

**University of Manitoba
HIST/ASIA 1420W A01**

Asian Civilizations to 1500

Spring 2018
May 7 - May 30
Monday to Friday, 10:45-12:45
303 Tier Building

INSTRUCTOR

Jon Malek
E-Mail: Via UMLearn

Office: 354 University College
Office Hours: By appointment

Students must use their University of Manitoba email addresses; other addresses will not receive a reply.

Course Description

In recent decades, Asia has risen in prominence in global affairs. The ramifications of the 1997 Asian stock market crash indicated the importance that Asia has taken in the global economy. Recently, the United States has become increasingly engaged in Asian geo-politics, with President Barack Obama declaring in 2011 that “The United States is a Pacific power, and we are here to stay.” Canada, too, has long imagined itself as a Pacific nation. Furthermore, nations in the West – including Canada – have seen the number of permanent and temporary migrants from the Asia-Pacific region increase significantly, to the extent that China, India and the Philippines are the top source countries for immigrants. And yet, Asia and its people are often depicted as an exotic “Other” in Western media, something distinctly different from the West. The Asia region is often depicted as a timeless land, untouched by modernity and there for “consumption” by the west in the form of tourism and the media. However, Asia is a dynamic region, home to many cultures, languages, religious and philosophical beliefs, and multiple histories. As the world becomes increasingly connected, it is imperative for global citizens in the 21st century to be aware of this region and its history. This course will introduce students to this region by analyzing the rise and development of Asian civilizations from prehistory to the period immediately before Western colonial expansion in the region. The course will emphasize the complex history and cultures that existed long before Western contact. Students will study the history and cultures of China, Japan, India, and Southeast Asia, and their interactions with each other and the outside world. The course focuses on the development of political structures, religious and philosophical beliefs, and technological innovations in the region. Asia today has been shaped by these forces, and to understand the region in recent history, one must grasp the key developments of this period.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students are expected to have noticeably developed in the following ways:

1. Develop some of the practical methods of historians, such as data interpretation, primary source analysis, critical secondary source reading, and effective writing skills.
2. To be able to identify the major geo-political boundaries of the region, and their change over time.

3. To have a solid understanding of the major political entities, cultural and religious transformations, events, figures, and locations in Asia before 1500.
4. To interrogate the transmission of Indian and Chinese culture throughout the Asia region.
5. To be able to understand historical trends in Asia prior to 1500, and the various cultural traditions of the peoples of Asia.

Required Textbooks

Both texts below are available in the bookstore.

Charles Holcombe, *A History of East Asia: From the Origins of Civilization to the Twenty-First Century* 2nd ed. (PUP 2017)

Hermann Kulke and Dietmar Rothermund, *A History of India* 6th Ed. (Routledge, 2016)

The following is available as a free e-book via the University of Manitoba Libraries webpage:

Craig Lockhard, *Southeast Asia in World History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)
<http://uml.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=271147&site=ehost-live>

Suggested Texts

These may be purchased online or accessed through the Library to assist students with writing and style. There are usually limited copies in the Bookstore. These are not required for course readings, but will help with essay writing.

Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers* 8th Ed. (University of Chicago Press, 2013).

William Strunk, Jr. and E. B. White, *Elements of Style* (Longman, 1999).

Course Format

Course content will be delivered through lectures, meaning that regular attendance to lectures is vital to success in this course. Readings will provide background material but cannot replace lecture content and class/group discussion, upon which the bulk of testable material will be based. Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussion and to ask questions on course material. More than three unexcused absences may result in action being taken, including withdrawal from the course. Throughout the term, there will be **in-class work (5%)** which will require no prior preparation, and will be spread throughout the term. These short pieces of written work will have you perform a variety of tasks, such as summarizing key points in the day's lecture, answering identification questions, or to describe the relation between two or more things mentioned in the day's lecture. There will be a total of two **in-class quizzes (5% each)** which will test students' ability to identify figures, events, and themes covered in course lecture and to discuss their important to the course. More information will be given in class. There will be one **map quiz (5%)**. The development of strong academic writing is integral to this course. There will be **two research essays** on assigned topics (**25% each**). There will be a **final examination** in the exam period (**30%**), which will cover material from the whole course. It is important that you do not book travel during the exam. More information will be made available on all assignments and exams in class.

