

University of Manitoba  
HIST/ASIA 1420W A01

Asian Civilizations to 1500

Fall 2018  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10:30-11:20  
EITC E2 320

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**INSTRUCTOR**

Jon Malek

**E-Mail:** Via UMLearn

**Office:** 354 University College

**Office Hours:** By appointment

*Students must use their University of Manitoba email addresses for communication; other addresses will not receive a reply.*

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>Course Description .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Course Objectives.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Required Textbooks.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Course Format.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Course Evaluation.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Grading .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Assignments .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Quizzes &amp; Examinations .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Student Resources.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Lecture Schedule .....</b>	<b>8</b>

## Course Description

In recent decades, Asia has risen in prominence in global affairs. The ramifications of the 1997 Asian stock market crash indicated the importance that Asia has taken in the global economy. Recently, the United States has become increasingly engaged in Asian geo-politics, with President Barack Obama declaring in 2011 that “The United States is a Pacific power, and we are here to stay.” Canada, too, has long imagined itself as a Pacific nation. Furthermore, nations in the West – including Canada – have seen the number of permanent and temporary migrants from the Asia-Pacific region increase significantly, to the extent that China, India and the Philippines are the top source countries for immigrants. And yet, Asia and its people are often depicted as an exotic “Other” in Western media, something distinctly different from the West. The Asia region is often depicted as a timeless land, untouched by modernity and there for “consumption” by the west in the form of tourism and the media. However, Asia is a dynamic region, home to many cultures, languages, religious and philosophical beliefs, and multiple histories. As the world becomes increasingly connected, it is imperative for global citizens in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to be aware of this region and its history. This course will introduce students to this region by analyzing the rise and development of Asian civilizations from prehistory to the period immediately before Western colonial expansion in the region. The course will emphasize the complex history and cultures that existed long before Western contact. Students will study the history and cultures of China, Japan, India, and Southeast Asia, and their interactions with each other and the outside world. The course focuses on the development of political structures, religious and philosophical beliefs, and technological innovations in the region. Asia today has been shaped by these forces, and to understand the region in recent history, one must grasp the key developments of this period.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students are expected to have noticeably developed in the following ways:

1. Develop some of the practical methods of historians, such as data interpretation, primary source analysis, critical secondary source reading, and effective writing skills.
2. To be able to identify the major geo-political boundaries of the region, and their change over time.
3. To have a solid understanding of the major political entities, cultural and religious transformations, events, figures, and locations in Asia before 1500.
4. To interrogate the transmission of Indian and Chinese culture throughout the Asia region.
5. To be able to understand historical trends in Asia prior to 1500, and the various cultural traditions of the peoples of Asia.

## Required Textbooks

Both texts are available in the bookstore. Other readings will be posted to UMLearn.

Charles Holcombe, *A History of East Asia: From the Origins of Civilization to the Twenty-First Century* 2nd ed. (PUP 2017)

Hermann Kulke and Dietmar Rothermund, *A History of India* 6th Ed. (Routledge, 2016)

The following is available as a free e-book via the University of Manitoba Libraries webpage:

Craig Lockhard, *Southeast Asia in World History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)  
(<http://uml.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=271147&site=ehost-live>)

## Suggested Texts

These may be purchased online or accessed through the Library to assist students with writing and style. There are usually limited copies in the Bookstore. These are not required for course readings, but will help with essay writing.

Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers* 8th Ed. (University of Chicago Press, 2013).

William Strunk, Jr. and E. B. White, *Elements of Style* (Longman, 1999).

