



**University of International Business and Economics
International Summer School**

HUM 210 Asian Civilization

Instructor: Philip WILLIAMS

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Credit: 2 units

Students

Open to college students of any major

Teaching Language

This course is taught in English.

Prerequisites

University-level English language proficiency

Methods of Instruction

Lectures utilize PowerPoint slide presentations with illustrations; also Q & A

Classroom Capacity

Room to seat approximately sixty or seventy students

Evaluation

- ✧ Closed Book Midterm Examination 25%
- ✧ Closed Book Final Examination 35%
- ✧ Written Report due Tuesday, Week Two 40%

About the Instructor

Professor of East Asian literature and culture at several research universities in the U.S.A. and New Zealand since 1986, including five years as department chairman. Author, editor, co-author, or co-editor of eleven books in East Asian studies. Author of over 200 shorter publications such as articles, book chapters, and translations.

Course Description

Survey of Asian civilization from the earliest times up through the 20th century. The focus is on East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia, all of which are in the shadow of Earth's largest monsoon weather pattern and thus are densely populated. No previous coursework in Asian civilization is required or expected. No portions of Russia or the former Soviet Union east of the Ural Mountains are included, nor is any part of Asia that is west of Pakistan emphasized. Format is lectures with Powerpoint slide



presentations about material students have recently read from the textbook, with student questions and discussion at the end of the class period. There is a midterm exam (25%) at the end of the first week, a final exam at the end of the second week (35%), and a typed hardcopy written report (40%) due for handing in to the professor in class on Tuesday of Week Two.

Introduction

This is a survey of Asian civilization from earliest times up through the latter part of the 20th century, with a focus on South Asia, East Asia, and Southeast Asia—all of which are in the shadow of Earth's largest monsoon weather pattern. No previous coursework in Asian civilization is required or expected. No portions of Russia or the former Soviet Union east of the Ural Mountains are included, nor is any part of Asia that is west of Pakistan emphasized.

We will focus mainly on the most recent several centuries of Asian civilization. At the same time, in order to understand Asia's recent past and contemporary features, it is necessary to learn some basics of the ancient and medieval origins and development of Asian societies and religions—we thus will cover this in the early stages of the course. We will then move on to the relatively recent Asian empires such as the Mughal dynasty in what is now India and Pakistan, the Tokugawa Shogunate in Japan, and the Ming and Qing dynasties of imperial China. Finally, we will survey the impact of Western trade and colonialism in Asia from the 16th - 20th centuries, along with the subsequent struggles of independence from foreign domination and monarchical rule. The course concludes with a survey of Asia in our own period of the early 21st century.

Textbook

There is only one required textbook: *A History of Asia, 7th Edition*. By Rhoads MURPHEY and Kristin STAPLETON (authors). New Jersey: Pearson, 2014. ISBN-13: 970-0-205-16855-2. Please be sure you use the 7th edition only—older, earlier editions contain different content and pagination, and thus would be unacceptable.

Grading

The course combines textbook reading assignments, PowerPoint presentations, and some discussion. Grading is based on a Unit One test at the end of the first week, Thursday 06 July (25%); a hardcopy typed written report to be handed in no later than in class Tuesday 11 July (40%); and a Unit Two test at the end of the second and final week, Thursday 13 July (35%). Specific information about the requirements for your written report will be announced in class; the emphasis will be on quality instead of on quantity. There will be no make-up test considered for either the Unit One test or the Unit Two test except in the very unusual case of an illness severe enough to require confinement, and upon receipt a physician's signed note to that effect. Tests are mostly multiple-choice question format. Students who keep up with the daily reading assignments and attend the lectures and powerpoint slide demonstrations generally pass the course and often do reasonably well, especially if reviewing the powerpoints either in slide form or in outline form before taking the test.

Ground rules

This course is designed for students who prepare all the reading assignments before coming to class and who attend each class daily, both the morning session (9:50-11:20) and the afternoon session (13:30-15:00). For instance, before coming to class on Monday July 3rd, students should have already finished reading pages 1-46 of the textbook; and before coming to class on July 4th, students should have already finished reading pages 48-103. If you arrive late or leave early, please do so quietly in order to avoid disturbing your classmates.

Because there is a lot of material to cover during class lectures, there is not necessarily much time for individual questions at the end of the class period. Under such circumstances, you are welcome to ask the professor a question after the end of class, particularly in afternoon sessions.

Reading assignments:

Specific assignments as textbook readings are listed below:

Date & am (晨) or pm (下午) pages in text main topics or activity
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Day One

07/03am Monday	1-8, 10-26	monsoon; cultural patterns; prehistoric origins
07/03pm Monday	28-46	Hinduism; Buddhism; other main Asian religions

Day Two

07/04am Tuesday	48-72	Asian societies; ancient India's civilization (I)
07/04pm Tuesday	73-103	ancient India (II); ancient Chinese civilization

Day Three

07/05am Wednesday	105-132	medieval India; early and medieval SE Asia
07/05pm Wednesday	134-152	golden age of Táng & Sòng Chinese civilization

Day Four

07/06am Thursday	154-177	early to medieval Japan and Korean civilization
07/06pm Thursday	-----	Unit One Exam only on topics up through p. 177

Day Five

07/10am Monday	179-228	Mughal India & Míng-to-early-Qīng China
07/10pm Monday	231-264	Tokugawa Japan; European inroads into Asia

Day Six

07/11am Tuesday	266-294	British colonial rule in India; hand in typed report
07/11pm Tuesday	297-325	heyday of colonialism & Asian spheres of influence

Day Seven

07/12am Wednesday	327-357	nationalism and revolution in China and India
07/12pm Wednesday	359-409	Japan 1920-45 and post-WWII; post-WWII China

Day Eight



07/13am Thursday
07/13pm Thursday

412-437

Korea and Southeast Asia after World War II
Unit Two Test only on material from pp. 179-437