

Professor Jerry Dennerline
Office: Chapin 12
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Office hours: T/Th 3:30-4:00; Wed., 11:00-12:00, and by appointment

Course Materials

The following books are available for purchase at Amherst Books:

Wasserstrom, Jeffrey. *China in the 21st Century: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford, 2010.
Bergère, Marie-Claire. *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity*. Stanford 2009
Goldman, Merle. *From Comrade to Citizen: Struggle for Political Rights in China*. Harvard, 2005.

Copies of these books are also on reserve at Frost Library. Other readings are either in *A Collection of Readings*, Part I and Part II, available for purchase at the History Department office, Chapin 11, or on line, or on reserve at Frost Library, as indicated in the syllabus.

Course Description and Requirements

This course is a research seminar. Enrollment is by permission and some familiarity with modern Chinese history is expected. For general narrative or reference, see Jonathan Spence, *The Search for Modern China* (1999, 2nd edition) or R. Keith Schoppa, *Revolution and its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese History* (2006, 2nd edition). Students will develop skills in reading, analysis, interpretation, and basic research methods, resulting in independent research projects. The class will meet once per week for two hours. Attendance and participation is mandatory; there will be no excused absences without prior permission and/or documentation of medical or family emergency. Class sessions will be devoted to 1) discussion of assigned readings, responses, and critiques and 2) presentation and assessment of various research exercises, in which everyone will be engaged on a weekly basis. Each student will write two short papers, choosing among four options, due on the following **Fridays: Feb 18, Mar 4, Apr 1, or Apr 15**. In addition, each student will define a topic, prepare a prospectus, and complete a research topic in consultation with the professor, sharing the work with the class as it develops.

To pass the course, a student must complete all of the requirements. **Plagiarism or other serious violation of the honor code will result in failure of the course.** Grades are based on successful completion of the following assignments:

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| Response papers, critiques, research exercises | 20% |
| Two short papers (4-5 pages, double spaced) | 30% |
| Prospectus and oral presentation | 10% |
| Final research paper (25 pages) | 40% |

Syllabus (Expect revisions)

Wed, Jan 26 Introduction to the Course

Part I: Interactive lecture on “The People and the State in Modern Chinese History”

Part II: Raising and refining questions for discussion

Wed, Feb 2 Past, Present, and Future

Part I: Why study history? Why historiography?

Read: Cohen, Paul. “Reflections on a watershed date: the 1949 divide in Chinese history,” in Wasserstrom, Jeffery, ed, *Twentieth Century China: New Approaches*. London: Routledge, 2003, pp 27-36 (handout).

Wasserstrom, Jeffrey. *China in the 21st Century: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford, 2010 (book list).

Response: Make sure you read all the way to the end of the book. What is the author’s purpose? Do you find a central theme or argument? If so, do you find it persuasive? If not, why not? Send a short response to the course “Blackboard” site > Discussion Board > Forum #1 by 6:00 p.m. Sunday (instructions TBA).

Part II: Setting research agendas

From Issues to Topics: Select two or more issues raised by Wasserstrom, at least one of them from Part I and one from Part II, that you could imagine combining in a single research topic. Draft a one-page statement or outline, discussing how you might proceed and/or the difficulties you might encounter, and bring it to class for discussion.

Wed, Feb 9

Imagining the People: Citizenship and the Liberal Idea

Attention: this class will meet in the Lane Room, Frost Library A-Level, with Michael Kasper, Reference Librarian.

Part I: Constructing histories

Read: "Charter 08" text, tr Perry Link, in *New York Review of Books* 56.1 (Jan 15, 2009), <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/22210> and <http://en.rsfs.org/IMG/pdf/Charter08-2.pdf>
Feng, Chongyi. "Charter 08: The Troubled History and Future of Chinese Liberalism," *The Asia-Pacific Journal*, 41-5-10, October 11, 2010 (on line).
http://japanfocus.org/articles/print_article/3427

Hazama Naoki, "On Liang Qichao's Conceptions of *Gong* and *Si*: 'Civic Virtue' and 'Personal Virtue' in the *Xinmin shuo*," in *The Role of Japan*, pp. 205-21 (packet).

