HIEA 131: China in War and Revolution, 1911-1949

INSTRUCTOR: Joseph W. Esherick
OFFICE: 3070 H&SS Building
OFFICE HOURS: TU 11-12, TH 1:30-3:00
or by appointment
E-MAIL: jesheric@ucsd.edu

COURSE: HIEA 131
Sect. ID:
Time: TuTh 5:00 – 6:20
Center Hall 109

T.A. : Jeremy Murray: jmurray@ucsd.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:
This course examines the interrelated themes of war and revolution during the turbulent years from 1911 to 1949. This period saw the fall of the last emperor and the old dynastic system, a social and cultural revolution led by young intellectuals against traditional values, the rise of the Nationalist Party under Sun Yat-sen and then Chiang Kai-shek, the challenge from the Chinese Communists under Mao Zedong, the quest for autonomy or independence by peoples (Mongols, Tibetans, Uighurs) on the frontier, and the Japanese invasion of China.

This year I will be experimenting with a new format for the course, in an effort to engage students in the issues confronting the Chinese people in this period. The first half of the course will follow a conventional lecture format, covering the main events and issues of the first half of the twentieth century. After the mid-term, students will be divided into teams of 6-8 students, each representing a particular constituency in China: Communists, Nationalists, Japanese collaborators, or frontier peoples. You will be assigned to one of those teams and the task of each team will be to read up and study the history and the policy and positions of your group. Groups will assign readings (from the bibliographies below) to their members and discuss these readings in class and out. The final weeks will involve class presentations and debate. Each team will explain their understanding of China’s predicament in the 1940s (the final decade of our period) and their plans for China’s future. Teams should also be prepared to address the shortcomings of their rivals, and/or why members of other teams should join their side. Tenth week sessions will establish the lead teams for each of the four Chinese constituencies. In the final meeting of the class, during examination week, there will be a final session of presentation, persuasion, negotiation, and resolution to arrive at a consensus solution under the leadership of one of the teams.

A fundamental purpose of this exercise will be to get beyond a history written by and for the victors, and to try to understand the uncertainties and the contingencies of history as it was lived. As much as we need to understand why the Communists emerged victorious in the revolutionary struggle, we need to understand why many people supported the Nationalists (Kuomintang/ Guomindang). Even more importantly, we need to understand the position of the much reviled collaborators with Japan. How was their choice to support Japanese domination in the Greater East Asian Co-Prospertity Sphere any different from the choice to support Communist dictatorship and alliance with the Soviet Union, or even the dictatorship of the Kuomintang? The position of the frontier peoples in this debate is particularly important. What relationship should the Tibetans, Mongols or Manchus take toward the Han-Chinese dominated Republic of China?
BOOKS: All books are available in the UCSD Bookstore, and on reserve at the library.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

COURSE READER: There will be a required class reader available from University Reader Printing Service. Readings from the packet will be marked on syllabus with an asterisk (*). Order the packet by going to www.universityreaders.com/students. If you have not ordered from them before, click on “Create a New Account”, click on state (California) and University (UCSD) and enter relevant information and follow instructions. Once you have ordered the packet, you will have immediate access to a PDF version of the first part of the packet and the entire packet will be mailed to you. URPS may also be contacted at 800-200-3908, or 858-552-1120.

LIBRARY WEB SOURCES: Several selections from University of California Press books are available on-line in “eScholarship” versions for UC users. These may be accessed from any campus computer (those in the Geisel Library make it very fast) or by setting up proxy server access from off-campus, which you can do if you have a UCSD account. (For instructions, visit “Library Services” on the UCSD Library home page, then select “Accessing Library Resources from Off-Campus.”) You may read the selections on line or print out a copy for your personal use. Look up the book in Roger, when you get the title, click the link under the line “Link to on line version below.” There is also one article available on JSTOR: see directions in final week’s reading. Web selections are preceded below by “WEB”.

OPTIONAL PURCHASES:

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Mid-term examination. Thursday, October 29. Essay and brief identifications (25% of grade)
2. Reading notes: Due Tuesday, November 24. a copy of the notes on readings you do for your team. (37.5% of grade)
3. Team project: presentations, debate, negotiations, and resolution. (37.5%)

