

20th Century China: Identities and Changes

HIST 3916 (Fordham University, Spring 2010)

Tues. & Fri., 1:00-2:30 PM, Room: Faculty Memorial Hall 234

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:40-4:40 PM; Friday 8:50-9:50 AM.

WELCOME

An old civilization, a young nation. A peace-loving society that lives in the shadow of upheaval and war. The nation that is drawing the most attention in the 21st century. Modern China is all of these things: full of contradictions and flux, a society both like and unlike our own. Let us study the history of modern China and understand how a 3000-year-old civilization has transformed from an empire to a republic, from republic to Communist state, and from Communist state to one of the world's economic powerhouses—over 2 world wars and 3 revolutions, all in the 20th century. Throughout this course, we will consider the solutions that Chinese people themselves have attempted for very difficult problems, and what those continuing challenges mean for the world today. While our focus is mainland China, we will also discuss the culture and society of “Greater China”: Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Chinese Americans.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. *Twentieth Century China: A History in Documents* by R. Keith Schoppa (Oxford University Press, 2004) [hereafter: Schoppa]
2. *Selected Stories of Lu Hsun*, translated by Yang Hsien-yi and Gladys Yang (University Press of the Pacific, 2000) [hereafter: LX]
3. *Some of Us: Chinese Women Growing Up in the Mao Era*, edited by Xueping Zhong, Wang Zheng, and Bai Di [hereafter: SOU]
4. [ON LIBRARY RESERVE] *Taipei People* by Pai Hsien-yung, translated by the author and Patia Yasin; edited by George Kao (The Chinese University Press, 2000) [hereafter: TP]

EXPECTATIONS & GRADING

Your final grade will be based on the following 100 total points:

Class Participation	Attendance (0.5 point * 24 lectures)	12 points	22 points	100 points total
	Performance	10 points		
Book Responses	Book Response I	15 points	30 points	
	Book Response II	15 points		
Quizzes	Quiz 1	10 points	24 points	
	Quiz 2	14 points		
Final Exam	Essay Exam	24 points	24 points	

Class Attendance

To get full attendance points, you need to attend at least 24 lectures out of the total 2 class meetings. You should also complete all assigned readings before each class meeting (dates indicated on syllabus). Readings may be lighter in some weeks and heavier in others, so please plan ahead.

Book Response Essay

Your response essay should be at least 1200 words long but not exceed 1500 words (that's about 5 pages, double-spaced). The essay is your critical analysis and reaction, not a summary of the book. Try to put the book in context with the main themes of our class. Essay questions will be posted on Blackboard in advance.

In-Class Quizzes

There are four quizzes in total. Each quiz contains 8 identifications (basic terms, personalities, and events) and one short question, which will test your knowledge of the Schoppa textbook, the readings, and the lectures. Come to class prepared.

Final Exam

The final exam consists of two essay questions. A list of four potential questions will be posted on Blackboard in advance, and two questions will be picked randomly (by dice roll) on the day of the exam. You are welcome to form study groups to split up preparation for the four possible questions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please be familiar with the Academic Integrity Policy and adhere to its guidelines. Here is a link to the Policy: <http://www.fordham.edu/Audience/handbooks.shtml#6>. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. As you write your papers, you will surely find good facts, ideas, and phrases from books, articles, and the Internet. When you use these, you must put them in quotation marks and clearly cite your source. For tips, check out guides like Gordon Harvey's *Writing with Sources: A Guide for Students* (Hackett, 2008).

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 A (January 19): Introduction – What is Modern China?

No reading assignment.

