

Course Syllabus: The History of Modern Asia: Fall 2023

Dr. Mark Saad Saka/Sul Ross State University/Rio Grande College

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Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to examine the history of modern East Asia, 1500 to the modern era, with a focus on the years 1800-2024. We begin with 1500 because of the regular maritime contact with Europe and the birth of the modern era. In terms of regions, we will focus on China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

Course Requirements:

1. This course meets Monday and Wednesdays 4:30-5:45. Regular attendance is expected. I will be based out of Uvalde, Texas so if you are located in Del Rio or Eagle Pass, or another location, regular internet connection will be needed as well as video and speaker technology to facilitate the successful learning of the course material.
2. Punctual attendance is also expected, it is difficult to learn a subject when you are walking in so to speak 15 minutes into the lecture.
3. There will be five exams, each exam will contain both multiple choice and essay questions. The exams will be worth 100 points each. At the end of the semester. I will add up the five exam grades and divide them by five.

90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59-F

Required Readings:

Modern East Asia: A Brief History, Second Edition. By Conrad Schirokauer and Donald N.Clark, Wadsworth Press, 2007 ISBN # 978-0618920709

Course Outline:

Part One: In the textbook this covers Part One and includes chapters one through six. Thematically, it will cover the introduction to East Asian civilization, the geography of China, Japan, and Korea, a brief overview of Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism, and Syncretism. We will then cover China till 1800 under the Qing Dynasty, Tokugawa Japan, and Choson Korea.

Part Two: In the textbook, this covers Part Two and chapter six through nine. Thematically, it will cover the 19th century of China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

Part Three: In the textbook, this covers Part Three and includes chapters ten through thirteen. Thematically this section will cover the rise and fall of Imperial Japan 1895-1945 and its impact on China, Japan, Korea and Vietnam.

Part Four: In the textbook, this covers Part Four and includes chapters fourteen through eighteen. Thematically this section will cover Postwar Asia 1945 through 2000.

Part Five: Thematically this section will cover Asia from 2000 to the present.

At the conclusion each section an exam will be administered.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act): Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students who need accessibility services should contact Rebecca Wren at 432-837-8691; Ferguson Hall Room 112.

Marketability Skills of a History Major

SLO 1—The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content.

Marketable skills---Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.

Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.

Students can make written presentations to various audiences.

SLO 2—The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.

Marketable skills---Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.

Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.

Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.

SLO 3—The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and NonAmerican History.

Marketable Skills---Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.

Students can discharge responsibilities in an adequate manner.

Students can manage the absorption of data.