Course Evaluation

5% In-class work	Throughout term
5% Map Quiz	May 11
25% Essay 1	May 18
10% Quizzes (2x5%)	May 14, May 21
25% Essay 2	May 30
30% Final Examination	June 2, 9:00am-12:00pm

Grading

A+	90-100	Superior Work
A	80-89	Excellent
B+	75-79	Very Good
B	70-74	Good
C+	65-69	Satisfactory
C	60-64	Adequate
D	50-59	Marginal
F	≤ 49	Failure/Unsatisfactory

Evaluation of coursework will be provided by the VW date (24 May 2018).

A Note on Electronic Devices and Language Aides in class

The use of cell phones in class is strictly prohibited. If there is an emergency, please excuse yourself from the lecture. Laptop and tablet computers are permitted in lecture for the sole use of note taking. Please respect the course format and your fellow classmates by respecting the space of learning you are taking part in. Please – no voice recorders during class. If you have difficulties following the lecture, please feel welcome to come and talk to your Instructor at any time.

There will be absolutely no electronic devices during examinations or map quizzes. Language aides such as dictionaries are not allowed during an examination.

Assignments

Handouts with more details on assignment instructions will be handed out in-class.

Research Papers: Each research paper will be on an assigned topic with specified readings. Each paper will be 1500-2000 words in length (excluding title page, footnotes, and bibliography), and will be formatted in 12-pt. Times New Roman font with double spaced text. It is important that papers focus on the assigned topic. Please see the Student Success Guide for more information on formatting and writing practice. A writing workshop will be provided in class for the first essay. Essays will be submitted via UMLearn.

All submitted work, including essays and exams, must be a student's own original work. All written work must be prepared in English. Essays written in another language and translated by translation software or someone other than the student submitting the work are NOT considered the original work of the student and will be subject to academic discipline.

All written assignments are to be typed and printed using a computer. For both research essays, you will be asked to submit a hard copy of your paper in class, as well as an electronic version on UMLearn. If you are unable to access a computer or a printer, please contact the Instructor. Do not delete your assignment after you have handed it in – please keep all written work until final grades for the course have been officially released.

A note on internet sources: The internet can be a great place to get background information to proceed with your research – much like you would use an encyclopedia. However, internet sources should only be used for this purpose. They should not be a source of information for your paper. Sources that are

found through the University Library Website or databases, or through Google Scholar are fine because they are academic and peer reviewed sources. If there is any doubt, talk to your Instructor!

Extensions will not be granted except in exceptional circumstances for medical or compassionate reasons *supported by documentation*. Computer failure or ‘too much work’ are not acceptable excuses for lateness.

Late Assignments will be deducted 2.5% for every day an assignment is late. This includes weekends.

Quizzes & Examinations

There will be one (1) **map quiz** given in the term, requiring knowledge of borders, major cities, geographic features such as rivers or mountain ranges, and sites of major events.

Two (2) **quizzes** will account for 10% (5% each) of the final course grade. These essays will be written during scheduled lecture time and will be on a theme that has been covered in previous lectures. Before the date of the essay, students will be provided with a broad theme, based on class course material, to help prepare. The exact question will be presented in-class. This method will help students prepare for the final exam, which will have two major exam essay questions.

All written work must be in the student’s own words - verbatim reproduction is not allowed and constitutes academic misconduct, which can lead to disciplinary action.

There will be one (1) **final examination** in this course. The final exam will be cumulative, covering material from the entire term. A handout of terms, figures, dates, places, and themes to study will be provided to help students focus their studying. The final exam will have four sections: a map portion, an identification section, a short answer section, and essay questions. The total number for each will be announced in-class, although students will have a selection to choose from (e.g. “Answer three out of five essay questions”). Keep the format of the exams in mind as you take notes in class and review them later to help you when it comes to study time. More on the exams will be discussed in class. This will account for a total of 30% of the course’s final grade.

