of China

Background reading: “China,” in CIA, *World Factbook*:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ch.html>

Primary sources: *The 13th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development of the People’s Republic of China (2016–2020)*, selections.

Term paper due (in class, April 21)

Week 15 (May 7 and 9): China as a Global Leader

Background reading: “China Rules,” 120th Anniversary Issue, *MIT Technology Review* 122, no. 1 (2019).

Primary sources: *Made in China 2025*, selections.

Revised term paper due (in class, May 9)

Week 16 (May 11–16) Final Examination (date and time set by Registrar’s office)

VIII. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING POLICIES

The course grading policies are as follows:

1. Class attendance is mandatory.
2. Short writing assignments will be given to assess students’ understanding of the assigned readings.
3. Students must complete a ten-page (double-spaced) term paper.
4. The grade will be based on short writing assignments (50%) and the final paper (50%).
5. Final grades will be assigned as follows: A+ 97–100; A 93–96; A– 90–92; B+ 87–89; B 83–86; B– 80–82; C+ 77–79; C 73–76; C– 70–72; D+ 67–69; D 63–66; D– 60–62; F below 60.
6. Make-up work will be permitted only for documented emergencies.
7. Athletes, band members, and members of other outside activities must submit official documentation from their coaches or directors and make arrangements with the instructor prior to any assignments they miss.

IX. ADDITIONAL COSTS

This course has no additional costs.

X. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity The *Texas Southern University 2019–2020 Undergraduate Catalog* states the following:

Students must maintain a high standard of honesty in their academic work. They should avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, especially the following:

- **Plagiarism.** The appropriation of passages, either word for word (or in substance) from the writing of another and the incorporation of these as one's own written work offered for credit.
- **Collusion.** Working with another person in the preparation of notes, themes, reports, or other written work offered for credit unless such collaboration is specifically approved in advance by the instructor.
- **Cheating on an Examination or Quiz.** Giving or receiving, offering or soliciting information, or using prepared material in an examination or testing situation is expressly forbidden. On examinations and quizzes students are expected (a) to remain in the examination room until the examination is finished, (b) to refrain from talking, and (c) to refrain from bringing notes and books into the examination room.
- **Impersonation.** Allowing another person to attend classes, take examinations or to do graded assignments for an enrolled student under his or her name is strictly forbidden.

A violator of any of the above offenses will incur severe disciplinary action ranging from suspension to expulsion from the University. Specific guidelines will be administered by each dean.

See <http://www.tsu.edu/registrar/pdf/2019-2020-undergraduate-catalog.pdf>, pp. 32–33 (emphasis in original).

Grade of I The grade of “I” is given only when a student’s work is satisfactory in quality, but due to reasons beyond his or her control, the work has not been completed. The missing work may be a midterm or final examination, a term paper, or other work. It is not given in lieu of an F. The instructor will stipulate, in writing, at the time the grade is given the conditions under which the “I” may be removed. This temporary grade of “I” is non-punitive and semester hours for the course are not considered in the computation of the quality-point average. Removal must be within one calendar year after the “I” is assigned, or the “I” grade shall become an “F”. The grade “I” is not assigned if the student must retake the course. In the event a student who earns a grade of “I” decides to retake the course, the student is required to pay for that course.

Students with Disabilities Texas Southern University (TSU), Student Accessibility Services Office (SASO) provides individualized, reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students who may need accommodations are asked to contact the Student Accessibility Services Office (SASO) at (713) 313-4210 or (713) 313-7691. The SASO office is located in the Student Health Center, room 140. Business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please note Instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations without approved verification from the Student Accessibility Services Office (SASO). Please schedule an appointment during my office hours to discuss approved accommodation provisions.

TSU and SASO are committed to providing an inclusive learning environment. For additional information, please contact SASO.