

Lecture: MWF 12:00-12:50

Professor Schneewind

(858) 822-0814

Office hours, in H&SS 3062, WF 1-3 and by appointment

Mailbox: H&SS 5012, faculty lounge

sschneewind@ucsd.edu

The course centers on ten individuals from across Chinese history. We will think about how they fill out or complicate our understanding of their times; what they shared and how their experiences varied by time, rank, and gender; what dilemmas they faced and how they dealt with them; how to read and understand sources historically; and other questions. The readings include biography and autobiography; imagined and collage personal accounts; epitaph and memoir; Song anecdotes reworked into Ming fiction; and others. The course requires reading, writing, informed class participation, and independent thought. The amount of reading varies: plan ahead.

Required Reading, at the campus bookstore:

Coursepack.

Paul S. Ropp, *China in World History*

N. Harry Rothschild, *Wu Zhao: China's Only Woman Emperor*

Jonathan Spence, *Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-hsi*

Shen Fu (Graham Sanders), *Six Records of a Life Adrift*

Gordon Harvey, *Writing with Sources: A Guide for Students*

Course Requirements:

- Read Ropp before Monday's class and the rest of the week's reading by Wednesday. Take notes on the reading by hand, so you are ready to talk in class.
- Bring the coursepack or book (but not Ropp) to class along with your reading notes.
- Attend every class. Take notes by hand. Arrive on time and *participate in discussion*. If you must miss class, get the notes from a classmate. No electronics in class.
- Check TED for paper prompts and format, websites, etc. and to submit papers through Turnitin. For help with TED: Academic Computing and Media Services in AP & M 1313, 8:30-4:00; phone 858-534-2267; email acms-help@ucsd.edu.
- Your grade will be based on four papers; any quizzes; active, informed class participation; and the take-home final (final paper) (about 30%). Late papers are not accepted, and rewrites must have the original paper with my comments attached.
- Follow the Policy on Academic Integrity. I will talk about the specifics for this class, but for citation practices and guidance in good writing study Harvey, *Writing with Sources*. Papers may include no outside readings unless you get my permission ahead of time. You may discuss, but you must sit down to write alone and with nothing but your notes and the readings before you. Do not look at the internet. If you have any questions, ask me right away, before handing in your paper.
- University policy is that to pass with the P/NP option, you must earn a C, or 70%.
- If you need help or have questions, contact me right away. Come to office hours even if you do not have a specific question.
- The syllabus may change.

Week One: A Shang Queen

Ropp, pp. 1-12

Gordon Harvey, *Writing with Sources*.

Various translators, oracle bone inscriptions (coursepack)

Minna Haapanen, "The Royal Consort Hao of the Shang" (coursepack)

1-page (at least 250 words) paper due Friday in class. See TED for prompt.

Week Two: The First Teacher

Ropp, pp. 12-19

John Wills, "Confucius" (coursepack)

Confucius & disciples, *The Analects*, selections (coursepack)

1-page (at least 250 words) paper due Friday if you skipped Week One.

Week Three: A Han Skeptic

Ropp, pp. 20-36

Fan Ye (398-445), "Biography of Wang Chong," from the *Later Han History*, pp. 4-5.

Wang Chong, "Autobiography," pp. 64-82 and excerpts, translated by Albert Forke

2-page (at least 500 words) paper due Friday.

Week Four: The Woman Emperor of Tang

Ropp, pp. 37-66

N. Harry Rothschild, *Wu Zhao: China's Only Woman Emperor*

2-page (at least 500 words) paper due Friday unless you wrote Week Three.

Week Five: A Central Official of Song

Ropp, pp. 67-73

Song-era anecdotes about Wang Anshi (coursepack)

Feng Menglong "In the Hall 'Half-way up the Hill,' the Stubborn One Dies of Grief" (coursepack)

3-page (at least 750 words) paper due Friday.

Week Six: A Woman Poet in the Song Fall

Ropp pp. 73-84

Wilt Idema & Beata Grant, "Li Qingzhao." in *Red Brush: Writing Women of Imperial China*

3-page (at least 750 words) paper due Friday unless you wrote in Week Five.

Week Seven: A Local Official of Ming

Ropp, pp. 85-95

Fang Xiaoru (d. 1402), "Account of Conduct of My Late Father [Fang Keqin]" (coursepack)

"Fang Keqin," in *Official History of the Ming [Mingshi] (1739)* (coursepack)

4-page (at least 1000 words) paper due Friday.

Week Eight: An Emperor of Early Qing

Ropp, pp. 95-101

The Kangxi Emperor (r. 1662-1721) and Jonathan Spence, *Emperor of China*

4-page (at least 1000 words) paper due Friday unless you wrote Week Seven.

Week Nine: A Poor Gentryman of the Middle Qing

Ropp, pp. 102-118

Shen Fu, *Six Records of a Life Adrift* (c. 1800), trans. Graham Sanders

Week 10: An Artist of the Maoist Period Ropp, pp. 102-118

Ropp, pp. 118-125

Film: Shui-bo Wang, "Sunrise over Tiananmen Square"