WEEK 1 B (January 22): Late Imperial China, 1600-1800

Reading: Schoppa, 6-9;
LX, Preface (1-6)

WEEK 2 A (January 26): The Opium War and Invasions of China, 1839-1885

Reading: Schoppa, 11-13
LX, “A Madman’s Diary” (7-18), “Kung I-Chi” (19-24)

WEEK 2 B (January 29): Reforms and Rebellions, 1860-1898

Reading: LX, “Medicine” (25-33), “Tomorrow” (34-41), “My Old Home” (54-64)

WEEK 3 A (February 02): 1900 – The Boxer Uprising

Reading: Schoppa, 15-23
LX, “The New Year’s Sacrifice” (125-143)

WEEK 3 B (February 05): 1911 – From Qing China to the Warlord Period

Reading: Schoppa, 25-47;
LX, “The True Story of Ah Q” (65-113)

WEEK 4 A (February 09): 1919 – The New Culture Movement

Reading: Schoppa, 51-61;
LX, “The Misanthrope” (176-196)

WEEK 4 B (February 12): 1927 – Reunification of China

Reading: Schoppa, 63-75;
LX, “Regret for the Past” (197-215), “The Divorce” (216-225)

WEEK 5 A (February 16): President’s Day Holiday – No Class

Please catch up on readings if you need to do so.

WEEK 5 B (February 19): 1930s – The Nanjing Decade

***** Book Response I due at start of class *****

Reading: Schoppa, 77-91

WEEK 6 A (February 23): The Communist Revolution in the Countryside

Reading: Schoppa, 93-105;
SOU, “Introduction” (xiii-xxxii).

WEEK 6 B (February 26): 1937 – Japanese Invasion and the Rape of Nanjing

Reading: Schoppa, 107-119;
SOU, Naihua Zhang (1-26)

WEEK 7 A (March 02): 1945 – WWII ends, Civil War begins

Reading: Schoppa, 121-133;
SOU, Wang Zheng (27-52)

WEEK 7 B (March 05): 1953 – From the New China to the Korean War

Reading: Schoppa, 135-146;
SOU, Xiaomei Chen (53-75)

WEEK 8 A (March 09): 1950s – The Socialist Transformation

***** Quiz 1 in class *****

Reading: SOU, Bai Di (77-99)

WEEK 8 B (March 12): The Great Leap Forward

Reading: Schoppa, 153-157;
SOU, Jiang Jin (100-119), Lihua Wang (120-131)

WEEK 9 A (March 16): Spring Break – No Class

WEEK 9 B (March 19): Spring Break – No Class

WEEK 10 A (March 23): 1966 – The Cultural Revolution

Reading: Schoppa, 148-151;
SOU, Xueping Zhong (132-154)

WEEK 10 B (March 26): 1976 – End of the Mao Era

Reading: Schoppa, 153-157;
SOU, Zhang Zhen (155-178), Yanmei Wei (179-197)

WEEK 11 A (March 30): 1980 – China Opened Up

***** Book Response II due at start of class *****

Reading: Schoppa, 159-173

WEEK 11 B (April 02): Easter Recess – No Class

WEEK 12 A (April 06): 1989 – Tiananmen Square

Reading: Schoppa, 175-187

WEEK 12 B (April 09): 1997 – Return of Hong Kong

Reading: Schoppa, 189-205

WEEK 13 A (April 13): The New Nationalism

Review previous readings.

WEEK 13B (April 16): Quiz Time

***** Quiz 2 in class *****

WEEK 14 A (April 20): Chinese Americans

Reading: TP, “The Eternal Snow Beauty” (1-35)

WEEK 14 B (April 23): Taiwan – The Chiang Dynasty, 1949-1988

Reading: TP, “New Year’s Eve” (81-111)

WEEK 15 A (April 27): Taiwanese Democracy: 1988-2000s

Reading: TP, “Glory’s by Blossom Bridge” (259-293)

WEEK 15 B (April 30): 2008 – Chinamerica

Reading: TP, “Winter Night” (385-422)

WEEK 16 A (May 04): Young and Restless

Reading: TP, “State Funeral” (423-445)

WEEK 16 B (May 07): Reading Period – No Class

WEEK 17 A (May 11): Reading Period – No Class

Week 17 B (May 14): FINAL EXAM, 9:30-11:30 AM