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## History 104 **History, Society, and Culture**

In this class we will be comparing and contrasting major themes in the histories of Western and Chinese Civilizations. Looking at ideas such as honor, sacrifice, gender, and modernity we will examine how peoples in these civilizations gave meaning to their everyday lives in the ancient, medieval, and modern worlds. Sometimes we will be looking at gladiators and assassins, while other times we will focus on women and the challenges they faced. In both cases, we will explore how people made sense of the world around them while living in these civilizations. Ultimately, we will call into question the meaning of civilization and the ways people developed an ideal, juxtaposing it to the lives they actually lived.

### *Readings:*

Course Reader that is Available in the History Department Office, 208C Palmer

Brook, *The Confusions of Pleasure*

Brucker, *Giovanni and Lusanna*

Bynum, *Holy Feast, Holy Fast*

Dower, *War Without Mercy*

Duus, *The Japanese Discovery of America*

Gardner, trans., *Gilgamesh*

Gerald of Wales, *The History and Topography of Ireland*

Greene, *The Quiet American*

Lao, trans., *Mencius*

Locke, *The Second Treatise of Government*

Lu Hsun, *Selected Stories*

Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*

McCoy, *The Elusive Republic*

Plato, *The Republic*

Tacitus, *The Agricola and The Germania*

*The Poem of The Cid*

### *Assessment:*

Class Participation 15%

Analytical Papers 60% (10% each)

Midterm 10%

Final 15%

## ASSIGNMENTS

**Class Participation:** Students are expected to attend class having done the reading and prepared to engage with the instructors, the readings, and other students. Students may miss up to two days of class per block, no questions asked. Students who miss more than the stated days must write a five-page paper or will otherwise received a no credit for the course. Class will begin at 9:30 am.

**Analytical Papers:** Students are required to write six formal analytical papers, three each block. Paper questions will be given to students on Thursdays before the papers are due in the first block. Students will design their own questions for the papers in the second block. All papers must be double-spaced, typed, using twelve-point font and 1 inch margins. Papers are due on the stated Fridays in the instructors' boxes by 5:00 pm. Papers cannot be sent electronically.

**Midterm:** On February 15 students will have three hours to take their midterm exam. The exam is an open-note, open-book exam. Students will have a fifteen-minute grace period to turn in the exam. Exams that are received after 12:15 pm will be docked a third of a grade. The honor code must be typed or a third of a grade will be deducted from the exam's score.

**Final:** On March 15, students will take the course final. The essay questions will cover material for the second block as well as include a cumulative question that covers the whole course. Like the midterm the same penalties apply if the exam is turned in late or the honor code is not signed or typed.

## **Class Schedule**

### Monday, January 23

Reading: Gardner, *Gilgamesh*

### Tuesday, January 24

Reading: Plato, *The Republic*

### Wednesday, January 25

Reading: Plato, *The Republic*

### Thursday, January 26

Reading: Tacitus, *Agricola and the Germania*

There will be an afternoon review session led by Kellie.

### Friday, Friday 27

WRITING DAY – class does not meet

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at noon.

### Monday, January 30

1. READER: Keightley, "Early Civilization in China: Reflections on How It Became Chinese," 15-54
2. READER: *Sources of Chinese Tradition*: Oracle Bone texts, 3-23

Tuesday, January 31

Reading:

1. READER: Hansen, *The Open Empire*, 55-95
2. Watson, trans., selections from *The Tso-chuan*, 1-49

Wednesday February 1

Reading:

1. *Mencius*, 49-137 [Books 1a-IVb]
2. Yeh – *Alienated Academy* (excerpt)

Thursday, February 2

Reading:

1. READER: Wills, “The First Emperor of Qin,” 33-50, “Sima Qian,” 51-71
2. READER: Watson, trans., selections from *Records of the Historian*, 36-67
3. Sima Qian (in Birch, ed.), “Letter to Jen An (Shao-ch’ing),” 95-102

Film: *The Emperor and the Assassin*. Lunch will be provided

Friday, February 3

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at 5:00pm

Monday, February 6

Reading: *The Poem of the Cid*

Tuesday, February 7

Reading: Bynum, *Holy Feast and Holy Fast*, Chapters 1-4

Film: *Joan of Arc*

Wednesday, February 8

Reading: Bynum, *Holy Feast and Holy Fast*, Chapters 5-10

Luncheon with Professor Wen-hsin Yeh, University of California Berkeley; short reading to accompany visit.

Thursday, February 9

Reading:

1. READER: *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, 392-410
2. READER: *Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook*, 97-104
3. READER: “The Great Petition for Sepulchral Plaints,” 230-274
4. READER: “Biography of the Daoist Saint Wang Fengxian,” 17-29
5. READER: “Biography of the Great Compassionate One of Xiangshan,” 31-44

Friday, February 10

WRITING DAY – class does not meet

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at noon.

Monday, February 13

Reading: Gerald of Wales, *The History and Topography of Ireland*

Tuesday, February 14

Reading: Brucker, *Giovanni and Lusanna*

Wednesday, February 15

MIDTERM EXAMINATION

**Block 6**

Monday, February 20

Reading: Brook, 1-124

Tuesday, February 21

Reading: Brook, 125-237

Wednesday, February 22

READER: Feng Menglong, *Stories Old and New*, 9-47; 172-193

Thursday, February 23

WRITING DAY – class does not meet

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at noon.

Friday, February 24

Reading:

1. Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*
2. READER: Declaration of Independence of the United States
3. READER: United States Constitution of 1787

Monday, February 27

Reading: McCoy, 5-135.

Tuesday, February 28

McCoy, *The Elusive Republic*, 136-239

Wednesday, March 1

Duus, *The Japanese Discovery of America*, 1-83

Film: *The Last Samurai*

Thursday, March 2

Duus, 84-184

Friday, March 3

WRITING DAY – class does not meet

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at noon.

Monday, March 6

Reading:

1. Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
2. Chen Duxiu, "Call to Youth," 240-246
3. Li Ta-Chao, "The Victory of Bolshevism," 246-249
4. Mao Zedong, "Report on the Peasant Movement in Hunan," 1-4

Tuesday, March 7

Reading: Lu Hsun, *Selected Stories*, 1-124

Wednesday, March 8

Dower, *War Without Mercy*, 3-146

Thursday, March 9

Dower, *War Without Mercy*, 147-290

Friday, March 10

WRITING DAY

Assignment: Analytical Essay due at noon

Monday, March 13

Reading:

1. Greene, *The Quiet American*

Tuesday, March 14

Reading:

1. READER: Ho Chi Minh, "Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam"
2. READER: Fukuyama, "Reflections on the End of History, Five Years Later"
3. READER: Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations"

Wednesday, March 15

FINAL EXAMINATION