All final exams are scheduled by the Registrar’s Office, and not by the Instructor. Do not book any travel or periods of absence during the examination period as dates are subject to change.

All exam answers must be written in the student’s own words. Verbatim reproduction of memorized material from textbooks or online sources is not acceptable. Collaboration on online quizzes is strictly not allowed.

University Regulations on Plagiarism, Cheating and Impersonation

The following may be found in the section on “Academic Integrity” of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html):

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

The ‘W’ Requirement

Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must complete all essay assignments with a passing grade to pass the course.”

Grade Appeals

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.

Faculty Regulation on Unreturned Term Work

Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

Contacting the Instructor

I encourage you to talk to me if you have any questions regarding the course materials or assignments, or if you have more general questions relating to the subject. You are welcome to raise your hand in class to ask a question, otherwise we may meet during office hours. Email is also an appropriate way for discussion, as is the course’s UMLearn webpage.

A Note

There are different ways to make this course and its requirements more accessible to students with various learning styles and life circumstances which may affect your performance. Please speak to the instructor if there is anything that can make the course more accessible to you.

Lecture Schedule

This schedule may change. Follow UMLearn for updated Lecture Schedule.

Week 1

May 7

Introduction to Asia: Geography, Religion, and Culture
Historical Sources in Asian History

May 8

Indus Valley Civilization
Aryan Migration
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 1 “Early Civilisations of the Northwest”
Assignment 1 Discussion

May 9

The Mauryan Empire
The Gupta Empire
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 2 “The Great Ancient Empires”

May 10

Islamic India and the Delhi Sultanate
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 4 “Religious Communities and

May 11

The Origins of China
China’s Ethnic Groups
Holcombe, “Introduction” and “Chapter 1: The Origins of Civilization in East
Asia” pp. 15-30.
Map Quiz (5%)

Week 2

May 14

The Early Dynasties: The Shang, Zhou, Qin and Han
2: The Formative Era”
Holcombe, “Chapter
Quiz #1 (5%)

May 15

Remonstrance: Confucianism & the Chinese State
Formative Era,” pp. 36-40
Holcombe, “Chapter 2: The

May 16

The Warring States Period
Holcombe, “Chapter 3: The Age of Cosmopolitanism,” pp. 60-71.
The Tang and Song Dynasties
Holcombe, “Chapter 4: The Creation of a Community,” pp. 95-113.
Holcombe, “Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories,” pp. 132-140.

May 17

Mongolian Conquest and the Yuan Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 141-146

May 18

The Ming Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 147-148.

Holcombe, "Chapter 6: Early Modern East Asia," pp. 167-182.

Essay 1 Due (20%)

Week 3

May 21

Victoria Day, University Closed

May 22

Early Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 3: The Age of Cosmopolitanism," pp. 88-94.

Holcombe, "Chapter 4: The Creation of a Community," pp. 120-131.

Online Quiz #2 (5%)

May 23

Medieval Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 154-161.

Assignment 2 Discussion

May 24

The Three Unifiers of Japan & The Tokugawa Shogunate

Holcombe, "Chapter 6: Early Modern East Asia," pp. 187-198

Voluntary Withdrawal Date

May 25

Mainland Southeast Asia

Lockhard, "Chapter 2: Southeast Asians in the Classical World" and "Chapter 3:

The Kingdoms of the Golden Age"

Week 4

May 28

Insular Southeast Asia

"The Age of Commerce"

Lockhard, "Chapter 2: Southeast Asians in the Classical World" and "Chapter 3:

The Kingdoms of the Golden Age"

May 29

Asia on the Eve of Western Colonial Contact: The Ming, Mughals, and Tokugawa

May 30

Final Examination Preparation Workshop
Essay 2 Due (25%)

June 2

Final Exam (30%)
Location TBA
9:00-12:00