THISTORY OF WAR AND SOCIETY: 
WORLD WAR II IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

History 2220
Fall 2016
HLMS 245
TTh 9:30-10:45 pm

William Wei, Ph.D.
Hellems 216
T 11:00-12:00 and by appointment

For Asia, World War II began with the Japanese invasion of China in 1937. Only after the Japanese attacked the U.S. Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor in 1941 did the United States enter World War II. In between those two dates was the start of the war in Europe. This course discusses the various socio-economic and political factors that led to the war in Asia and the Pacific, examines the nature of the conflict, and assesses the legacy of the struggle for all those involved.

Course Requirements

Student grades will be determined according to the following criteria:

Quizzes (4) .................................................................50% (100 points)
Final Examination....................................................50% (100 points)

Note well:

• Professor Wei can be contacted by telephone at 303-492-7655 and by e-mail at william.wei@colorado.edu.

• There are four quizzes. Each quiz is worth 25 points.

• Final examination is to be written in ink and in large bluebooks. The examination is worth 100 points, divided between identifications (40%) and an essay (60%).

• During the semester there are opportunities to earn extra credit.

• Attendance is mandatory. Two unexcused absences will result in automatic expulsion from the seminar.

• Except for extraordinary reasons, there will be no make-up quizzes and examinations in this course.
Readings

Students are to read the following books:


Lectures, Readings, and Activities

Aug. 23 – Introduction to the course

Aug. 25 – Imperialism in Asia

Spector, Eagle Against the Sun, introduction

Aug. 30 – Rise of Chinese nationalism

Spector, Eagle Against the Sun, chapter 1
Mitter, Forgotten Ally, chapter 1

Sep. 1 – Emergence of Japanese militarism

Spector, Eagle Against the Sun, chapter 2
Mitter, Forgotten Ally, chapter 2

Sep. 6 – Isolationism in America

Spector, Eagle Against the Sun, chapter 3
Mitter, Forgotten Ally, chapter 3

Sep. 8 – The Washington Conference, 1921-22
Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 4
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 4
Sep. 13 – The Mukden and Nomohan Incidents

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 5
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 5
**Quiz 1**

Sep. 15 – The Second Sino-Japanese War, July 7, 1937

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 6
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 6

Sep. 20 – Chinese and Japanese strategies and tactics in China

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 7
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 7

Sep. 22 – From strict neutrality to undeclared war: America on the eve of WWII

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 8
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 8

Sep. 27 – Hotta, *Japan 1941* (entire book)

Sep. 29 – *Tora! Tora! Tora!* (1970)

Oct. 4 – Critique of *Tora! Tora! Tora!*

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 9
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 9

Oct. 6 – Daniels, *Prisoners of Without Trial* (entire book)

Oct. 11 – Japanese and American strategies and tactics in the Pacific

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 10
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 10
**Quiz 2**

Oct. 13 – “I will run wild and win victory upon victory.”

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 11
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 11

Oct. 18 – *Midway* (1976)

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 12
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 12

Oct. 20 – Critique of *Midway*

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 13
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 13

Oct. 25 – The Guadalcanal Campaign

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 14
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 14


Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 15
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 15

Nov. 1 – Critique of *Letters from Iwo Jima*

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 16
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 16

**Quiz 3**

Nov. 3 – Okinawa: the last battle

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 17
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 17

Nov. 8 – The “Divine Wind” phenomenon

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 18
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 18

Nov. 10 – Debate: Resolved, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were matters of military necessity.

Successful debaters will have 5 points added to their final examination grade; unsuccessful debaters will have 2 points added to final examination grade.
Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapter 19
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, chapter 19

Nov. 15 – Hersey, *Hiroshima* (entire book)

Nov. 17 – Occupation of Japan

Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*, chapters 20-23
Mitter, *Forgotten Ally*, Epilogue

Nov. 22-24 – **Spring Break, No Classes**

Nov. 29 – Introduction to the Nation-building exercise

Dec. 1 – Presentation of select Nation-building exercises in class

Students with the best nation-building exercise will have their final examination grade raised by 5 points; second and third place exercises will have their final examination grade raised by 2 points.

Dec. 6 – Civil wars, national liberation movements, and the Cold War in Asia

**Quiz 4**

Dec. 8. – Conclusion of the course

**Final Examination**
Sunday, December 11, 2016,
4:30-7:00 pm


University Rules

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries guidelines under the Quick Links at the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, (insert your procedures here).
See the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.

Classroom Behavior

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, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, 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. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the student code.
**Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation**

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU’s Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU Boulder’s Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the [OIEC website](#).

**Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of the institution. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-735-2273). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at [honorcode.colorado.edu](http://honorcode.colorado.edu).