



# History of Traditional East Asia

HIST 174 • Fall 2019

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**Open Office Hours (302 Sutherland)**  
TR 3:00 – 4:00 pm  
W 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, by appointment

**Class Meetings Times**  
TR 10:35–11:50 am

## **COURSE SUMMARY & GOALS**

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The purpose of this class is to introduce students with no prior experience to the key aspects of the history of China, Japan, and Korea from prehistoric times to the mid-seventeenth century. The course covers shifts in political institutions and social structures over time, as well as emphasizing the cultural history of religion, literature, art, philosophy, and material culture (i.e., every-day objects). You will gain an appreciation of the daily lives of the people we are studying, how their broader cultural worlds were formed, and how this past is relevant to our understanding of East Asia in the present.

Throughout this semester, you will learn about the main historical processes and concepts of East Asian history. You will be assessed on your ability to answer questions about them through a blend of tests, quizzes, written and creative projects, and in-class activities. However, this class will encourage you to move beyond the memorization of names, dates, and timelines in order to cultivate skills that are central to the study of history in particular, and the humanities more generally. You will learn to:

- Use citations properly
- Understand the university's expectations of academic integrity
- Read and analyze primary & secondary sources
- Develop vocabulary about Asian history and culture
- Perform library database research
- Participate in group discussions
- Present information orally
- Develop expository writing skills

There are no prerequisites for this class.

## **READINGS**

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Patricia Ebrey, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*, first edition (1996) or second edition (2010).

The current edition of this book (second edition) can be purchased or rented at the campus bookstore. However, the first edition can be found for sale very cheaply online.

## **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

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### **Week of 8/26, Introduction to class**

- (T) Overview of syllabus  
READING COMPREHENSION QUIZ
- (R) MAP QUIZ (use blank practice map on Canvas to prepare)  
Q&A about portfolio projects, bonuses & penalties  
Learning outcomes

### **Week of 9/2, Neolithic and Early Historical Dynasties**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 1
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 1
- (R) Discussion: Introducing the groups for the Skill Building Game  
SAMPLE SCORECARD DUE TODAY  
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY MODULE DUE TODAY

### **Week of 9/9, Warring States Philosophy**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 2
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 2
- (R) SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 1 (readings on Canvas)

### **Week of 9/16, Qin & Han Dynasties**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 3
- (T) Guest Speakers: Kaitlin Wolfert, director of the Learning Center ([kfw39@psu.edu](mailto:kfw39@psu.edu))  
and Chris Walters, specialist in student success ([cjw18@psu.edu](mailto:cjw18@psu.edu))
- (R) QUIZ BOWL 3

### **Week of 9/23, The Period of Division**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 4
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 4
- (R) SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 2

### **Week of 9/30, Sui & Tang Dynasties**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 5
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 5
- (R) Film: History Channel Timeline, "The Empress who Ruled the World"  
Notebook check

### **Week of 10/7, Song Dynasty**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 6
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 6
- (R) ~~SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 3~~  
Replaced with guest speaker: Tina Vance Knight, Career & Professional Services  
([tmv111@psu.edu](mailto:tmv111@psu.edu)), and Angela Jeon-Huh, Global Programs ([akj113@psu.edu](mailto:akj113@psu.edu))

### **Week of 10/14, Foreign Dynasties**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 7
- (T) QUIZ BOWL 7
- (R) Lecture & activity: The Arts of Qi

### **Week of 10/21, Ming Dynasty**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 8

(T) QUIZ BOWL 8

(R) Guest: Introduction to library research with Christina Riehm-Murphy ([cer20@psu.edu](mailto:cer20@psu.edu))  
meet in Library #10

### **Week 10/28, Premodern Korea**

Prepare for Class:

- On Canvas: Murphey, ch. 9

(T) QUIZ BOWL 9

(R) SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 4

### **Week of 11/4, Premodern Vietnam**

Prepare for Class:

- On Canvas: Murphey, ch. 10

(T) QUIZ BOWL 10

(R) Mandala project (meet in Art Gallery, not classroom!)

