Hist 4433 – Modern China

Instructor: Ihor Pidhainy  
Office: Technology Learning Center (TLC) #3245  
Location: Melson Hall 207  
Time: MW 11:00-12:15  
email: ipidhain@westga.edu

Course Description
This course is an exploration of modern Chinese history, focusing on the period from 1840 to the present. Following the political chronology of ruling houses and parties, we will explore the intellectual, political and economic responses that the Chinese experienced during this time. You will have an opportunity to explore these in depth through both readings of original documents (in translation) and secondary sources on the period.

The method of teaching in this course will be a combination of lecture and discussion. It is expected that you will have read and thought about the assigned readings. In the classroom, you will have an opportunity to share these thoughts.

Required Readings
Janet Chen et al., The Search for Modern China: A Documentary Collection. Third Edition.  
Klaus Mühlhahn, Making China Modern: From the Great Qing to Xi Jinping  
Yu Hua, China in Ten Words

Videos to be watched:  
China in Revolution I & II  
The Mao Years I & II  
Born Under a Red Flag I & II

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes
Learning outcomes:

By completion of the course, students
1. will demonstrate a knowledge of modern Japanese history  
2. be able to discuss primary and secondary source approaches to the understanding of Modern Chinese history, at least in specifics of the course and its readings.
3. Be able to distinguish an awareness of how a variety of genres examine questions in modern Chinese history
4. Be able to distinguish an awareness of different national perspectives in examining various topics and/or events in modern Chinese history
5. Demonstrate ability to write an essay that reflects persuasive historical arguments based on evidence and proper citation (Chicago format)
Means of Evaluation:
Mitter – Summary & Response 10%
Doc Analyses 20% (4x5%)
Essay #1 20%
Participation & Discussion 25%
Take-home Final Exam 25%
Bonus:
Asian Studies Talks – attendance & brief writeup 10% (3 1/3 % for each talk w. write-up)

Grading Rubrics
Mitter – Summary and Response
This short assignment (2-3 pages) consists of two parts. The first part is a summary of the thesis and argument made by Mitter in his book, *A Short Introduction to Modern China*. The second part is a broader discussion of what modernity refers to and how that fits into discussions of other nation states.

Document Analyses
These are four analyses of primary sources over the semester. During the week one of these is due, you may write on any of the primary documents assigned from Chen et al.’s *The Search for Modern China: A Documentary Collection*. In your assignment, give a brief summary of the document that you have chosen and then relate it to the general argument made in Mühlhahn’s text or in the classroom. You may also extend your own interpretative framework of the document, to show what you think its importance is. The total length should not exceed 2 pages. (If you need to write more, write single-spaced; if you have less to say, do it double-spaced).

Grading ABC scale.
A – excellent – you’ve shown intellectual interest in the topic and reading.
B – Very Good – The work is good. At the minimum it satisfies the questions and topic. At the high end, it shows you are on the verge of excellent work.
C - Mediocre – The work appears listless and lifeless – as if slapped together just before class.

Asian Studies Talks
You are given the opportunity to earn up to 10% bonus by attending and briefly summarizing Asian Studies Talks this semester. For each talk that you attend, earn 3 1/3 % bonus. Following your attendance, submit a one-page summary/response to the talk. This will not be graded – you earn the mark by your participation.

Essay
This is a one essay (8-10 pages) that will be assigned with a range of specific topics. It may be rooted in one of the assigned readings and might require additional work (some primary and secondary). It will be graded as a standard essay, following the rubric offered below.

Participation
You will receive a grade by your participation in class. This means taking part in discussions, asking questions, offering interpretations, and making your intellectual presence felt.

Grade Scale: ABC
A indicates that you regularly participate in discussions etc. and do so in a manner that intellectually stimulates the class.
B indicates that you regularly participate in discussions etc.
C indicates that you occasionally participate in discussions etc.
D indicates that you seldom participate in discussion etc.

Final Exam
The final exam will consist of writing one essay in the exam period, with a focus on presenting a synthesis of your understanding of modern China, based on readings, lectures and discussions in class.

