

HIEA 122: Late Imperial Chinese Culture and Society: INSTITUTIONS AND THE INDIVIDUAL

Class Time: MWF 12-12:50
Professor: Dr. Schneewind
Office: HSS 3062
Mailbox: in HSS 5012

Location: Peterson 103
Phone: (858) 822-0814
Office hours: MW 1-3 and by appointment
E-mail: sschneewind@ucsd.edu

In the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) periods, despite changes of the ruling dynasty and in many other areas of life, there was a certain stability in institutions, such as the family, the village, the examination system, religious institutions, the emperorship, and the government. We will study these institutions to consider questions about power and liberty; social consensus and toleration; autocracy and legitimacy. Did the family control the individual or did individuals have choices? Was there religious freedom, or did the state control thought? Did the law impose arbitrary punishment, or prop up patriarchy, with no concern for individual lives or due process? Were property rights protected? What did the free market mean for society? These kinds of issues, long salient in Western and twentieth-century Chinese views of imperial China, remain important to the ways both outsiders and Chinese people talk about politics and freedom today.

Required Texts. Books available at the campus bookstore.

Ichisada Miyazaki, *China's Examination Hell*

Robert van Gulik, translator, *The Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee*

Daniel K. Gardner, ed., *The Four Books: The Basic Teachings of the Later Confucian Tradition*

Buy the **coursepack** for the other readings at www.universityreaders.com. NOT on reserve.

Requirements:

- **Attend** class, having already **read the assignment**. To read intelligently, preview the whole assignment before you start. As you read, ask yourself questions, write in the margin, and sum up each section aloud. Take notes or highlight selectively; review your notes; tell yourself or a friend about the reading without looking at your notes. Review within 24 hours, and again every week, to retain what you have learned, save time, and do well.
- Check **WebCT** for reading guides, announcements, etc. For technical help call 534-3ACS.
- **Quizzes and final examination.** The 4 quizzes will be 60% of your grade; the final 40%.
- If I *suspect* you of cheating, I am *required* to report to the **Academic Integrity** Coordinator.
- If you are taking the class **pass/fail**, you must complete all assignments and earn a C- to pass.
- **Let me know** about any problems immediately. Visit or email just to talk about class, too.

****The syllabus is subject to change.****

Course Schedule: * marks primary sources

April 1: The Bad Old Days?

Lu Xun, "Diary of a Madman" (1918)

Chen Duxiu, "The Way of Confucius and Modern Life," from *New Youth* (1916)

John Stuart Mill, "Of Individuality, as one of the elements of well-being," *On Liberty* (1869)

April 3: Introduction to Late Imperial China

Read a basic narrative of Ming and Qing history in any textbook. See Week One on WebCT.

The Emperor and the Central Government

April 6: The Emperor as an Idea

*Documents about the Mandate of Heaven.

April 8: The Emperor as an Institution

Shih-shan Henry Tsai, "A Day in the Life of Yongle's Court: April 12, 1423"

Charles O. Hucker: charts of Ming and Qing government

April 10: The Emperor as an Individual

*The Kangxi emperor, "Valedictory" and "Seventeen Letters"

Quiz 1.

Texts

April 13: Established Orthodoxy

*Daniel K. Gardner, ed., *The Four Books: The Basic Teachings of the Later Confucian Tradition*

April 15: Censorship, the Market, and Outsider Texts

Timothy Brook, "State Censorship and the Book Trade"

Anne McLaren on "Women's Script" (Web Link on WebCT)

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/linguafranca/stories/2004/1127496.htm>

April 17: "A Day on the Grand Canal with the Emperor"

The Civil Service Examination System

April 20-24: Miyazaki, *China's Examination Hell*, pp. 13-101, 111-129

* Three women's poems on studying for the examinations, translated by Susan Mann

The County Magistrate: Control, Corruption, Service

April 27-May 1: *Robert Van Gulik, translator, *The Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee*, pp. xvi-end

May 1: Quiz 2.

Family, Clan, & Village

May 4-11: D. K. Jordan, "The Traditional Chinese Family and Lineage," on the web at weber.ucsd.edu/~dkjordan/chin/hbfamilism-u.html, except sections II and III

Martin C. Yang, *A Chinese Village: Taitou, Shandong* (1945), pp. 73-122

Francesca Bray, "The Inner Quarters: Oppression or Freedom?"

Ronald G. Knapp, "The Folk Tradition and the Built Environment"

*Feng Menglong (1574-1646), "Ruan San Redeems His Debt in Leisurely Clouds Nunnery"

*Yuan Huang (1533-1606), "Ledgers of Merit and Demerit"

*Filial Piety stories, 2 pp.

*Zhang Ying (1638-1708), "Permanent Property" (Advice to sons)

*Zhu Xi (1130-1200), "Ancestral Rites," excerpt from his *Family Rituals* →

Josh Tosh, *Why History Matters*, excerpt on the British Victorian family for comparison
In-class film: “Small Happiness”

May 13: Clan and Village

Jordan, “The Traditional Chinese Family and Lineage,” website, section II “The Lineage.”
Yang, from *A Chinese Village*, pp. 143-189

Religious Institutions

May 15: Buddhism

Kenneth Chen, excerpt from *Buddhism in China*, pp. 4-9

In-class film: “Guan-yin Pilgrimage”

Quiz 3.

May 18: Buddhist Monasteries

Jordan, “The Traditional Chinese Family and Lineage,” section III “People Not in Families.”

*Tz’e Kuang, *Diary of a Chinese Nun* (1923), transl. as “The Religious Vocation”

Karl L. Reichelt, “Religious Activities in the Buddhist Monastery”

May 20: Daoism

*Feng Menglong, “Chen Xiyi Rejects Four Appointments from the Imperial Court”

May 22: Popular Religion

Ann Waltner, “T’an-Yang-Tzu and Wang Shih-chen: Visionary and Bureaucrat in the Late Ming”

*Feng Menglong, “Ren Gui the Filial Son with a Fiery Disposition Becomes a God”

Beyond the Village, and Moving On

May 27: Merchants

Peter J. Golas, “Early Ch’ing Guilds”

May 29: Public Space in the City

Di Wang, “The Idle and the Busy: Teahouses and Public Life in Early Twentieth-Century Chengdu,” *Journal of Urban History* 26.4 (May 2000): 411-437. E-version; see WebCT.

June 1: Outlaws

David Ownby, “Approximations of Chinese Bandits: Perverse Rebels, Romantic Heroes, or Frustrated Bachelors”

Quiz 4.

June 3: Pirates

Dian Murray, “One Woman’s Rise to Power: Cheng I’s Wife and the Pirates”

June 5: Conclusions

