



蘇州大學
Soochow University

HIS 198 History of East Asia

Fall 2023

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides a comprehensive survey of East Asia's history, focusing on key individuals, ideas, and events that have shaped the politics, society, and culture of the region up to the present day. East Asia's rise as a significant actor in international politics and the global economy will be explored, along with its engagement with modernity. The course aims to provide students with a deep understanding of the historical development of East Asian countries and their impact on the world stage.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Critically assess East Asia's engagement with modernity;
2. Utilize a range of academic literature and primary sources for analyzing East Asia's history, society, and culture;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of key events and ideas in East Asia's history;
4. Undertake autonomous research and effectively communicate arguments in written form;
5. Research and prepare arguments for discussion and debate in a group setting.

PREREQUISITES

N/A

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:



ITEM	POINTS
Assignments	40 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, Anne Walthall, *East Asia: A Cultural, Social, and Political History*, 3rd Edition, Cengage Learning, 2014.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: China in the Bronze Age: The Shang and Western Zhou Dynasties Topic 2: Philosophers and Warring States During the Eastern Zhou Period Topic 3: The Founding of the Bureaucratic Empire Topic 4: Political Division in China and the Spread of Buddhism Assignment#1
Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Early Korea to 935 Topic 6: Early State and Society in Japan Topic 7: China Among Equals: Song, Liao, Xia and Jin Topic 8: Heian Japan (794–ca.1180) Assignment#2



Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Goryeo Korea (935–1392) Topic 10: Kamakura Japan (1180–1333) Topic 11: Japan’s Middle Ages Topic 12: Joseon Korea (1392–1800) Assignment#3 Assessments: Midterm#1
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Edo Japan (1603–1800) Topic 14: China in Decline (1800–1900) Topic 15: Japan in Turmoil (1800–1867) Topic 16: Meiji Transformation (1868–1900) Assignment#4 Assessments: Midterm#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Korea in the Turbulent Nineteenth Century Topic 18: East Asia in the Modern World Topic 19: Intensified Contact and Divergent Paths Topic 20: Final Exam Reviews, Q&A Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student’s frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.



LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:



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Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.