
HISTORY OF ASIAN CIVILIZATION I in Fall 2018 (HI1008)

Course Code	HI1008	Professor(s)	Albert Wu
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	PV-204
Class Schedule	TF: 13:45-15:05 in C-103	Office Hours	Fridays 15:30-16:30 or by appointment
Credits	4	Email	awu@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2018	Office Tel. Ext.	705

Course Description

This course examines the major development of civilizations in East Asia from prehistory to the end of the sixteenth century. We will examine the histories of China, Korea, Japan, focusing primarily on China. You will also be asked to think comparatively, examining not only how the different countries and regions developed in East Asia, but also how East Asian developments compare with the “West.”

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will learn the broad historical context and narratives surrounding the civilizations of China, Japan, and Korea

Students will learn the main theoretical approaches to studying East Asia and in particular, recent historiographical changes and challenges to the region

Students will learn To analyze, critique and interpret both secondary and primary sources, through individual reading and writing and through group seminar discussion. In particular, we will learn how to approach sacred texts from an academic perspective

students will improve at Analysis: students will learn to evaluate different arguments, facts and opinions, and to build and defend their own arguments. Every aspect of the course will reinforce and model good analytical skills.

students will improve at Research: students will learn how to find, evaluate and organize different sources of information. The research paper will particularly help students to find and use sources, as will our primary source analysis in class

students will improve at Communication: students will learn how to communicate ideas more clearly and persuasively through writing and speaking. Written assignments and presentations formally give formal practice in communication skills, but everyday class participation – actively listening, thinking and responding – is also vital

General Education

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Please enter your course schedule with a guide to “Topics” or “Readings” of each session and/or week.

September

Week I - 10th - 14th

Tuesday 11th - Session I

TOPICS Introduction: “Asian” “Civilizations”

READINGS

Friday 14th - Session II

TOPICS Oracle Bones and Bronze Inscriptions.

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 1, “The Oracle Bone Inscriptions of the Late Shang Dynasty.”

September 16th – last day to drop/add courses online

Week II - 17th – 21st

Tuesday 18th - Session I

TOPICS Myths and Writing

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 2, “Classical Sources of Chinese Tradition;” Ch. 25, *Origins of Korean Culture*; Ch. 41: “The Earliest Records of Japan.”

Friday 21th - Session II

TOPICS Confucianism, pt. 1

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 3, "Confucius and the Analects."

Week III - 24th – 28th

Tuesday 25th - Session I

TOPICS Early Confucianism, pt. 2

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 4, "Mozi;" Ch. 6, "Mencius."

Friday 28th - Session II

TOPICS Daoism

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 5, "Laozi and Zhuangzi."

October

Week IV – 1st - 5th

Tuesday 2nd - Session I

TOPICS The Evolution of Confucianism

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 6, "Xunzi," Ch. 7, "Legalists and Moralists."

Friday 5th - Session II

TOPICS Confucianism and Daoism in Practice: The Han Dynasty

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 10, "*The Imperial Order and Han Syntheses*;"

Week V – 8th -12th

Tuesday 9th - Session I

TOPICS Korea: The Three Kingdoms

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 26, “The Rise of the Three Kingdoms”

Friday 12th - Session II

TOPICS Japan: Early Records and Shintoism

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 41-42

Week VI - 15th - 19th

Tuesday 16th - Session I

TOPICS Buddhism in Theory

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 15-16

Friday 19th - Session II

TOPICS Buddhism in Practice: China

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 17, “Schools of Buddhist Practice.”

Week VII – 22nd – 26th

Tuesday 23rd - Session I

TOPICS Buddhism and State Formation in Korea

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 27-28, “The Introduction of Buddhism;” “Consolidation of the State

Friday 26th - Session II

TOPICS Buddhism and Conflict with Religious Practices in Korea

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 29-30, "The Rise of Buddhism;" "Local Clans"

October 26th, Mid-semester grades due

Week VIII – 29th – Nov. 2nd

Tuesday 30th - Session I

TOPICS State Formation in Japan

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 43-44, "Prince Shotoku," "Chinese Thought and Institutions in Early Japan."

October 31st , November 2nd, (included) fall break, no classes

November

Week IX – 5th – 9th

Tuesday 6th - Session I

TOPICS Buddhism and State Formation in Japan

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 45-47.

Friday 9th - Session II

TOPICS The Neo-Confucian Revival

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 20-21

November 9th, Last day to withdraw from a course/no credit option

Week X - 12th -16th

Tuesday 13th - Session I

TOPICS Foundations of Late Imperial China and Aristocratic Culture in China

READINGS *Sources*, Chs. 22-24

Friday 16th - Session II

TOPICS Aristocratic Culture in Heian Japan

READINGS Selections from *Tale of Genji*, Chs. 1-4

Week XI -19th – 23rd

Tuesday 20th - Session I

TOPICS Heian Japan Continued

READINGS *Tale of Genji* continued

Friday 23th - Session II

TOPICS Women in Traditional East Asian Society

READINGS *Genji*, Continued

Week XII -26th - 30th

Tuesday 27st - Session I

TOPICS Women in Traditional East Asian Society

READINGS *Genji*, Continued

Friday 30th - Session II

TOPICS Women in Traditional East Asian Society

READINGS *Genji*, finish

December

Week XIII – 3rd – 7th

Tuesday 4th - Session I

TOPICS Warrior Culture in Japan

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 50, “The Way of the Warrior;” Ch. 56, “Law and Precepts of the Warrior Houses”

Friday 7th - Session II

TOPICS Warring States in Japan and Unification

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 57, “The Regime of the Unifiers.”

Week XIV - 10th - 14th

Tuesday 11th - Session I

TOPICS East Asia and the Early Modern World

READINGS *Sources*, Ch. 57, “The Korean War,” Selections from “The Voyages of Zheng He.

December 12th, Last day of classes, December 13th -16th, Reading days

December 17th – 21st, Final exams

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
The Tale of Genji (Vintage International) Seidenstricker Translation	Murasaki Shikibu, Edward Seidenstricker	penguin	9780142437148	Yes
Sources of East Asian Tradition, Vol. 1: Premodern Asia (Introduction to Asian Civilizations)	Wm. Theodore de Bary	Columbia University Press	9780231143059	Yes

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Participation (Attendance, Quizzes, Participation in Discussions) 25%

Reading Journal 25%

- For each class, choose one quote from the reading and respond with three to five sentences. These sentences should reflect your own thoughts and attention to elegant, concise prose. Some suggestions: Choose a quote (one to three sentences) that is surprising, thought-provoking, or that inspires comparisons with other countries or contemporary situations. Can you connect an idea to your own experiences, to a different time period, or to another work that we have read? What words, images, or examples does the writer use to convey his argument? At the beginning of each class, you will share your sentences with another person in class, and I may ask you to read your sentences aloud. Please keep your reading journal together in a notebook or folder. If you choose to handwrite, make sure the writing is legible. You will turn in the reading journal at the end of the semester.

Mid-Term Exam – 15%

Everything but Paper Assignment 15%

Final Exam 20%

Other
