

HH 2009 China in Revolution and Reform

Day/Time: Weds 1330-1620

Venue: LHS-TR+36

Course Aims:

This course will provide you with a thorough understanding of the history of modern China from the late Qing dynasty (1644-1911) up to today. It will enable you to investigate and explain the broader historical processes behind the political, cultural, and societal formation of modern China. It will also enable you to analyze and interpret both primary and secondary sources specific to the field of modern Chinese history. The course will enable you to read these sources in context and to collect and synthesize large quantities of both primary and relevant secondary sources on modern Chinese history. Based on your analysis of these sources, the course will enable you to formulate historical arguments pertaining to the history of modern China.

Course's Intended Learning Outcomes:

- ILO 1 Investigate and explain the role of a range of historical processes in the political, cultural, and societal formation of modern China;
- ILO 2 Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources pertaining to modern Chinese history;
- ILO 3 Collect and synthesize large quantities of historical evidence pertaining to modern Chinese history
- ILO 4 Formulate novel historical arguments pertaining to modern Chinese history based on analysis of primary and secondary sources;
- ILO 5 Articulate evidence-based arguments pertaining to modern Chinese history in both written and oral form;
- ILO 6 Present ideas and evidence pertaining to modern Chinese history in a variety of media

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the history of China from the end of the nineteenth century to the early years of the People's Republic, the Cold War, and the Reform-era. This period saw seismic global transformations: the collapse of a dynasty, the formation of a modern republic, two world wars, major financial crises, and multiple visions of revolutionary change articulated by Chinese intellectuals and leaders. Who were the people who lived through this history, what were the social, cultural, political and material conditions they were seeking to overcome, and what sort of futures did they envision? How did successive Chinese regimes and their leaders define revolution, and how did the Reform-era reshape these legacies? We will consider major historical moments in modern Chinese history such as the 1911 Republican revolution, the 1920s cultural revolution, the 1949 Communist revolution, but at the same time will pay attention to lesser-known visions for revolutionary change and their re-articulations in the era of Reform and Opening since the 1980s. In this course, we will engage with a wide range of historical

accounts, essays, memoirs, art, film, and try out different genres of writing. Hopefully, this course will help you not only understand the history, culture and politics of China, but also enable you to hone skills of critical analysis, writing, reading and research, which will equip you for professional tasks beyond the classroom.

Outline and Weekly Schedule:

Week 1: Aug 12	Introduction: Chinese Revolution(s) in History and Memory
Week 2: Aug 19	The Qing Dynasty and the End of Empire
Week 3: Aug 26	A Chinese Republic? The Nationalist Revolution
Week 4: Sep 2	Competing Revolutions in Republican China
Week 5: Sep 9	The Chinese Revolution in its Regional Context
Week 6: Sep 16	The 1949 Chinese Communist Revolution
Week 7: Sep 23	Everyday Life under Chinese Socialism
Week 8: Sep 30 (Recess Week)	
Week 9: Oct 7	Permanent Revolution: The Cultural Revolution
Week 10: Oct 14	Global Maoism: The Chinese Revolution in the Global 1960s
Week 11: Oct 21	Rethinking Revolution: China's Reform-era and Road to 1989
Week 12: Oct 28	"Goodbye Revolution": Capitalism in Communist China
Week 13: Nov 4	China's New Revolution: The Reign of Xi Jinping
Week 14: Nov 11	Is China Revolutionary?
Week 15: Nov 18 (Revision and Exam Week)	
Week 16: Nov 25 (Revision and Exam Week)	
Week 17: Dec 2 (Revision and Exam Week)	