### **Week of 11/11, Early Japan**

Prepare for Class:

- On Canvas: Murphey, ch. 11

(T) QUIZ BOWL 11

(R) ORAL PRESENTATIONS COMPLETED IN-CLASS TODAY

Film: Tale of Genji, <http://www.learner.org/courses/worldlit/the-tale-of-genji/watch/> (optional)

### **Week 11/18, Middle-Period Japan**

Prepare for Class:

- On Canvas: Murphey, ch. 12

(T) QUIZ BOWL 12

(R) SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 5

### **Week of 12/2, Qing Dynasty**

Prepare for Class:

- Ebrey, ch. 9

(T) QUIZ BOWL 13

PORTFOLIOS DUE BY THE START OF CLASS TODAY!

(R) SKILL BUILDING GAME, EPISODE# 6

Optional this week: High Tea <http://www.kongregate.com/games/explorewellcome/high-tea>.  
high score winners announced on Thurs.

### **Week of 12/9, Conclusion**

(T) POETRY SLAM: Bring in a poem from any East Asian country selected from *East Window*, (PJ418.M57 1998, on reserve at the library). Be prepared to read it out loud in class.

Earn extra credit for reading it in the original language!

(R) Recap & Review

Discussion: Roundup of current events  
Last minute Q&A for the final  
Final survey

### **Final Exam**

The cumulative final keywords test will take place at the scheduled final exam period set by the registrar. This is announced during the semester, and you should check with them to confirm the exact date and time. Outstanding assignments (if any) should be submitted by Canvas by the last minute of the scheduled final exam time, or they will not be graded. No late assignments will be accepted.

## **GRADES**

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Grades for this class are calculated using a point system instead of letter grades. You can earn points throughout the semester for a variety of quizzes, tests, assignments, projects, and activities that you choose to complete. The schedule is designed to spread out the graded exercises over the semester instead of clustering at the end, and to ensure that no one type of assignment is overly determinant of your grade. It also maintains a high level of engagement and interest throughout the semester.

My role in the grading system is more like a coach or cheerleader than a parent or boss. I am here to push you forward and to help you succeed, but you will do well in this class if you take responsibility for your own learning experience, and find a way to become enthusiastic about engaging with the course topic. You can look to me to support your academic achievement, professionalism, and intellectual development throughout the semester. However, if you insist on being disengaged or uninterested, or aren't willing to put in a good effort, then it will be impossible for me to help you do well.

The components of the point system are described in more detail below, and are summarized on the Score Card on the last page. Final grades are calculated on a 500-point scale as follows:

A	465 and above	A-	450-464	B+	440-449
B	415-439	B-	400-414	C+	390-399
C	350-389	D	300-349	F	299 and below

## **ASSESSMENTS**

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- *Reading Comprehension Quiz.* This quiz is given in the first week of the semester to gauge the students' ability to read at the level necessary to succeed in this class. If you do not have reading skills sufficient to pass this quiz, you should seriously consider waiting to take this course until a later date, as it will be virtually impossible for you to succeed this semester. This assignment is pass/fail (meaning you will either get full credit or zero).
- *Academic Integrity Module.* For these points, you are required to complete an Academic Integrity module on Canvas by the deadline posted in the syllabus. Proceed through the

online module until you reach the end, and bring to class a printout of the certificate you received on the due date marked in the syllabus.

- *Map Quiz.* We'll start out the semester making sure everyone knows the basic features of Asian geography and the locations of the modern countries and major cities. Use the blank map on Canvas to prepare.
- *Quiz Bowl.* Weekly interactive quizzes require you to be familiar with the list of keywords based on the week's textbook chapter(s). These quizzes are interactive, based on in-class participation. You will earn 2 points per contribution, up to 8 points per week, for a grand total of 100 points maximum.
- *Skill Building Game.* These points are earned during the scheduled "episodes" throughout the semester. The purpose of the game is to introduce and reinforce basic academic skills necessary to the study of history, and of humanities in general. Details about the individual episodes are posted on Canvas, along with the rules for each. These assignments are pass/fail (meaning you will either get full credit or zero).
- *Final Exam.* A cumulative exam on the keywords and key concepts introduced throughout the semester.

## PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENTS

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All portfolio assignments are graded according to "[specifications grading](#)." This means they are pass/fail (i.e., you will either get full credit or zero; there is no partial credit). In order to receive credit, the assignments must meet the following specifications: (1) they must conform to all of the guidelines written below, (2) must be handed by the due date, and (3) must represent college-level work. For details on what qualifies as "college-level work," see the provided rubrics.

- *Field trips.* The field trips on the scorecard refer to lists that are posted on Dr Salguero's website ([sites.psu.edu/salguero](http://sites.psu.edu/salguero)). To get credit for any field trip, you must submit a selfie from inside the location (or if photos are not allowed to be taken, provide a ticket or receipt proving your attendance). This project may be done as a group as long as everyone appears in the photos or everyone has their own ticket. To receive credit, each person must upload the photo to their own Canvas assignment. Email is not an acceptable form of submission for any of these assignments.
- *Chinatown Scavenger Hunt.* For this field trip, find all 10 items listed on the Chinatown Scavenger Hunt page on Dr Salguero's website ([sites.psu.edu/salguero](http://sites.psu.edu/salguero)). Take a selfie with each item. This project may be done as a group if all people appear in the photos.
- *On-campus event.* You can get credit for attending any on-campus event related to Asian culture. If you are involved with any on-campus activities or groups that would be of interest to your classmates, please let me know and I will announce them in class.
- *Museum collection on Pinterest or Instagram.* Create a new board on your Pinterest or Instagram account that includes 10 objects you would put on display if you were to curate a museum exhibit about your character from the Skill Building Game. As with the Game, in order to receive credit, each photo of each object must be pinned from the website of the museum that owns the object, not from Google or your hard drive! To submit this assignment, simply paste the URL for your Pinterest board or Instagram posts into Canvas. (Make sure your board is publicly visible first.) Please note that I cannot give you any tech

support on how to use those websites, so choose this option only if you are familiar with them or are willing/able to teach yourself!

- *Statement on a current event.* Read an article about a current event that relates to East Asia from [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com). Write a 350-word essay discussing how the information we've read and/or talked about in class this semester helps to understand this event more deeply. Do not summarize the current event source. Focus on your own analysis and making connections with the class content. For full credit, you must cite all sources used properly.
- *Analysis of a reading.* A 350-word review of an approved source acquired through the Skill Building Game. Do not give us a summary or synopsis! Your essay should discuss how this reading reinforces, differs from, or otherwise connects with other readings, lectures, and discussions in this class. For full credit, you must cite all sources used properly.
- *Cultural project.* For this category, you must either learn or teach something about East Asian arts, literature, religion, or material culture. Pretty much anything goes, as long as it qualifies as college-level work, but you should clear your project with me in advance to make sure it is suitable for credit. You can hand in a physical object that is the result of your project, produce a tutorial video, or write up a report detailing what you learned. See the Hall of Fame on Dr Salguero's website ([sites.psu.edu/salguero](http://sites.psu.edu/salguero)) for examples of previous successful cultural projects.
- *Oral presentations.* Present to the class on a topic related to the Skill Building Game, or a research topic of your choice. If you are interested in giving a presentation, you must be present in class on the day that they are scheduled. These 5–7 min. presentations will be graded on the quality of your content, sources, and public speaking. For credit, all work must be cited properly and you must submit your references page to the Canvas assignment. In order to receive a passing grade, your presentation must be based on "Legitimate Sources of Research" ([sites.psu.edu/salguero](http://sites.psu.edu/salguero), and as discussed in the Skill Building Game).
- *Art project.* A visual or performance art project on a topic related to the Skill Building Game or other course content. This option is only for students who have artistic skills to produce high-quality work. Work that is not up to the standard of college level artwork will not receive a passing grade.
- *Video, web, multimedia project.* Produce a multimedia project on a topic related to the Skill Building Game or other course content. This option is only for students who have technical skills to produce high-quality work. Work that is not up to the standard of college level work will not receive a passing grade. Note that all source materials must be properly cited and copyrights must be respected if the project is publicly available online (including for any images used).
- *Research assisting.* I can take on a limited number of research assistants to do various bibliographic, data-entry, and ethnographic field study. This option requires pre-approval, and there may be certain criteria I am looking for in the assistants that you do not qualify for. I usually am looking for students who speak Asian languages fluently.
- *Research paper.* A 7–8 pp. research paper on a topic related to the Skill Building Game or other course content. Your paper must be of a scholarly nature, providing high-quality information and/or analysis of a historical topic. It must be based on scholarly sources and use proper citation. All sources must be cited properly. This option is only for students who have the writing/research skills to produce high-quality work. Work that is not up to the standard of a college level research paper will not receive a passing grade.
- *Other.* If you have an idea for a portfolio project you'd like to do for credit, you can add it here. The point value will be determined on an individual basis, based on the time you

