

HIST 354—History of Modern China  
Fall 2009  
TR 1:30-2:45 p.m.  
Innovation Hall, Rm. 204  
Course webpage: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~mchang5>

Professor Michael Chang  
Office: Robinson B 377C  
e-mail: [mchang5@gmu.edu](mailto:mchang5@gmu.edu)  
Phone: (703) 993-1250 (leave msg. @ main office)  
Office hrs.: Tue/Thu 3:00-4:00 p.m. & by appt.

### HIST 354 (001): History of Modern China

**Course Description:** This course is a survey of modern Chinese history from the seventeenth to the mid-twentieth centuries (1600-1950s). The course will explore the momentous changes in the relationship between state and society from the founding of the Qing dynasty to the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Themes to be covered include imperialism, nationalism, ethnicity & race, gender, and revolution (political, social, and cultural) during these three and a half centuries of Chinese history.

**Required Texts:** The titles below are all available for purchase at the GMU Barnes & Noble in Johnson Center.

1. Jonathan D. Spence. *The Search for Modern China*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Norton, 1999.
2. Henrietta Harrison. *Man Awakened from Dreams: One Man's Life in a North China Village*. Stanford, 2005.
3. Wang Zheng. *Women in the Chinese Enlightenment: Oral and Textual Histories*. U.C. Press, 1999.
4. William Hinton. *Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village*. U.C. Press, [1966] 1997.

In addition to the titles above, readings in the course schedule marked by a **single asterisk (\*)** and followed by (**e-reserve**) are available on E-Reserves at: <http://furbo.gmu.edu/cgi-bin/ers/OSCRgen.cgi> (password = china).

**Requirements & Grading:** You must complete (that is, demonstrate serious engagement with) every requirement in order to receive a passing grade. The instructor reserves the final right to determine what constitutes "completion" of a requirement.

1. **Participation (15%):** Active participation is the key to a successful and interesting semester. I expect you to attend every one of our scheduled meetings and to come fully prepared. Finish the assigned readings before class and pause to think about them. (Jotting down a few notes or a brief outline each week will help you keep on top of the material and is strongly recommended.) The quality of your written and oral contributions in class will be considered as indicators of your engagement with the course.
2. **In-class Map Quiz (5%):** Based on map in Spence, *Search for Modern China*, A134-A135. **Tues. 9/15/2009.**
3. **Short Papers (45%):** In order to hone your critical reading and writing skills, you will be asked to complete **three (3) short (4-5 pg.) papers due in-class on Thurs. 9/23/2009, Tues. 10/27/2009, and Tues. 11/17/2009.** More guidelines regarding format and content will be provided in class.
4. **Take-Home Final Examination (35%):** essay(s); **due in my departmental mailbox (Robinson B, Room 359) by 4:00 p.m. on Friday 12/18/2009.**

**Note: All written assignments should be typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins in 12 pt. font. Hard-copy only; no electronic submissions or email attachments accepted!**

**LATE POLICIES:** Late assignments will not be credited until a hard copy is in my hands & will be penalized **one full letter grade (10 pts.) per day (including weekends & holidays).** No late work will be accepted for the take-home final examination.

#### Reminders and Helpful Web-links:

- a) **Students are expected to come to class on time.** Late arrivals are disruptive and late-comers may miss important information or hand-outs. Also please switch off any cell phones, beepers, walkie-talkies, etc.
- b) **Plagiarism: Don't do it.** It's easy to spot and can result in expulsion from the University and/or loss of your degree. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, or about when or how to properly cite a source, see your professor before you write! For more information see this very helpful website: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm#plagiarism>
- c) If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. **All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.**
- d) **Final disclaimer:** This syllabus is subject to revision as the semester proceeds. Announcements of changes will be made online and during class meetings. Students are responsible for being aware of any changes. All of the University's academic policies and the honor code apply to this course. Please refer to GMU's Undergraduate Catalog for details.

