

## **History 6: ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS**

Spring 2009; Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:15; Mendocino Hall 1003

### ***General Information***

Prof. Jeffrey Dym

Office: Tahoe 3088

Office Hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00

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### ***Catalog Description***

HIST 006. Asian Civilizations. An introduction to major developments in the histories and cultures of China, Japan, and India—origins of civilizations, great empires, religions, growth and spread of cultures, alien invasions, Western impact, nationalist movements, modernization, and characteristics of contemporary society. 3 units. GE Area C-1

### ***Course Description***

This course seeks to understand the civilizations of East, South, and Southeast Asia spanning the centuries from the beginning of Asian civilization until today. This course must cover thousands of years of history of several major culture areas in a very brief time, because of this problem we must move through the material rather quickly. We will not be able to delve as deeply into any one subject area as many of us would like. Because of the rapid pace of the course it is important to keep up with the readings and lectures. We will examine patterns of thought and belief, values and world views, institutions and personalities, events and experiences, and forms of creative expression that contributed to the distinctive civilizations of Asia and conditioned the interactions among Asian regions and with the non-Asian world. This course is based on the belief that an introduction to the history of the civilization requires a consideration of all of these facets of human activity, a general mapping of the terrain so that students may learn enough to consider where to explore further. The first part of this course concentrates on the development of civilization in South Asia; it then examines the development of China's distinctive way of life; there follows several weeks on Korea and Japan. The course ends with a brief examination of Southeast Asia, with particular attention on Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

### ***Course Objectives***

Upon successful completion of History 6 students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of Asian history and culture.
- Distinguish the characteristics between the Asian civilizations of China, Korea, Japan, India, Vietnam, and Cambodia.
- Describe the interactive roles which social, religious, political, economic, scientific and technological forces have played among the civilizations of Asia.
- Discuss Asia's role in the world today.
- Manifest a sense of historical time.

- Analyze cause and effect relationships in history.
- Finally, I hope that this course will aid you in the development of university level methods of historical inquiry, text interpretation, analytical writing, and critical thinking.

**Required Texts**

Murphey, Rhoads. *A History of Asia*. 5th edition  
 Singh, Khushwant. *Train to Pakistan*.  
 Van Gulik, Robert. *Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee: An Authentic Eighteenth-century Chinese Detective Novel*.  
 Lee, Helie. *Still Life with Rice*.  
 Allyn, John. *The 47 Ronin Story*.

**Requirements and Grading Criteria**

There will be ten current event commentaries, four book quizzes, one midterm exam, and a final exam which will be weighed in the following manner:

Current events commentary (CEC)	10 x 10	100 points	14%
Book quizzes	4 x 50	200 points	27%
Midterm		200 points	27%
Final Exam		230 points	32%
Total		730 points	100%

Grades will be determined by your overall accumulation of points according to the following schedule:

	B+ = 636-656	C+ = 563-583	D+ = 490-510	
A = 679-730	B = 606-635	C = 533-562	D = 460-489	
A- = 657-678	B- = 584-605	C- = 511-532	D- = 438-459	
				F = 437 points or less

**Current Events Commentary (CEC)**

Asia contains over 2/5 of the world’s population. India and China each have a population over one billion. The largest Muslim country is in Asia. The second richest country in the world is in Asia. More people speak English in Asia than anywhere else in the world. The world’s largest democracy is in Asia. Many of our consumer goods come from Asia. Except for parts of the 19th and 20th centuries, I would argue, Asia was the most advanced region in the world. Yet, it is a part of the world that very few people who live in the United States know much about. Over the course of this semester I hope to introduce you to some of the wonders of Asian history. I would also like you to become more aware of how important Asia is in the world today. Thus, over the course of the semester you are expected to pay attention to news stories about Asia and to comment on them.

Each week, from Tuesday at 1:15 p.m. until 11:45 a.m. the following Tuesday, you can submit one Current Event Commentary (CEC) in SacCT. **You can submit only one commentary per week.** If you submit more than one, only the first submission will be graded. You may, however, go back and amend a submission (for example add the citation if you left it off, or correct the spelling) as many times as you like as long as the submission period for that CEC is open. You are required to submit ten commentaries. There are fifteen possible weeks in which you can submit a commentary. You choose which weeks to submit a commentary and which weeks not to submit. I will only grade you on ten. **If you submit for more than ten weeks you will be penalized.**

CEC are located under **ASSESSMENTS**. They appear as a “quiz.” You must complete and submit them in this area. I will not accept CEC submitted via e-mail or as a message within SacCT.

**Only the following countries are acceptable to do CEC on:** China, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Burma, Singapore, Indonesia, or the Philippines. **The story must be set** in one, or more, of these countries, otherwise you will receive a failing score.

Every CEC **MUST** contain the following elements:

1. Citation of the article or news report. That is the name of the newspaper, magazine, web address, etc. Time and date of the report. You must be precise.

For example:

*Sacramento Bee*, Tuesday, October 2, Section A, page 5.

Or

*Newsweek*, Oct 1-8, p. 14-17.