Guide to Essay Grading
Letter Grades and their corresponding numerical Value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A+</th>
<th>98</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>88</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>78</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>68</th>
<th>F 30-59 (varies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A = Exceptional
For a single piece of work, this means answering it in a way that shows to your grader that you not only understood what was being asked but were able to show insight beyond what is easily discernable. This involves what you argued, along with how you argued, as well as with your skill in writing. “What you argued” involves the facts and details, evidence and sources that you use to make your argument. “How you argued” involves the arrangement of your argument, the weight you give arguments, the ability to involve counter-arguments and other such features. “Your skill in writing” involves showing your rhetorical use of language, choosing appropriate and specific words where necessary, structuring your sentences in ways that please as well as back up your argument, and – finally – displaying a grasp of rhetoric, where appropriate.

B = Good Work
Good work is a notch down from “exceptional” work – there are unforced errors in substance and style. Generally, the argument is strong, the evidence supports this, and the writing doesn’t wreck this too much.

C= Competent/average
Average work means that you communicate a decent answer to the question asked. The answer is therefore in general correct. However, faults, errors and mistakes may arise. This might be in the facts, evidence, argument, organization or language aspects of the work.

D= Poor work
A notch down from C, a D generally indicates that your work does not adequately answer the question and/or also includes many factual errors, much poor writing and shows a lack of integration of ideas that have been used in class.

\[ F = \text{Failure to achieve above criteria...} \]
If you are getting Fs in your work, then we need to sit down and talk about where you are falling short.

\textbf{Nota Bene:}
Incomplete work and/or missing work will kill your grade.

\textbf{Late Policy}
For all assignments (but not Final Exam), late penalty is 10% per day. If you are late by less than 24 hours, you may email me a request for an extension of 24 hours and it will automatically be granted. (You can email/inform me after the due date within the 24 hours.) If you are going to be more than a day late, please speak/email me within 24 hours of the due date to request additional time.
Final Exam late policy differs as we are abiding by the school exam schedule.

\textbf{HONOR CODE}
At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student’s conduct record at UWG.
Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook.
UWG EMAIL POLICY
University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

Academic Honesty – Plagiarism
Do not plagiarize. 
Plagiarism is generally considered to be borrowing the work of others in any shape or form and claiming that it is yours. 
For example, copying and pasting a paragraph from Wikipedia in your paper without citation is plagiarism. (Even if your alter several words in it). If you put it into quotation marks, then it isn’t plagiarism. (It then becomes poor use of a quotation, but that affects your grade differently than plagiarism). 

Penalties for plagiarism: This is at the discretion of the instructor, depending on how egregious the plagiarism is. Previous penalties have included zero for a portion of an exam; zero for an assignment; zero for the course.

Expected Response times
I generally respond to emails fairly quickly, although give me a 24 hour window during the week and 48 hours on the weekend.

Course and UWG Policies
Attendance Policy: I urge students to attend class, as part of your grade will be determined within the class (participation), and a major assignment (Final Exam) will be based on lectures and discussion in class. In addition, useful information concerning both subject matter and assignments will be given in class.

Statement: If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability. UWG also provides Accessibility Statements for Technology that you may be required to use for this course. 
For more information on the Americans with Disabilities Act, UWG Email, Credit Hour, and UWG Honor Code policies as well as information on Academic Tutoring, Student Services, and Technical Requirements, Privacy Policy, and Accessibility Statements, please see the Common Language for Syllabus document.
I strongly recommend that students make an electronic copy of everything submitted to me via the dropbox.
Additional Support Information

Technical Support
Technical support for CourseDen, as well as the technological requirements, accessibility statements, privacy statements, tutorials, and other information can be found at UWG Online Student Help.

Center for Academic Success
The new Center for Academic Success (CAS) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically.

Student Services
Here is a great resource of Student Services for all students at UWG, whether or not they are taking online courses. This link provides students with most of the information they need. If a student is experiencing distress and needs some help, check out UWG Cares.