## Course Format

Course content will be delivered through lectures, meaning that regular attendance to lectures is vital to success in this course. Readings will provide background material but cannot replace lecture content and class/group discussion, upon which the bulk of testable material will be based. Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussion and to ask questions on course material. More than three unexcused absences may result in action being taken, including withdrawal from the course. Throughout the term, there will be **in-class work (5%)** which will require no prior preparation, and will be spread throughout the term. These short pieces of written work will have you perform a variety of tasks, such as summarizing key points in the day's lecture, answering identification questions, or to describe the relation between two or more things mentioned in the day's lecture. These will be unannounced assessments and cannot be written outside of class. Unexcused absences from classes with in-class work will result in a forfeit of that day's grade. There will be a total of two **in-class quizzes (5% each)** which will test students' ability to identify figures, events, and themes covered in course lecture and to discuss their importance to the course. More information will be given in class. There will be one **map quiz (5%)**. The development of strong academic writing is integral to this course. There will be **two research essays** on assigned topics (**25% each**). There will be a **final examination** in the exam period (**30%**), which will cover material from the whole course. It is important that you do not book travel during the exam. More information will be made available on all assignments and exams in class.

## Course Evaluation

5% In-class work	Throughout term
5% Map Quiz	September 14
25% Essay 1	October 26
10% Quizzes (2x5%)	October 12, November 9
25% Essay 2	December 7
30% Final Examination	TBD by Registrar's Office during Exam period, December 10-21, 2018

## Grading

A+	90-100	Superior Work
A	80-89	Excellent
B+	75-79	Very Good
B	70-74	Good
C+	65-69	Satisfactory
C	60-64	Adequate
D	50-59	Marginal
F	≤ 49	Failure/Unsatisfactory

**Evaluation of coursework** will be provided by the Voluntary Withdrawal date (19 November 2018).

### A Note on Electronic Devices and Language Aides in class

The use of cell phones in class is strictly prohibited. If there is an emergency, please excuse yourself from the lecture. Laptop and tablet computers are permitted in lecture for the sole use of note taking. Please respect the course format and your fellow classmates by respecting the space of learning you are taking part in. Please – no voice recorders during class. If you have difficulties following the lecture, please feel welcome to come talk to your Instructor at any time.

There will be absolutely no electronic devices during examinations or map quizzes. Language aides such as dictionaries are not allowed during an examination.

## Assignments

*Handouts with more details on assignment instructions will be handed out in-class.*

Research Papers: Each research paper will be on an assigned topic with specified readings. Each paper will be 1500-2000 words in length (excluding title page, footnotes, and bibliography), and will be formatted in 12-pt. Times New Roman font with double spaced text. It is important that papers focus on the assigned topic. Please see the Student Success Guide for more information on formatting and writing practice. A writing workshop will be provided in class for the first essay. Essays will be submitted via UMLearn. Essays must be submitted in Word format (.doc or .docx).

**All submitted work, including essays and exams, must be a student's own original work.** All written work must be prepared in English. Essays written in another language and translated by translation software or someone other than the student submitting the work are NOT considered the original work of the student and will be subject to academic discipline.

**All written assignments are to be typed and printed using a computer.** For both research essays, you will be asked to submit a hard copy of your paper in class, as well as an electronic version on UMLearn. If you are unable to access a computer or a printer, please contact the Instructor. Do not

delete your assignment after you have handed it in – please keep all written work until final grades for the course have been officially released.

**A note on internet sources:** The internet can be a great place to get background information to proceed with your research – much like you would use an encyclopedia. However, internet sources should only be used for this purpose. They should not be a source of information for your paper. Sources that are found through the University Library Website or databases, or through Google Scholar are fine because they are academic and peer reviewed sources. If there is any doubt, talk to your Instructor!

**Extensions** will not be granted except in exceptional circumstances for medical or compassionate reasons *supported by documentation*. Computer failure or ‘too much work’ are not acceptable excuses for lateness.

**Late Assignments** will be deducted 2.5% for every day an assignment is late. This includes weekends.

### Quizzes & Examinations

There will be one (1) **map quiz** given in the term, requiring knowledge of borders, major cities, geographic features such as rivers or mountain ranges, and sites of major events.

Two (2) **quizzes** will account for 10% (5% each) of the final course grade. These essays will be written during scheduled lecture time and will be on a theme that has been covered in previous lectures. Before the date of the essay, students will be provided with a broad theme, based on class course material, to help prepare. The exact question will be presented in-class. This method will help students prepare for the final exam, which will have two major exam essay questions.