OR

If it is from the Web the **FULL AND COMPLETE URL**.

e.g. [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com) is not complete citation

[www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/asiapcf/east/01/16/nkorea.nuclear/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/asiapcf/east/01/16/nkorea.nuclear/index.html)

is a complete citation.

2. A brief summation of the article in your own words. You must paraphrase the article. If you merely copy the article (or cut and paste it) you will be severely marked down. Do not cut and paste!!!
3. A well-organized paragraph of several sentences containing a well thought out commentary on the article or report. In other words, what do you think about the information contained in the report.

A Current Events Commentary that contains a proper citation, a good summary, and an **ADEQUATE** commentary will earn 8 points. Improper citation and poor

commentary will earn less. Superior commentaries that contain good insight and analysis will earn 9 or 10 points depending on the sophistication of the arguments. I expect your CEC to be clearly written and free of grammatical and spelling errors. You will lose points for a CEC submitted with numerous spelling and grammatical mistakes.

### ***Book Quizzes***

There will be four book quizzes worth fifty points each. They will be given at the beginning of class on the dates listed below. The quizzes are designed to see how well you have read the book. We will discuss the book following the quiz. If upon completion of the quiz you leave class early without a valid reason, you will receive a zero on the quiz.

If you miss a book quiz, or show up too late to take it, you must write at least a 750 word essay on a topic of my choosing. The paper will be due one week following the quiz date. Consequently, you must get the question from me as soon after you missed the quiz as possible. Failure to hand in the make up essay within one week will result in you receiving a zero on the quiz.

### ***Exams***

The exams will consist of matching, short identifications, and one essay question. The final will differ in format from the midterm by the addition of a map identification section. The exams will cover the assigned portions of the text, the assigned readings, my lectures, and everything we discuss in class. About two weeks prior to the examination date I will post on SacCT a study guide of all the terms and essay questions that you will need to know for the exam.

Make up exams are allowed only under the following conditions. A student must contact me before the exam or during the exam day. Next, the student will confer with me in my office to determine whether a make up exam is warranted. If a student contacts me after the exam, he/she must provide extensive documentation explaining the failure to take the exam before I decide whether a make up will be given.

### ***SacCT:***

I will be using SacCT to post copies of my lecture outlines, to post the syllabus, and to keep track of your grades. The current events commentary are to be done in SacCT in the assignment area. DO NOT E-MAIL ME YOUR CEC!

**Technology requirements:** Students must have a SacLink account. Students **must** also have computer access to the Web. All CSUS students enrolled in one or more units can create a SacLink account for electronic mail and Internet services. Although a home computer with a high speed modem running Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer, AOL, or any other browser would be beneficial, students can access the Web from one of the campus student labs.

### **Logging on to SacCT:**

1. Connect to the Web
2. go to the following address: <http://online.csus.edu>
3. click on the Login logo
4. Your user ID is you SacLink account number
5. Your password is your SacLink password.
6. Once you have logged on you should arrive at a page called My SacCT that lists all of the course you are enrolled in that are using SacCT. Click on History 6.

NOTE: before logging on, or if you are having trouble logging on or submitting quizzes, please click on the “System” and/or “Browser” information icon located on the SacCT homepage (<http://online.csus.edu>). These pages will tell you how to configure your computer to work with SacCT. There are also other resources linked to the SacCT homepage that will help you if you are having trouble.

**Readings** assigned from the text are expected to be done. They are assigned to help you understand the lectures which form the backbone of the course.

**Attendance** is expected at all class meetings. (How else can you learn?) Students should notify the instructor in the event of extended absence. Withdrawals will be permitted only up to the scheduled deadline.

No students may leave the classroom before the class hour ends unless I am informed before class of an unavoidable appointment.

All cellular telephones must be turned off or set on Silent Mode (what they call “Manner Mode” in Japanese). A disruption of class caused by your phone ringing will be held against you.

**Class Participation** pertinent to the topic under discussion is encouraged. Everyone is expected to be prepared and to participate. Active participation may be used to determine the final grade in borderline cases.

### ***Academic Honesty***

This course follows the CSUS Academic Honesty policy. If you are not familiar with California State University, Sacramento’s Policies and Procedures Regarding Academic Honesty, please read them. They can be found at:

<http://www.csus.edu/admbus/umannual/UMA00150.htm>

In short, **CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM** will not be tolerated and may result in failure of the course and possible referral for academic discipline. I expect your CECs to be your own work. If it is not, beware!