Liu Zehua and Liu Jianqing, "Civic Associations, Political Parties, and the Cultivation of Citizenship Consciousness in Modern China," in Fogel, Joshua, and Peter Zarrow. *Imagining the People: Chinese Intellectuals and the Concept of Citizenship, 1890-1920*. M.E. Sharpe, 1997, pp 39-60 (incl notes, packet)

Zarrow, Peter. "Liang Qichao and the Notion of Civil Society in Republican China," in Fogel, Joshua, and Peter Zarrow. *Imagining the People: Chinese Intellectuals and the Concept of Citizenship, 1890-1920*. M.E. Sharpe, 1997, pp 232-257 (incl notes, packet)

Responses: 1) Focus on the text of "Charter 08." How does it define liberalism and how does it construct the history of liberalism in China? What questions does this construction raise in your mind? **2)** How would you begin to explain Feng Chongyi's analysis of liberalism in Chinese history? What questions arise from your effort? How might they lead to a research topic? **3)** Taken together, do these historical analyses raise new questions in your mind? If so, what are they? If not, why not?

Part II: Research exercise

From Issues to Topics: Return to the topic you imagined last week, or imagine a new one based on what you learned. Conduct a library search to find the most potentially useful sources and bring the results to class for discussion.

Wed, Feb 16 Ideas, Ideologies, and the People

Part I: Using Ideas, Revising History

Read: Kuhn, Philip A. Review of *A Bitter Revolution: China's Struggle with the Modern World* (Oxford, 2004), by Rana Mitter, in *China Review International* 12.1 (2005): 201-203 [on line resource via Five College Libraries, search journal title, follow links]

Schwarcz, Vera. *The Chinese Enlightenment: Intellectuals and the Legacy of the May Fourth Movement of 1919*. University of California, 1986, pp 1-11 (packet).

Lee, Leo Ou-fan, "Incomplete Modernity: Rethinking the May Fourth Intellectual Project," in *The Appropriation of Cultural Capital: China's May Fourth Project*. Ed. Dolezelova-Velingerova, Milena and David Der-wei Wang. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Univ. Asia Center, 2001, pp 31-65 (incl bibliography, packet).

Yü, Ying-shih, "Neither Renaissance nor Enlightenment: A Historian's Reflection on the May Fourth Movement," in *The Appropriation of Cultural Capital: China's May Fourth Project*. Ed. Dolezelova-Velingerova, Milena and David Der-wei Wang. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Univ. Asia Center, 2001, pp 299-324 (incl bibliography, packet).

Mao Zedong, "Report on an Investigation of the Peasant Movement in Hunan," March 1927, *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung*, vol 1, Foreign Languages Press, on line, http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-1/mswv1_2.htm

Mao Zedong, "On New Democracy," January 1940, *Selected Works*, vol 2, on line, http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-2/mswv2_26.htm

Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions among the People," Feb 27, revised June 19, 1957, *Selected Works*, vol 5, on line, http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-5/mswv5_58.htm

Responses: 1) Focus on Lee and Yü. How do they challenge the conventional view of May Fourth? Do you find their revisions persuasive? If so, why? If not, why not? 2) Focus on Mao's three essays. How does he imagine the people in relation to the revolution, the Communist Party, and the State? Do you find his construction consistent? If so, how? If not, why not? 3) Reflect on the historical construction of May Fourth and Maoist ideology. How might they be related? What questions does this raise for the historian?

Fri, Feb 18: First paper option due date

Wed, Feb 23 Shanghai before May Fourth: Chinese Civil Society?

Part I: Why study local history?

Read: Bergère, Marie-Claire. *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity*, Stanford 2009 (book list), pp 50-176.

Part II: Research exercise

Wed, Mar 2 Shanghai after May Fourth: Chinese Corporate State?

