

## **China: From Reform to Revolution**

Spring, 2014  
HIST130126.01

Prof. Jia Jane SI 司 佳

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Office hours: Tuesday afternoon by appointment

Office: 2006 West Guanghai Hall

Class meeting: Monday 3:20-5pm

Classroom: HGX 202

### **Course Overview**

This course will provide you with a basic grounding in the subject, which is a very important aspect of modern Chinese history. The readings will introduce you to a series of reforms carried out by different social and political groups in 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>- century China, when the last imperial dynasty was in imminent danger of falling part. The course also examines the international relations between China and other major countries during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, helping the audience understand the historical significance of events before the eve of revolutionary Republican era, and the discourse of China's modernization after the establishment of New China in 1949.

### **Methodology and Requirements**

This will be a closer to a half-lecture / half-seminar format. We will depend on participation of each class member, and maintenance of a climate of open debate where opinions may differ. Come to class having read the assigned readings, and ready to discuss and raise questions, if need be.

**Specifically:** During the semester, you are to bring to class TWO short papers. The one is a brief (2-3 pages, 1.5 line spaced, in WORD format) summaries of / response to that week's reading. Summarizing is easier, but try to give a thoughtful response. Such like to write a reading note – these short pieces should at least identify main threads/perspectives in the readings, and try to identify a couple of issues or questions for class discussion. Oral presentation of the summary will be arranged toward the end of the semester. The other one is a report of your museum trip (2-3 pages). Details will be announced in class.

### **Paper due:**

\*\* Students are responsible for turning in a hard copy of paper on time (on the paper due date, please place it on the instructor's desk right BEFORE class begins.).

\*\* Overdue papers and/or through email are NOT acceptable.

## **Required Readings (In Course pack)**

- 1) Cohen, Paul A. *History in Three Keys*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.
- 2) Eber, Irene. *Voices from Shanghai*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2008.
- 3) Fairbank, John K. *Trade and Diplomacy on the China Coast*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1969.
- 4) Fairbank, John K. *The United States and China*. Cambridge [Mass.]: Harvard University Press, 2006.
- 5) Goldman, Merle and John King Fairbank, eds. *China: A New History*. Cambridge, [Mass.]: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1998.
- 6) Spence, Jonathan. *The Search for Modern China*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1999.
- 7) Spence, Jonathan. *To Change China: Western Advisers in China*. Penguin Books, rpt. 2002 (1980).
- 8) Teng, Ssu-yü and John K. Fairbank, eds. *China's Response to the West*. Cambridge [Mass.]: Harvard University Press, 1979.
- 9) Wakeman, Frederic Jr. *Strangers at the Gate*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1966.
- 10) Wasserstrom, Jeffrey N. *Global Shanghai: A History in Fragments*. Routledge, 2008.

## **Grade Criteria**

Attendance and Participation	10%
Brief summary/response	10*2 20%
Oral presentation	10*2 20%
Final	50%

## **Plagiarism**

Any form of plagiarism or academic cheating will be referred to the appropriate governing body – no exceptions.

## **Course Schedule**

Week 1 2/24 Introduction – Chinese Society

Week 2 3/3 Tang-Song Transition and Commercial Revolution  
Fairbank, 30-38; Video, “The City of Cathay.”

Week 3 3/10 The Canton System and the Opium War  
Trade and Diplomacy, 23-53. Teng, 17-21. Wakeman, "Strangers at the Gate," 11-41.

Week 4 3/17 Ready to Reform?  
Cambridge History (II), 142-156; Teng, 42-46.

Week 5 3/24 The Self-Strengthening Movement  
Cambridge History (II), 156-179; Teng, 46-55, 62-67; 73-77.

Week 6 3/31 Missionary Influence and Japanese Influence  
Cambridge History (II), 274-283; Teng, 134-140.

Week 7 4/7 Documentary "Shanghai Ghetto"

Week 8 4/14 To suggest to go to the museum related to "Shanghai Ghetto"

Week 9 4/21 Mid-term / Presentation on your museum trip.

Week 10 4/28 Intellectual Change and the Hundred Days Reform.  
Cambridge History (II), 283-300, 326-338; Teng, 152-160.

Week 11 5/5 The Boxers Uprising  
Cohen, 16-56; Teng, 188-193.

Week 12 5/12 Political and Institutional Reform  
Cambridge History (II), 375-400, 408-415; Teng, 200-207.

Week 13 5/19 Nationalism and Revolutionaries  
Cambridge History (II), 188-201; Teng, 220-229; Fairbank, 206-219.

Week 14 5/26 KMT and CCP (Not required for Final Exam)

Week 15 6/2 Duanwu Festival, No class

Week 16 6/9 Oral Presentation TBA

Week 17 6/16 Oral Presentation

Week 18 6/23 Final Exam