**Course Outline and Schedule**

Week 1	Jan. 27	Course Introduction Geography of Asia	
	Jan. 29	Ancient India and Indian Religions Hinduism: the most brilliant means of human control ever devised Jainism: don't hurt anything	Murphey: chapter 1, pages, 1-14; chapter 2, pages 21-30; chapter 4, pages 64-87; <i>Train to Pakistan</i>
Week 2	Feb. 3	Ancient India and Indian Religions, continued Buddhism: Inner harmony Medieval India and the Mughals	Murphey: chapter 6, pages 112-125; chapter 10, pages 185-198; <i>Train to Pakistan</i>
	Feb. 5	The British in India: British push drugs (opium) to buy tea, Indians subjugated to British rule	Murphey: chapter 12, pages 229-233, 244-248; chapter 14, pages 277-301; chapter 15, pages 306-313; <i>Train to Pakistan</i>
Week 3	Feb. 10	Indian Nationalism and Independence Gandhi fights for Freedom: tells Indians to stop helping British	Murphey: chapter 16, pages 343-356; chapter 17, pages 364-367; chapter 20, pages 449-457; chapter 20, pages 461-476; <i>Train to Pakistan</i>
	Feb. 12	<b>BOOK QUIZ # 1: TRAIN TO PAKISTAN</b> Discussion of <i>Train to Pakistan</i> India and Pakistan Today	
Week 4	Feb. 17	Birth of Chinese Civilization Xia Shang: writing emerges Zhou: Mandate of Heaven	Murphey: chapter 1, pages 15-17; chapter 5, pages 89-96.
	Feb. 19	A Hundred Schools of Thought The Age of Chinese Philosophers Confucianism, Mohism, Taoism, and Legalism	Murphey: chapter 2, pages 30-35; <i>Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee</i> (Including the introduction).
Week 5	Feb. 24	Qin & Han China	Murphey: chapter 5,

		Qin: Legalism in Action with Shi Huangdi Han: Confucianism Adopted, Empress Dowagers and Eunuchs	pages 96-111; <i>Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee</i> (Including the introduction).
	Feb. 26	The Golden Age of China: Sui, Tang, & Sung Sui: Grand Canal Tang: Open to other cultures from around the world, Empress Wu rules supreme Sung: Urbanization, wealth and footbinding	Murphey: chapter 8, pages 141-155; <i>Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee</i> (Including the introduction).
Week 6	March 3	<b>BOOK QUIZ #2: CELEBRATED CASES OF JUDGE DEE</b> Discussion of <i>Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee</i>	
	Mar. 5	Mongols and Yuan China: Taking over the world, drama emerges Ming China and the Ming Voyages: China surveys the world	Murphey: chapter 8, pages 155-161; chapter 11, pages 206-228.
Week 7	Mar. 10	Qing China: Wealth and power	Murphey: chapter 13, pages 249-263.
	Mar. 12	The West in China: European incursions, British push opium, China being cut up like a melon by imperialist powers	Murphey: chapter 12, 229-239; chapter 15, pages 317-321.
Week 8	Mar. 17	Communist China: Mao's peasant revolution, Great Leap Forward, Cultural Revolution	Murphey: chapter 16, pages 330-343; chapter 17, pages 367-372, 375-381; chapter 18, pages 398-417;
	Mar. 19	<b>MIDTERM</b>	
Week 9	Mar. 24	Korea: From Neolithic Times through the Three Kingdoms Pottery to civilization	Murphey: chapter 1, p. 17-18; chapter 9, pages 180-184; <i>Still Life with Rice</i> .
	Mar. 26	Koryo Korea: Gaining stability	Murphey: chapter 19,

		The Yi Dynasty: A Model Confucian Society, Hangul invented, The ideal Confucian wife	pages 418-428;
March 28 - April 5		SPRING BREAK	
Week 10	April 7	Twentieth Century Korea: Never whole and independent	<i>Still Life with Rice.</i>
	April 9	<b>BOOK QUIZ # 3: STILL LIFE WITH RICE</b> Discussion of <i>Still Life with Rice</i>	
Week 11	April 14	Jomon and Yayoi Japan: The world's oldest pottery, sedentary hunters and gathers, the Agricultural Revolution comes late	Murphey: chapter 2, pages 38-39; chapter 9, 162-172; <i>47 Ronin.</i>
	April 16	Japanese Aristocratic Culture: Heian Japan, promiscuous aristocrats, the power of women, female authors	Murphey: chapter 9, pages 172-176; <i>47 Ronin.</i>
Week 12	April 21	Japanese Warrior Culture: The samurai emerge, women lose power	Murphey: chapter 9, pages 176-184; <i>47 Ronin.</i>
	April 23	<b>BOOK QUIZ # 4: 47 RONIN</b> Discussion of <i>47 Ronin</i>	
Week 13	April 28	Tokugawa Japan: Peaceful and clean urban society	Murphey: chapter 13, pages 263-276.
	April 30	Japan Becomes a Modern Power: Learns Imperialism from the West	Murphey: chapter 15, pages 321-325; chapter 17, pages 371-383.
Week 14	May 5	Modern Japan: World War II, the Economic Miracle	Murphey: chapter 18, pages 388-398
	May 7	Vietnam: The Thousand Year War that involved Laos, Cambodia and Thailand American Imperialism gone astray	Murphey: chapter 1, pages 14-15; chapter 7, pages 126-134; chapter 15, pages 314-317; chapter 19, pages 428-441.

Week 15	May 12	Vietnam: The Thousand Year War, cont. Cambodia: Pol Pot's Genocide	
	May 14	Catch up and Review	

**FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2:45-2:45**