All written work must be in the student’s own words - verbatim reproduction is not allowed and constitutes academic misconduct, which can lead to disciplinary action.

There will be one (1) **final examination** in this course. The final exam will be cumulative, covering material from the entire term. A handout of terms, figures, dates, places, and themes to study will be provided to help students focus their studying. The final exam will have four sections: a map portion, an identification section, a short answer section, and essay questions. The total number for each will be announced in-class, although students will have a selection to choose from (e.g. “Answer three out of five essay questions”). Keep the format of the exams in mind as you take notes in class and review them later to help you when it comes to study time. More on the exams will be discussed in class. This will account for a total of 30% of the course’s final grade.

**All final exams are scheduled by the Registrar’s Office, and not by the Instructor.** Do not book any travel or periods of absence during the examination period as dates are subject to change.

**All exam answers must be written in the student’s own words.** Verbatim reproduction of memorized material from textbooks or online sources is not acceptable. Collaboration on online quizzes is strictly not allowed.

### University Regulations on Plagiarism, Cheating and Impersonation

The following may be found in the section on “Academic Integrity” of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at [http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student\\_resources/student\\_responsibilities\\_integrity.html](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html)):

*The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of*

*plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.*

*The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.*

*The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.*

### **The ‘W’ Requirement**

Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must complete all essay assignments with a passing grade to pass the course.”

### **Grade Appeals**

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.

### **Faculty Regulation on Unreturned Term Work**

Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

### **Contacting the Instructor**

I encourage you to talk to me if you have any questions regarding the course materials or assignments, or if you have more general questions relating to the subject. You are welcome to raise your hand in class to ask a question, otherwise we may meet during office hours. Email is also an appropriate way for discussion, as is the course’s UMLearn webpage.

### **Student Resources**

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>, and for the 2018-2019 there is a tutor with a specific focus on history that is available on the fourth floor of Fletcher Argue. The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage ([http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student\\_advocacy/](http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/)).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the wide range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, Cody Fullerton ([cody.fullerton@umanitoba.ca](mailto:cody.fullerton@umanitoba.ca)), tailored just for you! They

are available on the Libraries page at this link: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

### **A Note**

There are different ways to make this course and its requirements more accessible to students with various learning styles and life circumstances which may affect your performance. Please speak to the instructor if there is anything that can make the course more accessible to you.

### **Student Counseling Centre**

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

### **Student Support Case Management**

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

### **University Health Service**

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

### **Student Advocacy**

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

### **UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)**

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our instagram account [www.instagram.com/umhisa\\_undergrad/](http://www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/) or by emailing [umhisau@gmail.com](mailto:umhisau@gmail.com).

## Lecture Schedule

This schedule may change throughout the term. Any changes will be announced in class.

### Week 1

Lecture 1 (1) - September 7  
Course Introduction

### Week 2

Lecture 1 (2) - September 10  
Introduction to Asia: Geography, Religion, and Culture

Lecture 2 (3) - September 12  
Introduction to Asia: Geography, Religion, and Culture  
Historical Sources in Asian History

Lecture 3 (4) - September 14  
Indus Valley Civilization  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 1 “Early Civilisations of the Northwest”  
*Map Quiz (5%)*

### Week 3

Lecture 1 (5) - September 17  
Writing Workshop

Lecture 2 (6) - September 19  
Aryan Migration  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 1 “Early Civilisations of the Northwest”

Lecture 3 (7) - September 21  
The Mauryan Empire  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 2 “The Great Ancient Empires”

### Week 4

Lecture 1 (8) - September 24  
The Mauryan Empire  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 2 “The Great Ancient Empires”

Lecture 2 (9) - September 26  
The Gupta Empire  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 2 “The Great Ancient Empires”

Lecture 3 (10) - September 28  
The Gupta Empire  
Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 2 “The Great Ancient Empires”



## **Week 5**

Lecture 1 (11) - October 1

Islamic India and the Delhi Sultanate

Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 4 "Religious Communities"

Lecture 2 (12) - October 3

Islamic India and the Delhi Sultanate

Kulke & Rothermund: Chapter 4 "Religious Communities"

Lecture 3 (13) - October 5

The Origins of China

Holcombe, "Introduction" and "Chapter 1: The Origins of Civilization in East Asia" pp. 15-30.