spend and the complexity of your work. All ideas must be cleared in advance in order to receive credit.

- *Honors option.* For honors credit, students must complete the research paper option, and the length is extended to 10–12 pp.

## BONUSES

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- *Quiz Bowl Bonuses.* The five students with the highest Quiz Bowl scores at the end of the semester get +10 each.
- *Early Bird Bonus.* Any portfolio assignment handed in before the half-way point of the semester earns +2 for 10 point assignments, +5 for 25 point assignments.
- *Notebook Bonus.* During the notebook check in the schedule above, a complete, detailed, and well-structured notebook will earn +10 points.
- *Hall of Fame bonus* (doubles the points for any assignment). Truly outstanding and unique projects will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Dr Salguero's website ([sites.psu.edu/salguero](http://sites.psu.edu/salguero)), and will earn bonus points. This is for extraordinary work only, and I expect to give out no more than 1 or 2 of these bonuses per semester.
- *Learning Center bonuses* (+5 points per assignment). You can take any writing assignment to the Learning Center for assistance with grammar, punctuation, editing, and other matters. Limit one bonus per assignment. For credit, you must have the tutor sign an Extra Credit Form (see Canvas.)
- *Library bonus* (+5 points per assignment). I will credit you this bonus if you set up a personal session with a librarian to go over using the database, research skills, or citing sources. You can earn this bonus each time you meet with the librarian to go over a different assignment. You can also earn bonuses by attending library events related to research or other academic skills. For credit, you must have the librarian sign an Extra Credit Form (see Canvas.)
- *Student Success bonus* (+10 points). I will credit you extra points if you set up a personal session with the student success coach to go over your study skills, test-prep, or any other personalized consultation. For credit, you must have the student success coach sign an Extra Credit Form (see Canvas.)
- *Career Center bonus* (+10 points). I will credit you extra points if you set up a personal session with the career center to go over your career plans, resume, interviewing skills, networking, or any other personalized consultation. For credit, you must have the career counselor sign an Extra Credit Form (see Canvas.)

## PENALTIES

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- *Academic integrity penalty* (minimum -100 points). The university has a statement on Academic Integrity that is attached to this syllabus. I encourage students to study together, but be forewarned: if your quiz answers or any other assignments match another students', you will both be guilty of an Academic Integrity violation. Copying from any online or published source—even if you use a translation device—is also a violation. If anyone is caught cheating on any assignment, this will be reported to the university. Regardless how minor the case may seem to you, the absolute minimum sanction for a violation of any of the

academic integrity expectations is a deduction of 20% of your grade in this class, but it could be more severe—up to and including failure of the course.

