

HIEA 129: Faces of the Chinese Past

Winter 2012

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 2:00-2:50, in Solis 110

Professor Schneewind

(858) 822-0814

Office hours, in H&SS 3062, MW 3-4 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:

Paul S. Ropp, *China in World History* (Oxford UP, 2010)

Sima Qian, *The First Emperor: Selections from the Historical Records* (Penguin, 2009)

N. Harry Rothschild, *Wu Zhao: China's Only Woman Emperor* (Longman, 2007)

Jonathan Spence, *Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-hsi* (Vintage, 1988)

Shen Fu (Graham Sanders), *Six Records of a Life Adrift* (Hackett, 2011)

Gordon Harvey, *Writing with Sources: A Guide for Students* (Hackett, 1998)

The coursepack has all other readings. Buy it now at www.universityreaders.com.

Course Requirements:

- If you need help or have questions, contact the professor *immediately*. Office hours are for you, so come talk to me even if you do not have a specific question.
- Read Ropp before Monday's class and the rest of the week's reading by Wednesday.
- 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 858-534-3227; email acs-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. Specifics for this class are on TED. 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 web.
- University policy is that to pass with the P/NP option, you must earn a C, or 70%.
- The syllabus may change.

Week One: A Shang Queen

Memorize the dates of the periods of Chinese history on the chronology on TED.

Ropp, pp. 1-12

Gordon Harvey, *Writing with Sources*.

David Keightley, translator, Oracle Bone Inscriptions

Minna Haapanen, "The Royal Consort Hao of the Shang"

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"

Confucius & disciples, *The Analects*, selections

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

Week Three: The First Emperor and the First Historian

Ropp, pp. 20-49

Sima Qian, *The First Emperor: Selections from the Historical Records (Shi ji)*. Read pp. xxx-xxxiv and Chapter 5 ("The Annals of Qin"), and one of chapter 3, 4, 6, 7, or 8. (More, if you like!)

2-page (at least 500 words) paper due Friday. See TED for prompt.

Week Four: The Woman Emperor of Tang

Ropp, pp. 50-66

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. 67-84

Song-era anecdotes about Wang Anshi

Feng Menglong, "In the Hall 'Half-way up the Hill,' the Stubborn One Dies of Grief" (1624)

3-page (at least 750 words) paper due Friday. See TED for prompt.

Week Six: A Local Official of Ming

Ropp, pp. 85-95

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

"Fang Keqin," in Zhang Tingyu, et al., eds., *Official History of the Ming [Mingshi]* (1739)

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

Week Seven: Two Religious Women of Ming

Ji Xian (1614-1683), "Record of Past Karma," transl. Grace S. Fong

Ann Waltner, "T'an-Yang-Tzu and Wang Shih-chen: Visionary and Bureaucrat in the Late Ming"

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

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

Week Ten: A Late-Qing Historian and An Artist of the People's Republic

Ropp, pp. 102-155

Qian Mu (1895-1990), "Reminiscences on my Parents at the age of Eighty," trans. J. Dennerline

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