## **Week 6**

Lecture 1 (14) - October 8

*Thanksgiving Day, University Closed*

Lecture 2 (15) - October 10

The Origins of China: The Shang and Zhou Dynasties

Holcombe, "Chapter 2: The Formative Era"

Lecture 3 (16) - October 12

The Origins of China: The Qin and Han Dynasties

Holcombe, "Chapter 2: The Formative Era"

*Quiz 1 (5%)*

## **Week 7**

Lecture 1 (17) - October 15

The Origins of China: Wrap-up

Lecture 2 (18) October 17

Remonstrance: Confucianism & the Chinese State  
Formative Era," pp. 36-40

Holcombe, "Chapter 2: The

Lecture 3 (19) - October 19

The Warring States Period

Holcombe, "Chapter 3: The Age of Cosmopolitanism," pp. 60-71.

## **Week 8**

Lecture 1 (20) - October 22

The Tang Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 4: The Creation of a Community," pp. 95-113.

Lecture 2 (21) - October 24

The Song Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 132-140.

Lecture 3 (22) - October 26

The Song Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 132-140.

*Essay 1 Due (25%)*

## **Week 9**

Lecture 1 (23) - October 29

Mongolian Conquest and the Yuan Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 141-146

Lecture 2 (24) - October 31

Mongolian Conquest and the Yuan Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 141-146

Lecture 3 (25) - November 2

The Ming Dynasty

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 147-148.

Holcombe, "Chapter 6: Early Modern East Asia," pp. 167-182.

## **Week 10**

Lecture 1 (26) - November 5

Early Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 3: The Age of Cosmopolitanism," pp. 88-94.

Holcombe, "Chapter 4: The Creation of a Community," pp. 120-131.

Lecture 2 (27) - November 7

Early Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 3: The Age of Cosmopolitanism," pp. 88-94.

Holcombe, "Chapter 4: The Creation of a Community," pp. 120-131.

Lecture 3 (28) - November 9

Medieval Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 154-161.

*Quiz 2 (5%)*

## **Week 11**

*No classes November 12, Remembrance Day*

*No classes November 13-16, Fall Term Break*

## **Week 12**

Lecture 1 (29) - November 19

Medieval Japan

Holcombe, "Chapter 5: Mature Independent Trajectories," pp. 154-161.

*Voluntary Withdrawal Date*

Lecture 2 (30) - November 21  
The Three Unifiers of Japan  
Holcombe, "Chapter 6: Early Modern East Asia," pp. 187-198

Lecture 3 (31) - November 23  
The Tokugawa Shogunate  
Holcombe, "Chapter 6: Early Modern East Asia," pp. 187-198

### **Week 13**

Lecture 1 (32) - November 26  
Mainland Southeast Asia  
Lockhard, "Chapter 2: Southeast Asians in the Classical World"  
Lockhard "Chapter 3: The Kingdoms of the Golden Age"

Lecture 1 (33) - November 28  
Mainland Southeast Asia  
Lockhard, "Chapter 2: Southeast Asians in the Classical World"  
Lockhard "Chapter 3: The Kingdoms of the Golden Age"

Lecture 3 (34) - November 30  
Insular Southeast Asia  
Lockhard, "Chapter 2: Southeast Asians in the Classical World"  
Lockhard "Chapter 3: The Kingdoms of the Golden Age"

### **Week 13**

Lecture 1 (35) - December 3  
The "Age of Commerce"

Lecture 2 (36) - December 5  
Asia on the Eve of Western Colonial Contact: The Ming, Mughals, and Tokugawa

Lecture 3 (37) - December 7  
To be arranged with class  
*Essay 2 Due (25%)*