Part I: What is local and what is global?

Read: Bergère, Marie-Claire. *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity*, pp 177-284.

Dillon, Nara, and Jean Oi, "Middlemen, Social Networks, and State-Building in Republican Shanghai," in Dillon, Nara, and Jean C Oi, ed. *At the Crossroads of Empires: Middlemen, Social Networks, and State-Building in Republican Shanghai*. Stanford, 2008, pp 3-21 (packet).

Part II: Prospectus, first call

Fri, Mar 4: Second paper option due date

Wed, Mar 9 Rural China, Education, and Social Change: Ideas and Realities

Part I: Constructing rural history.

Read: Fei, Xiaotong. *The Soil: The Foundations of Chinese Society (tr of Xiangtu Zhongguo)*, tr and introduction by Gary Hamilton and Wang Zheng. University of California Press, 1992 (packet): 1) "Introduction," pp 1-12; 2) "Chaxugeju," pp 60-70; 3) "A Rule of Ritual," pp 94-100; 4) "A Society without Litigation," pp 101-107; 5) "Inactive government," pp 108-113'

Hung, Chang-tai. *Going to the People: Chinese Intellectuals and Folk Literature, 1918-1937*. Harvard, 1985 (packet); 1) "The Discovery of Folk Literature," pp 1-31; 2) "Intellectuals and the Folk," pp 158-182

Peng Pai, "The Hai-feng Peasant Association" (1921-1923), *Chinese Civilization and Society*, Doc. #67 (packet).

Marks, Robert B. *Rural Revolution in South China: Peasants and the Making of History in Haifeng County, 1750-1930*. University of Wisconsin, 1984, pp xv-xxv, 174-93, 224-34, 249-58 (packet).

Lucien Bianco, "Peasant Responses to CCP Mobilization Policies, 1937-1945," in *New Perspectives on the Chinese Communist Revolution*, pp. 175-187 (packet).

Part II: Prospectus, second call

Spring Break

Wed, Mar 23 War and Peace: Same Old People, Brand New State?

Part I:

Read: Bergère, *Shanghai: China's Gateway to Modernity*, pp 287-406
Hung Chang-tai, *War and Popular Culture*, "A New Political Culture, pp 270-285.
Hung Chang-tai, *Mao's New World*, "Introduction," pp 1-24;
Cheek, Timothy, "The Making and Breaking of the Party-state in China," in Cheek, Timothy, and Tony Saich. *New Perspectives on State Socialism in China*. M.E. Sharpe, 1997, pp 3-19 (incl notes).

Cheng, Tiejun, and Mark Selden, "The construction of spatial hierarchies: China's hukou and danwei systems," in Cheek and Saich. *New Perspectives on State Socialism*, pp 23-50 (incl notes).

Li, Huaiyin. "Confrontation and Conciliation under the Socialist State: Peasant Resistance to Agricultural Collectivization in China in the 1950s," *Twentieth Century China* April 2008.

Part II: Student Reports

Select from: Brown, Jeremy, and Paul Pickowicz, ed. *Dilemmas of Victory: The Early Years of the People's Republic of China*. Harvard, 2007.

Wed, Mar 30 Socialist Reform: Same Old State, Brand New People?

Part I:

Read: Cohen, Paul. "The Post-Mao Reforms in Historical Perspective," *Journal of Asian Studies* 47.3 (August 1988): 518-540.

Fei Xiaotong, "Small Towns, Great Significance: A Study of Small Towns in Wujiang County," in *Small Towns in China: Functions, Problems & Prospects*. Beijing: New World Press, 1986, pp 9-61.

Fei Xiaotong, "Probing Deeper into Small Towns: A Study of Small Towns in the Four Municipalities of Southern Jiangsu," in *Small Towns*, pp 62-87.

Films: "All under Heaven"
"Small Happiness"

Part II:

Read: Goldman, Merle. *From Comrade to Citizen: Struggle for Political Rights in China* (book list), pp 1-127.