Full URL Support for Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Den D2L Home Page</th>
<th>Student Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D2L UWG Online Help (8 AM – 5 PM)</th>
<th>Center for Academic Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://uwgonline.westga.edu/students.php">http://uwgonline.westga.edu/students.php</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.westga.edu/cas/">http://www.westga.edu/cas/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call: 678-839-6248 or 1-855-933-8946 or email: <a href="mailto:online@westga.edu">online@westga.edu</a></td>
<td>678-839-6280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>24/7/365 D2L Help Center</th>
<th>Distance Learning Library Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call 1-855-772-0423 or search: <a href="https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/">https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/</a></td>
<td><a href="http://libguides.westga.edu/content.php?pid=194430">http://libguides.westga.edu/content.php?pid=194430</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Bookstore</th>
<th>Ingram Library Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Language for Course Syllabi</th>
<th>Proctored Exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php">https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php</a></td>
<td><a href="http://uwgonline.westga.edu/exams.php#student">http://uwgonline.westga.edu/exams.php#student</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UWG Cares</th>
<th>Student Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Center for Disability</th>
<th>UWG Accessibility Statements for Technology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php">https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php</a></td>
<td><a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/16Ri1XgaXiGx28ooO-zRvPraV3Aq3F5ZNJYbVDGVnEA/edit?ts=57b4c82d#heading=h.yrgffvts1f">https://docs.google.com/document/d/16Ri1XgaXiGx28ooO-zRvPraV3Aq3F5ZNJYbVDGVnEA/edit?ts=57b4c82d#heading=h.yrgffvts1f</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brief Schedule
(See Full Schedule for detailed list of readings: Please note that any changes made during the semester will only be updated in the full schedule)

**Week 1**
- **Jan 6** Course Introduction
- **Jan 9** Traditional China

**Week 2**
- **Jan 13** Mitter and the Ming
- **Jan 15** Mitter’s Short Introduction to Modern China
- **Jan 17** Late Ming Collapse and Qing Conquest Chen 1-31
- **Jan 17** Written Assignment on Mitter

**Week 3**
- **Jan 20** Glorious Qing
- **Jan 22** MLK
- **Jan 22** Kangxi, Yongzheng, Qianlong
  Prof. Gary Van Valen, “Sister of Mexico, Orphan of the Pacific: The Philippines And Western Imperialism” [12:30 pm in Humanities 134]

**Week 4**
- **Jan 27** Reordering Chinese 1800-1870
- **Jan 29** From Jiaqing to the Opium War
- **Jan 29** The Taiping Rebellion

**Week 5**
- **Feb 3** Late Qing (1870-1900)
- **Feb 5** Self-Strengthening
- **Feb 5** 100 Days of Reform (1898) and Boxer Rebellion

**Week 6**
- **Feb 10** China in Revolution
- **Feb 12** China in Revolution I
- **Feb 12** China in Revolution II
  Prof. Tim Schroer “The Meeting of West and East: Peace-making in the Wake of the Boxer Conflict.” [12:30 PM in Humanities 134]

**Week 7**
- **Feb 17** End of Empire and creation of Republican China
- **Feb 19** Fall of the imperial System: Sun Yatsen, Kang Youwei etc.
- **Feb 19** May 4th Movement

**Week 8**
- **Feb 24** China at War
- **Feb 26** Chiang Kai-shek and the Nanjing Decade
- **Feb 26** Japan invades China

**Week 9**
- The Mao Years
Mar 2  Chinese Civil War
Mar 4  *The Mao Years* I

**Week 10**  China 1949-1955
Mar 9  *The Mao Years* II
Mar 11  Establishing the State

Mar 15-20  **Spring Break**

**Week 11**  Great Leap Forward
Mar 23  TBA
Mar 25  Great Leap Forward

**Week 12**  Cultural Revolution
Mar 30  Cultural Revolution I
Apr 1  Cultural Revolution II

**Week 13**  Documentary #3: *Born Under a Red Flag*
Apr 6  *Born Under a Red Flag*
Apr 8  *Born Under a Red Flag*

**Week 14**  From 1977-2012
Apr 13  The Era of Deng Xiaoping (1977-1992)
Apr 15  Between Deng and Xi

Prof. Elaine MacKinnon “From Buddha to Mosques and "Wishing Trees": Central Asia as a Religious Crossroads.”  [4:00 PM in Pafford 305]

**Week 15**  Contemporary China
Apr 20  The reign of Xi Jinping
Apr 22  Yu Hua and the Final Exam (Take Home)

May 4  Final Exam – due date