History 1800: Seas of China: Commerce and Empire, 1500-1800

Spring 2012 Instructor: Kwangmin Kim
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HLMS 199 Email: kwangmin.kim@colorado.edu
Office hours: TTh 11 am-12 pm, and by appointment

Course description: This course explores the history of China Seas (South China and East China Seas) during the early modern period. The region includes coastal East Asia, as well as entire Southeast Asia. Rather than exploring collective “national histories” of this region, this course explores the parallels and interconnections between local societies of China Seas since the year 1500. In so doing, this course shows how local societies of this maritime world interacted with one another as well as with the forces of global trade and European colonialism, giving rise to distinctive historical world. Specific topics to covered in this course include, but not limited to, 1) early modern maritime exploration, 2) religious transformation, 3) colonialism, 4) transnational migration, and (5) nationalism.

Learning Objectives: This is a lower division course for majors. Through this course, students will not only familiarize themselves with basic facts about early modern history of the region, but will also learn to critically analyze the interconnections and parallels among local societies from global and transnational setting. To achieve this goal, this course will employ a combination of course readings, lectures, discussions, writing assignments, movies, and written exams.

Required Reading:

Anthony Reid, Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680: Volume Two, Yale University Press, 1993
Jose Rizal, Noli Me Tangere (Touch Me Not) Penguin Classics, 2006
Pramoedya Ananta Toer, This Earth of Mankind, Penguin, 1996

These books are on sale at the CU Bookstore in the UMC. The other readings on the syllabus, marked with an asterisk (*) are also required. Unless otherwise stated, they will all be available as PDF files that you can download from the class webpage on CULearn.

Grade:

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<td>Mid-term Exam 1</td>
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Attendance and Participation 10%

**Short Paper:** Students are expected to submit a short paper on any weekly reading/s before the spring break. The goal of this paper is to train you in writing an analytical essay. You are not to write summaries of the readings. First, summarize the main arguments of the reading/s in 1-3 sentences in succinct and clear fashion. Second, criticize author’s argument or methodology in your own words. Third, provide your own solution to the problem you raise. The paper should be one to two pages (single space) in length.

**Final Paper:** Students are expected to submit an analytical paper (comparative analysis on colonialism and nationalism in China Seas) on Jose Rizal’s *Noli Me Tangere (Touch Me Not)* and Pramoedya Ananta Toer’s *This Earth of Mankind*. Students are encouraged to be creative in their analysis and avoid a simple summary. The paper should be no less than five and no more than six pages. This paper is due on April 24. Late papers will be deducted one letter grade per day that they are late. Remember the papers will be graded on the basis of the originality of your analysis.

**Attendance and participation:** Attendance is mandatory and will be checked every time the class meets. In-class participation is worth ten percent of the final grade. Participation is defined as being prepared for class, contributing regularly to classroom discussions, and being an active member of the classroom environment with questions and comments.

Any student who misses more than three class meetings will have their final grade for the course lowered by one letter grade. Each additional absence will lower the grade by another full letter grade. Missing more than six class meetings will result in automatic failure of the course, regardless of performance in other graded areas.

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from the Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class you are asked to contact the professor during the first week of classes. For campus policies on this, see: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to
the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See polices at: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at: http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on **Discrimination and Harassment**, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at: http://www.colorado.edu/odh

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the **academic integrity** policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aiding of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the **Honor Code** can be found at: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at: http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1 (Jan.17/19): Introduction**
Jan. 19: No Class

**Week 2 (Jan.24/26): Seas of China before 1400**
Jan. 26: Discussion: *Ibn Battuta’s travel*
Reading: *Travels of Ibn Battuta, A.D. 1325-1354 (English Translation)*, Cambridge [Eng.]: Published for the Hakluyt Society at the University Press, 1958-2000 (selection)*

**Week 3 (Jan.31/Feb.2): Chinese Overture**
Feb. 2: Discussion: *Ma Huan: Ying-yai sheng-lan, “The Overall Survey of the Ocean’s Shores”*

**Week 4 (Feb.7/9): Age of Commerce in China Seas: Silver and Spices**
Reading: Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680*, pp.1-61

**Week 5 (Feb.14/16): Cities and Local Elites**
Reading: Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680*, pp.62-131

**Week 6 (Feb.21/23): Islam in Southeast Asia**
Feb. 21: Mid-term 1
Reading: Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680*, pp.132-201

**Week 7 (Feb.28/Mar.1): Christianity in Coastal China**
Reading: Eugenio Menegon, *Virgins and Friars: Christianity as a Local Religion in Late Imperial China*, Harvard Asia Center, 2009 (selection)*

**Week 8 (Mar.6/8): New States in Southeast Asia**
Reading: Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680*, pp.202-266

**Week 9 (Mar.13/15): Military Revolution in Japan**
Reading:

**Week 10 (Mar.20/22): Colonial Empires: British Empire and Opium**
Mar. 22: Mid-term 2

**Week 11 (Mar.27/29): Spring Break**

**Week 12 (April 3/5): Chinese Migrations into Southeast Asia**

**Week 13 (Apr.10/12): Indian and Muslim migrations**
Reading: Enseng Ho, *The Graves of Tarim: Genealogy and Mobility across the Indian Ocean*, UC Press, 2006*

**Week 14 (Apr.17/19): Nationalism in Southeast Asia**
Jose Rizal, *Noli Me Tangere (Touch Me Not)*
Pramoedya Ananta Toer, *This Earth of Mankind*

**Week 15 (Apr.24/26): Diasporas and Chinese Nationalism**
Reading: Yen, Ching-Hwang, "Overseas Chinese Nationalism in Singapore and Malaya

**Paper due in class on April 24**

**Week 16 (May1/3): End of Age of Commerce**
Reading: Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce*, pp.267-330