Dates	Lectures & Discussions	Assignments & Readings	Notices
9/1 & 9/3	<b>T:</b> Course introduction <b>Th:</b> State & society in late imperial China	<b>T:</b> buy your books <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 1 (p. 3-25)	Hand out map guide.
9/8 & 9/10	<b>T:</b> The 17th Century Crisis <b>Th:</b> The Qing Conquest	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 2-3 (p. 26-73) <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 4 (p. 74-95)	M 9/7 Labor Day-no class
9/15 & 9/17	<b>T:</b> Early & High Qing <b>Th:</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> c. Gender Relations	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 5 (p. 96-116) <b>**IN-CLASS MAP QUIZ</b> <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 6 (117-137) <b>* Hand out Cheng &amp; Leztz docs. 7.1 &amp; 7.2 (p. 110-119) (also on e-reserve) &amp; guidelines for Paper #1</b>	Tu 9/15 Last day to add & drop w/o tuition penalty.
9/22 & 9/24	<b>T:</b> The Opium Wars <b>Th:</b> Mid-Century Rebellions	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 7-8 (p. 141-191) <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 9 (p. 192-214) <b>** Short Paper #1 due in class</b>	Hand out Harrison rdg. guide.
9/29 & 10/1	<b>T:</b> Self-Strengthening/Reform <b>Th:</b> High Imperialism (to 1900)	<b>T:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 1-50. <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 50-82.	F 10/2 Last day to drop.
10/6 & 10/8	<b>T:</b> The Boxer Uprising <b>Th:</b> New Policies & New Elites	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 10-11 (p. 229-263) <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 83-112.	
10/13 & 10/15	<b>T:</b> <b>Columbus Day-no class</b> <b>Th:</b> Sun Yat-sen & the Revolutionary Movement	<b>T:</b> <b>Columbus Day-no class</b> <b>Th:</b> Harrison, <i>The Man Awakened from Dreams</i> , p. 113-170.	Hand out Wang Zheng rdg. guide.
10/20 & 10/22	<b>T:</b> The 1911 Revolution & Failure of Republicanism <b>Th:</b> discuss <i>Man Awakened from Dreams</i>	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 12 (p. 267-289) <b>Th:</b> Spence, Ch. 13 (p. 290-295)	
10/27 & 10/29	<b>T:</b> New Culture & May 4 <sup>th</sup> Era <b>Th:</b> Founding of the CCP & 1 <sup>st</sup> United Front	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 13 (p. 295-313) <b>**Short Paper #2 due in class</b> <b>Th:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 1 (p. 35-66) & ch. 3 (p. 119-143) [57]	F 10/30 Last day for elective withdraw
11/3 & 11/5	<b>T:</b> <i>China in Revolution, pt. 1: Struggle for Survival, 1911-1936</i> <b>Th:</b> Chiang Kai-shek & the Nanjing Decade	<b>T:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 4-5 (p. 145-220) [73] <b>Th:</b> Spence, ch. 15 (p. 352-374)	Hand out Hinton rdg. guide.
11/10 & 11/12	<b>T:</b> Rural Revolution: the Long March & the Rise of Mao <b>Th:</b> discuss Wang Zheng book	<b>T:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , ch. 8 (p. 287-356) [69] <b>Th:</b> Wang, <i>Women in the Chinese Enlightenment</i> , Epilogue (p. 357-366) [11]	
11/17 & 11/19	<b>T:</b> <i>Red Sorghum</i> (1987, 91min) <b>Th:</b> finish & disc <i>Red Sorghum</i>	<b>T:</b> <b>**Short Paper #3 due in-class</b> <b>Th:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , ix-xiii, p. 3-68 [69]	
11/24 & 11/26	<b>T:</b> discuss <i>Fanshen</i> <b>Th:</b> <b>Thanksgiving-no class</b>	<b>T:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , p. 69-100 (anti-Japanese resistance) [31] <b>Th:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> p. 101-146 (initial village struggle), 157-160 (women), 168-187 (CP), & 198-250 (land reform errors) [122]	11/25-11/29 Thanksgiving recess.
12/1 & 12/3	<b>T:</b> <i>China in Revolution, pt. 2: Fighting for the Future, 1937-1949</i> <b>Th:</b> Building New China; Korean War	<b>T:</b> Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> , p. 319-331, 350-359 (judging the party); 374-377, 382-387, 394-395 (county meetings & land reform); 396-399, 454-460 (women); 478-487 (civil war); 518-527 (“extreme democracy”); 535-547 (People’s Congress); 592 (landholding chart); and 601-613 (conclusion) [92] <b>Th:</b> finish reading assigned pages in Hinton, <i>Fanshen</i> .	Hand out Final Exam Question
12/8 & 12/10	<b>T:</b> <i>China in Revolution: The Mao Years</i> (1 <sup>st</sup> 15 min.) Rep. of China/Taiwan <b>Th:</b> <i>Angry Monk</i> ; wrap-up	<b>T:</b> Spence, ch. 18 (459-488) and ch. 19 (489-513) <b>Th:</b> *M. Goldstein, “Tibet & China in the 20th Century,” only pgs. 186-199 (e-reserve); work on organizing and/or writing your take-home final	
12/14-12/21 exams	<b>Take-home Final Exam due in my dept. mailbox (Robinson B, Room 359) by 4:00 p.m. on Friday 12/18/2009. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.</b>		