Fri, Apr 1: Third paper option due date

Wed, Apr 6 Imagining the People, Revisited

Read: Goldman, *From Comrade to Citizen*, pp 128-234.

Film: "Yellow Earth (*Huang tudi*)"

Wed, Apr 13 Education and the New Citizen, Revisited

Part I:

Read: Culp, Robert. *Articulating Citizenship: Civic Education and Student Politics in Southeastern China, 1912-1940*. Harvard, 2007. Ch 2: "Nation as Race, Culture, or Place? The National Community in History and Geography Textbooks," pp 55-96

Han, Dongping. "The Impact of the Cultural Revolution on Rural Education and Economic Development in Jimo County," *Modern China* 27.1 (Jan 2001): 59-90.

Li, Cheng, ed. *Bridging Minds across the Pacific: U.S.-China Educational Exchanges, 1978-2003*. Lexington Books, 2005.

Hannum, Emily, and Jennifer Adams, "Beyond cost: rural perspectives on barriers to education," Davis, Deborah, and Wang Feng, *Creating Wealth and Poverty in Postsocialist China*. Stanford, 2009, pp

Fong, Vanessa, and Rachel Murphy, ed. *Chinese Citizenship: views from the margin*. Routledge, 2006, selections.

Part II: Prospectus, final call

Fri, Apr 15: Fourth paper option due date

Wed, Apr 20 Twenty-first Century Democracy?

Read: Goldman and Elizabeth J. Perry (eds.), *Changing Meanings of Citizenship in Modern China*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Univ. Press, 2002, 1) O'Brien, Kevin. "Villagers, Elections, and Citizenship," pp 212-231, 2) Shih, Chih-yu. "Ethnic Economy of Citizenship in China: Four Approaches to Identity Formation," pp 232-254, 3) Dickson, Bruce. "Do Good Businessmen Make Good Citizens? An Emerging Collective Identity Among China's Private Entrepreneurs," 255-287, 4) Yu Xingzhong, "Citizenship, Ideology, and the PRC Constitution," pp 288-307.

Lee, Ching Kwan. "What Was Socialism to Chinese Workers? Collective Memories and Labor Politics in an Age of Reform," in Lee, Ching Kwan, and Guobin Yang. *Re-envisioning the Chinese Revolution: The Politics and Poetics of Collective memories in Reform China*. Woodrow Wilson Center & Stanford U., 2007, pp 141-165.

Wu Guoguang, "The Dilemmas of Participation in the Political Reform of China, 1986-88," in Des Forges, Roger V, Luo Ning, Wu Yen-bo, ed. *Chinese Democracy and the Crisis of 1989: Chinese and American Reflections*. Albany: SUNY, 1993 (packet).

Zhou Wubiao. "Financing China's Entrepreneurs: The Role of Legislative Members," in Dinello, Natalia, and Wang Shaoguang, ed. *China, India and Beyond: Development Drivers and Limitations*. Edward Elgar Publishing, 2009, pp 199-224 (incl notes).
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Yan Shen and Yang Yao. "Grassroots Democracy, Accountability, and Income Distribution: Evidence from Rural China," in Dinello, Natalia, and Wang Shaoguang, ed. *China, India and Beyond: Development Drivers and Limitations*. Edward Elgar Publishing, 2009, pp 225-246 (incl notes).

Zhang, Hong, and Marsha Smith, "Navigating a Space for Labor Activism: Labor NGOs in the Pearl River Delta of South China," in Schwartz, Jonathan, and Shawn Shieh, ed. *State and Society Responses to Social Welfare Needs in China – Serving the People* (Routledge 2009), pp 66-88 (incl notes).

Laliberté, André. "The Institutionalization of Buddhist Philanthropy in China," in Schwartz, et al, *State and Society Responses*, pp 114-134.

**Wed, Apr 27
 Student Presentations**

**Wed, May 4
 Student Presentations**

Friday, May 6: Final Papers Due at 5:00 p.m.