

East Asian Studies 1010: East Asian Canons and Cultures
Fall Semester 2017
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30–1:45 pm
Monroe Hall 130
Jack W. Chen (jwchen@virginia.edu) / New Cabell B059
Office hours: T Th 10:00–10:45; 2:00–3:00; or by appointment.

Course Aims

This course provides an introduction to the study of East Asia, the macroregion that is commonly understood to consist of Greater China, Korea, and Japan. Our focus for this semester will be the emergence of a coherent cultural zone from the beginnings to the fourteenth century, with particular attention to the question of empire formation and the ideologies underlying concepts of empire in East Asia. No prior knowledge of the languages and histories of East Asia is assumed, though a willingness to learn romanization of East Asian names, places, and terms is required.

Except for the very first class meeting, you should complete each set of readings before the class meeting and come prepared to discuss the readings during class.

It is expected that you, as students of the University of Virginia, will adhere to both the letter and spirit of the Honor Code. All violations will be reported to the Honor Committee.

Required Text

Wm. Theodore De Bary, ed., *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, vol. 1 (New York: Columbia University Press, 2008).

Recommended Text

Charles Holcombe, *A History of East Asia: From the Origins of Civilization to the Twenty-First Century* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2011).

Required readings in the syllabus are marked by an asterisk (*). If unmarked, the reading is optional (though recommended).

Assessment

1. Four Examinations 100% (25% each)
2. Extra Credit (up to 3 points towards final grade)

A+ = 100–98 / A = 97–93 / A- = 92–90 / B+ = 89–87 / B = 86–83 / B- = 82–80
C+ = 79–77 / C = 76–73 / C- = 72–70 / D+ = 69–67 / D = 66–63 / D- = 62–60 / F= 59–0

I expect that you attend each class meeting and be on time. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the start of each class, so if you are late to class, it is your responsibility to make sure that you have signed the sheet. If you need to miss class for medical reasons, I

will need a doctor's note. For each unexcused absence, your participation grade will go down by 5% (i.e., 20 total points to 19 points).

The examinations will consist of quote identification and short comments on the quotations. The tests are given in class and will not be rescheduled without a valid medical excuse. Please understand that, in a larger class, it is difficult to accommodate requests for exceptional treatment, so plan to take the exams during the scheduled meeting. It is your responsibility to get to the exam on time; if you are late to the exam, the time will not be made up.

I offer extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. If you attend an academic lecture that is primarily on **China, Korea, or Japan** (these are primarily hosted by the East Asia Center) and write a short summary of the lecture or your thoughts regarding the lecture, you will receive one point to be added to your final grade. You may earn up to three points of extra credit total in the semester.

Class Schedule

For all readings, the page numbers refer to the sections of text that you are responsible for reading prior to each class meeting. If a subtitled section spans pages that I have not assigned, then assume that I have not assigned that subtitled section. Please bring your *Sources of East Asian Traditions* to each class meeting. The *History of East Asia*, if you choose to purchase it, will not be required in class, though I believe that it is very useful in terms of providing historical context for our readings.

Week One

Tuesday, 8/22: The Idea of East Asia and Chronologies.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 1–24.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 7–12, 483–84, 617–20.

Thursday, 8/24: Origins and Writings Systems in East Asia.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 24–28.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 13–21; 485–88; 573–76; 627–35.

Week Two

Tuesday, 8/29: Early Confucian Texts, Part 1 (*Documents, Odes, Analects*).

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 30–39.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 22–40.

Thursday, 8/31: Early Daoist Texts.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 39–41.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 49–68.

Week Three

Tuesday, 9/5: Early Confucian Texts, Part 2 (*Mencius*).

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 69–92.

Thursday, 9/7: **First Examination.**

Week Four

Tuesday, 9/12: Early Confucian Texts, Part 3 (*Xunzi, Zuozhuan*)

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 92–105.

Thursday, 9/14: Legalist and Military Texts.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 41–44.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 106–25.

Week Five

Tuesday, 9/19: The First Chinese Empires, Qin and Han

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 44–57.

*“The Basic Annals of the First Emperor of the Qin” (pdf on Collab)

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 132–40.

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Thursday, 9/21: Theorizing the Han Imperial Order.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 141–69.

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Week Six

Tuesday, 9/26: Codifying the Confucian Canon (*Changes, Filiality, Rites*).

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 169–93, 205–10.

Thursday, 9/28: Early Medieval Thought and Religion.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 58–64, 70–77.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 211–37.

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Week Seven

Tuesday, 10/3: **Reading Day.**

Thursday, 10/5: Buddhism in China.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 238–56, 260–79.
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Week Eight

Tuesday, 10/10: **Second Examination.**

Thursday, 10/12: From Three Kingdoms Korea to Silla.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 77–84, 109–114.
*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 488–511.

Week Nine

Tuesday, 10/17: Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism in Korea.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 511–33.

Thursday, 10/19: The Tang Dynasty.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 91–109.
*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 290–307.

Week Ten

Tuesday, 10/24: From Yamato Japan to Prince Shōtoku.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 84–89, 114–24.
*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 621–27, 635–51.

Thursday, 10/26: Buddhism and Chinese Institutions in Japan.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 651–71.

Week Eleven

Tuesday, 10/31: From Nara Buddhism to Saichō.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 672–97.

Thursday, 11/2: **Third Examination.**

Week Twelve

Tuesday, 11/7: **NO CLASS. ELECTION DAY. PLEASE VOTE!!!**

Thursday, 11/9: Kūkai and Esoteric Buddhism.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 698–718.

Week Thirteen

Tuesday, 11/14: The Song Dynasty.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 126–35.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 308–35.

Thursday, 11/16: Neo-Confucianism in the Song Dynasty.

Readings: *De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 336–60.

Week Fourteen

Tuesday, 11/21: **No Class.**

Thursday, 11/23: **Thanksgiving Break!**

Week Fifteen

Tuesday, 11/28: The Koryō Dynasty.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 142–45.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 534–49.

Thursday, 11/30: The Chosŏn Dynasty.

Readings: Holcombe, *A History of East Asia*, pp. 145–47.

*De Bary, *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, pp. 563–81.

Week Sixteen

Tuesday, 12/5: **Fourth Examination.**