

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

HISTORY OF MODERN CHINA

HIST 362-01A 10118 Fall 2024 Online (Asynchronous)

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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 text is required for the course:

Klaus Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern: From the Great Qing to Xi Jinping* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2019). ISBN-13: [978-0674737358](#).

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

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

Sources of Chinese Tradition: From 1600 through the Twentieth Century, 2nd ed., ed. Wm. Theodore de Bary and Richard Lufrano, vol. 2 (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000). ISBN-13: [978-0231112710](#).

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*, 2nd ed. (1996; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010). ISBN-10: [0521124336](#). ISBN-13: [978-0521124331](#).

Janet Y. Chen et al., *The Search for Modern China: A Documentary Collection*, 3rd ed. (New York: Norton & Company, 2014). ISBN-13: [9780393920857](#)

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).

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 readings and lectures. 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. 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 (Aug. 26–30) Foundations of Imperial China (–256 BCE)

Background reading:

“The Origins of Chinese Civilization: Neolithic Period to the Western Zhou Dynasty” and “Philosophical Foundations: The Eastern Zhou Period,” chs. 1 and 2 of Ebrey, *History of China*, 10–37 and 38–59.

Primary sources:

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

Week 2 (Sep. 2–6) Manchu Conquest and Western Imperialism (1644–1895)

Background reading:

“Manchus and Imperialism: The Qing Dynasty,” ch. 9 of Ebrey, *History of China*, pp. 220–61.

Primary sources:

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

Week 3 (Sep. 9–13) Nationalist Revolution and the Republic of China (1895–1919)

Background reading: “Upending the Empire: 1900–1919,” ch. 4 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 209–47.

Primary sources:

Sun Yat-sen (1866–1925), “Three Principles of the People,” de Bary and Lufrano, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 321–30.

Week 4 (Sep. 16–20) Republic of China—Early Years (1920–1937)

Background reading:

“Rebuilding during the Republican Era: 1920–1937,” ch. 5 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 248–97.

Primary sources:

Chiang Kai-Shek (1887–1975), selections, de Bary and Lufrano, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 5 (Sep. 23–27) Japanese Invasion and Communist Revolution (1937–1948)

Background reading:

“China at War: 1937–1948,” ch. 6 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 298–351.

Primary sources:

Mao Zedong (1893–1976), “Report on an Investigation of the Hunan Peasant Movement” (1927); “The Question of Land Redistribution” (*Report from Xunwu*, 1930); “The Mass Line on New Democracy the Dictatorship of the People’s Democracy” (*Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist Party*, 1939); “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 and Lufrano, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 6 (Sep. 30–Oct. 4) People’s Republic of China—Early Years (1949–1955)

Background reading:

“Socialist Transformation: 1949–1955,” ch. 7 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 359–407

Primary sources:

Mao Zedong, “The Question of Agricultural Cooperation” (July 31, 1955) and “On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People,” de Bary and Lufrano, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2

Week 7 (Oct. 7–11) Great Leap Forward (1955–1960)

Background reading:

“Leaping Ahead: 1955–1960,” ch. 8 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 408–47

Primary sources:

Mao Zedong on the Great Leap Forward.
Term paper outline due (Oct. 11)

Week 8 (Oct. 14–18) Review and mid-semester exam

Mid-semester exam (due Oct. 18)

Term paper writing sample (due Oct. 18)

Week 9 (Oct. 21–25) Cultural Revolution and Its Aftermath (1961–1976)

Background reading:

“Overthrowing Everything: 1961–1976,” ch. 9 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 448–86

Primary sources:

“The Sixteen Points: Guidelines for the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution”; Quotations from Chairman Mao Zedong, de Bary and Lufrano, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

Week 10 (Oct. 28–Nov. 1) Reform and Opening (1977–1989)

Background reading:

“Reform and Opening: 1977–1989,” ch. 10 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 491–526

Primary sources:

Deng, *Selected Works, 1982–1992*, selections.

Week 11 (Nov. 4–8) China Advances (1990–2012)

Background reading:

“Overall Advance: 1990–2012,” ch. 11 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 527–59

Primary sources:

Deng, *Selected Works, 1982–1992*, selections.

Week 12 (Nov. 11–15) Xi Jinping Era (2012–)

Background reading:

“Ambitions and Anxieties: Contemporary China,” ch. 12 of Mühlhahn, *Making China Modern*, pp. 560–614

Primary sources:

Xi, *Governance of China*, selections.

Week 13 (Nov. 18–22) Rise of China

Background reading:

“China,” in Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook* (Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency, 2021):

<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 (Nov. 22)

Week 14 (Nov. 25–29) China as a Global Leader

Background reading:

“China Rules,” *MIT Technology Review* 122 (2019).

Primary sources:

Made in China 2025, selections.

Week 15 (Dec. 2–6) Term Paper

Revised term paper due (Dec. 6)

Week 16 (Dec. 7–12) 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 Undergraduate Catalog* states the following:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

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
 1. to remain in the examination room until the examination is finished,
 2. to refrain from talking, and
 3. 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.

See <https://catalog.tsu.edu/undergraduate/admission-requirements-enrollment-information-academic-regulations/academic-regulations/> (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.

XI. Student Accessibility Services Office (SASO)

Classroom Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Texas Southern University (TSU) is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical). For each class/term/semester where a student needs academic adjustments/ accommodations, the qualified student must work with SASO. Contact with the SASO should be made as soon as possible to ensure academic needs are met in a reasonable time. **Only the SASO can grant, modify, or withdraw academic adjustments/accommodations.**

If you have not yet established services through SASO but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations, you are welcome to contact SASO by using the information listed on the following webpage: <https://www.tsu.edu/students-services/departments/disability-services/register-with-the-ods>. The SASO office offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions qualifying for accommodations/academic adjustments. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your faculty, and SASO. Only those academic adjustments/reasonable accommodations granted by the SASO are recognized by TSU. TSU's policy and practice is to create an inclusive and accessible learning environment consistent with federal and state law.

XII. Title IX/Pregnant and Parenting Students

Addressing Incidents of Title IX Sexual Harassment

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Texas Southern University (TSU) prohibits unlawful sexual harassment against any participant in its education programs or activities. Title IX requires schools to take steps to prevent and remedy sexual harassment, hostile environment, including sexual violence, gender-based harassment, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. This prohibition against sexual harassment - including sexual violence - applies to TSU students, employees, and visitors to campus.

TSU's policy is to provide an educational, employment, and business environment free of sexual violence, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment as prohibited by state and federal law. Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the college Title IX Coordinator, as outlined in policy. Reports of alleged Title IX violations may be made by visiting: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/4e1d5ba471ee442082f477910cb1b4c4>. Reports may also be made directly through email to TitleIX@TSU.edu.

Pregnant and parenting students should expect to obtain reasonable academic adjustments/accommodations based on their pregnant and parenting status to maintain access to the educational environment. These students should work with the Title IX Coordinator for appropriate academic adjustments/accommodations. TSU cannot grant retroactive adjustments, so reaching out early with requests is important. Discrimination against pregnant and parenting students is also prohibited under Title IX. For more pregnant and parenting information, please visit the Title IX webpage found at: <https://www.tsu.edu/about/administration/office-of-compliance/title-ix/>.