- *Absence penalty* (minimum -50 points). From the University Policy on Class Attendance: "...It is the policy of the University that class attendance by students be encouraged and that all instructors organize and conduct their courses with this policy in mind. A student should attend every class for which the student is scheduled and should be held responsible for all work covered in the courses taken. In each case, the instructor should decide when the class absence constitutes a danger to the student's scholastic attainment and should make this fact known to the student at once. A student whose irregular attendance causes him or her, in the judgment of the instructor, to become deficient scholastically, may run the risk of receiving a failing grade or receiving a lower grade than the student might have secured had the student been in regular attendance." Absences are excused when they are due to serious illness, religious holiday, or university-sanctioned field trips, sporting, or extracurricular events. If you have an excused absence, I will be happy to meet with you in office hours to answer any specific questions you might have about the material after you have gotten notes from another student and completed all readings. Please note that being more than 15 minutes late to class constitutes an absence. If class is to be cancelled or delayed for any reason, you will be notified as far in advance as possible via Canvas email. If I do not show up for class for whatever reason, after 15 minutes you can consider class to be cancelled.
- *Unprofessionalism penalty* (-? points). Please treat the classroom, any exchanges with me and your fellow students, any class-related interactions off-campus, and all other relevant activities as an exercise in professional behavior and demeanor. You must take care during all class-related activities to maintain an environment conducive with academic inquiry and intellectual exchange. Please note that the expectations of professionalism explicitly apply to the use of electronic devices in class, chatting, sleeping, doing unrelated homework, habitual tardiness, and other disruptions, distractions, or misuses of classroom time and resources. Any violations of these reasonable expectations on or off campus are grounds for deducting points, failing the class, or disciplinary action. I will decide the appropriate sanctions on a case-by-case basis.

## **GENERAL POLICIES FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS**

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- *College level work*. All projects of any kind have to represent college-level work. That means high-quality execution, professionalism, attention to detail, and taking your time to do it right. Any assignment that is deemed not to rise to this level will not be accepted.
- *Submission*. Portfolio projects may be handed in electronically or in hard copy. To hand in projects electronically, compile everything in the appropriate assignment on Canvas. To hand in a portfolio in hard copy, use a large manila envelope or other type of container that can be sealed. Write your name on the outside and include all your materials inside. Be sure to label each item with the grading category (e.g., "Lunar New Year," "Cultural Project," etc.). In order to be graded, all work must be handed in in the prescribed manner. Emails or forms of submission other than what is listed here will not be accepted without prior arrangements.
- *Requirements for all written assignments*. Any page counts in the assignments are determined by standard margins and 12-point standard fonts, double-spaced, approximately 350 words per page. All writing submitted in hard-copy must be stapled, with your name and

the scorecard category clearly marked on the first page. Written assignments must be typed and formatted professionally.

- *Late assignments & makeups.* Since all assignments are optional, everything must be submitted on time by the deadline in the syllabus in order to receive credit. Late assignments will not be accepted. The only way a missed assignment will be accepted late or a make-up quiz can be scheduled is if the absence is excused (see absence policy above). If so, the work must be made up within one week of your return to class in order to receive credit. If you miss an in-class exercise due to an excused absence, you may be given an alternative writing assignment to earn the same number of points. If you miss any assignment due to an unexcused absence, this cannot be made up. If you did receive an extension on any assignment, all outstanding work must be handed in by the last minute of the scheduled final for this semester, or it will not be credited.

# Score Card

## Assessments (done in class)

Sample scorecard	25	_____
Reading Comprehension Quiz	25	_____
Map Quiz	25	_____
Academic Integrity Module	25	_____
Weekly Quiz Bowls (13 weeks @ x 8 points each)	100	_____
Skill Building Game (6 exercises @ 25 points each)	150	_____
Poetry Slam	25	_____
Final Test	75	_____

**ASSESSMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Portfolio Assignments (pass/fail, limit one each)

Field trip: "Chinatown Scavenger Hunt"	10	_____
Field trip: Pick any from "Asia Around Abington" list	10	_____
Field trip: "Mid-Autumn Festival in Chinatown" (Fall Only)	10	_____
Field trip: "Lunar New Year in Chinatown" (Spring Only)	10	_____
Field trip: "Sakura Sunday at Morris Arboretum" (Spring Only)	10	_____
Participation in any relevant on-campus event	10	_____
Museum collection	25	_____
Statement about a current event	25	_____
Analysis of a recommended source	25	_____
Cultural project	25	_____
Art project	25	_____
Oral presentation	25	_____
Video/web/multimedia project	100	_____
Research assisting (needs approval from professor)	60	_____
Research paper (needs approval from professor)	100	_____
Other (design it yourself, but needs approval from professor)	_____	_____

**PORTFOLIO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBTOTAL (A+P, MAX 500):** \_\_\_\_\_

**BONUSES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PENALTIES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_