A WARNING ON PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person’s words, ideas or research results without acknowledgement, and passing them off as one's own. The Department of History policy and guidelines with respect to plagiarism are available at http://historyweb.ucsd.edu/pages/undergraduate/Current/plagiarism.htm. I call your attention to this description of one of the most common forms of plagiarism: “verbatim copying of words, sentences, paragraphs or entire sections or chapter without quotation and proper attribution. This is the most obvious form of plagiarism. You must use quotation marks even if you only borrow several words in sequence from a source.” In recent years, plagiarism has become an increasingly serious problem in colleges across the country, as the Internet makes basic information on many historical issues readily available and easy to copy. Plagiarism is, however, a serious academic offense and is covered by university policy on academic dishonesty. UCSD
policy requires that the instructor report any suspected plagiarism to the Office of Academic Integrity Coordinator. (See http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm). The AIC will adjudicate the consequences of the offense, which could range up to suspension from UCSD. If I or the T.A. or reader for this course suspect that you have used another person’s (including another book, article, or Web site’s) words without proper footnoting, we will notify you and require that you submit an electronic copy of your paper to turnitin.com, so that we can use available electronic means to check for plagiarism. Fortunately, just as the Web makes plagiarism easier, it also makes detection of plagiarism easy. Students found guilty of plagiarism will receive no credit for the assignment and will be reported to the AIC for disciplinary action. Consider this fair warning. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE. It’s just not worth it. The consequences can be extremely serious.

**To those who are taking the class Pass/Not Pass:**
In order to receive a passing grade you must complete all assignments, and your final grade must compute to C- or better.

**LECTURES AND READING SCHEDULE:**

September 24: Introduction to Course, Geography of China.
September 29: Video: Chinese Revolution, Part 1
October 1: 1911 Revolution, Warlordism and May 4

* Henrietta Harrison, “Ethnicity and Modernity in the 1911 Revolution” and “Nation, Modernity and Class,” from *Inventing the Nation: China*, pp. 132-166.
* Lu Hsun (Lu Xun), “The True Story of Ah Q”
* Chen Tu-hsiu (Chen Duxiu), “A Call to Youth”
* Chen Duxiu, “The Way of Confucius and Modern Life” (de Bary, 2: 352-356)

October 6: 1920s: The National Revolution
October 8: The Guomindang in the Nanjing Decade, 1927-37

Readings: Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, 181-220
* Lloyd Eastman, “The Blue Shirts and Fascism”
* Norman Smith, “Foundations of Colonial Rule in Manchukuo and the ‘Woman Question’”
October 13: The Rise of the Chinese Communist Party
October 15: China’s Frontiers

Readings: Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, 221-240
* Mao Tse-tung [Mao Zedong], "Report on the Peasant Movement in Hunan"
* Mao Zedong, “Oppose Book Worship” (May 1930)
* Mao Zedong, “Combat Liberalism” (September 7, 1937)
* Lu Minghui, “The Inner Mongolian ‘United Autonomous Government’”
* Gray Tuttle “Global Forces in Asia (1870s-1910s)” (On Tibet)

October 20: The Japanese invasion and Occupied China
October 22: The National Government at War

* The Rape of Nanjing: “Bearing Witness,” and “the Nanjing ‘Murder Race’
* “Wang Jingwei on Collaboration, 1940”
* Timothy Brook, “Collaborationist Nationalism in Occupied Wartime China”

October 27: The CCP at War
October 29: Mid-Term Examination

* Wang Shiwei, “Wild Lily”
* Mao Zedong interview with John S. Service, August 23, 1944.

November 3: Video: The Chinese Revolution (Part II) and team organization
November 5: Team meeting: identifying key issues

November 10: Team reading reports: 1
November 12: Team reading reports: 2

November 17: Team meeting: refining issues and arguments
November 19: Reading reports: 3
November 24: [Tentative] Quarter final presentations (Group I): Laying out your position (15 minutes each). Selection of semi-finalists will be done by Group II. Eliminated teams (and their notes) may be recruited by winning teams. Think of this as pre-trial arguments. You need to make your case to potential allies, but you are also required to make your position known to your adversaries. 
READING NOTES DUE IN CLASS.

November 26: THANKSGIVING – plot over turkey (or plot how not to be a turkey)

December 1: [Tentative] Quarter final presentations (Group II): Laying out your position (15 minutes each). Judging will be done by Group I. Eliminated teams (and their notes) may be recruited by winning teams.

December 3: [Tentative] Semi-final presentations.

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 11, 7:00-10:00 p.m.
Finalists will gather to state final positions, negotiate, and see who will emerge as winner. A panel of experts will make the final decision.
ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND – ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN
Suggested Readings

The Nationalist Party (Guomindang/Kuomindang)

1. General Studies and Overviews

2. The 1920s

3. The Nanjing Decade

4. The Wartime and Civil War Period

The Chinese Communist Party

1. General Studies and Overviews
2. Early History of the Communist Party (esp. 1920s)

3. The Jiangxi Soviet Period

4. The Wartime Period


5. The Civil War Period


Collaboration with Japan

1. Manchuria


2. War of Resistance


China's Frontiers

1. Tibet


2. Mongolia


3. Manchuria


4. Xinjiang


