Course Requirements

Attendance is required at all lectures. Students will write two short papers. There is a mid-term examination and a final ‘take home’ examination at the end of the course.

Text available in bookshop


Course Outline and Reading List

All readings listed are required and available on e-reserve. Other readings are supplemental. While not required, I have listed several novels which I think are important for understanding Asian societies. Please make an effort to read them if you can. They are readily available in the library or at bookstores.

A. Introduction

1. Orientalism and Asian Society


(S) E.M. Forster (1924) *A Passage to India* London: Edward Arnold.

2. Empire and Colonialism


(S) George Orwell *Burmese Days* New York: Penguin.

3. World Systems Theory


**B. Modernity**

4. *Nationalism and Anti-colonialism*


**5. Communism and Post-communism**


**C. Globalization**

6. *Globalization in Asia (consumerism)*


**7 Globalization in Asia (cultural )**

D. Religion

8. Religion in Asia (Christianity)


9. Religion in Asia (Islam)


10. Religions of China (Taosim, Confucianism, Buddhism)


11. Popular Religion


E. Gender and Patriarchy

12 Gender Family and Population


13 Sexuality


F. Politics, economics and the state

14 State formation, militarism


(S) Film: Letters from Iwo Jima (Clint Eastwood director)

15 Peasant Resistance and Violence


16. Ethnic Diversity and Multiculturalism


17 Democracy, Human Rights and Citizenship: Asian Values


