

中國傳統曆史

Chinese Civilization History 105/East Asian Studies 121 Oberlin College Fall 2013 MWF 10:00 King 337

David E. Kelley

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Hours: WF 11-12 Rice 312, and by appointment

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Blackboard: <https://blackboard.oberlin.edu/>



Picking mulberry leaves. Detail of decoration on a bronze vessel from the Zhou period. The whole vessel is shown on page 80.

Objectives: This course introduces students to Chinese society, culture, and history from the beginnings to the age of the mature late imperial state formation in the 16th century and provides an entry point for further study of China. A topical approach within a chronological framework will allow us to highlight major issues and transitions during this long

period of history. The idea of a unitary “China” will be problematized as we discover the multiple sources of “Chinese civilization.” The written assignments are aimed at developing analytical skills as well as skills in clear exposition of ideas. The document assignments provide students with the opportunity to engage with primary sources by thinking through the sorts of questions historians put to such materials. Discussions are an opportunity for us to raise questions and share insights.

Format and Requirements: A lecture course meeting 10:00 MWF. Questions are welcomed at any time. Attendance at lectures, films, and discussions is an integral part of the course, is required and figures into your grade. Students are responsible for material presented in class and in reading assignments. I encourage you to take advantage of office hours for consultation and discussion. Please take an opportunity to introduce yourself if we haven’t met, during office hours or at another time. Appointments are available through Blackboard.

Writing Assignments: Electronic submission please. Keep a backup copy.

1. Responses to primary source readings: For a number of assignments in de Bary, et al, *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, I will post on the Chinese Civilization Blackboard web site questions for your response. The questions will be designed to engage you with the primary sources in the ways historians do, to relate them to the history we are studying, and to raise questions about the ideas they suggest. Each student is responsible for submitting four assignments. Dates for submission are in the syllabus, with reminders on the web site. Responses should be around 500-750 words (2-3 pp.). 40%
2. Map Exercise: A short research assignment, download from web site. 5%
3. In-class mid-term examination consisting of short-answer and essay portions. 15%
4. A short analytical essay (ca. 5-8 pp.) bearing on one of the books read for the course. I will provide suggested topics or you may consult with me. 15%
5. The final exam is cumulative in coverage and its date is shown at the end of the syllabus. 15%
6. Attendance and participation: 10%

All assigned work must be completed to receive credit for the course.

If you are eligible for and need academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability, please speak to me early in the semester, or contact the Office of Disability Services at <http://new.oberlin.edu/office/disability-services/>.

Honor Code: All work is governed by the Honor Code: (see <http://new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/11-Policies-Honor.pdf>). Any student found cheating, plagiarizing, turning in another's work as his/her own or otherwise violating the instructor's explicit or implicit instructions will be subject to a hearing before the Student Honor Committee. To learn more about the code, please see the URL above.

Please keep laptops closed during class. Divided attention while using a laptop interferes with learning and Internet browsing may distract those who can see the screen.

DEADLINES FOR WRITTEN WORK	
Sept. 16.....	Map Assignment due in class
Sept. 27.....	First document response
Oct. 18.....	Midterm examination (take-home)
Nov. 1.....	Second document response
Nov. 15.....	Third document response
Dec. 2.....	Short Essay
Dec. 11.....	Fourth document response
Dec. 19.....	Final examination 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Texts available for purchase at the Bookstore (or elsewhere):

Wm. Theodore deBary, et al, eds., *Sources of Chinese Tradition: From Earliest Times to 1600*

John Wills, *Mountain of Fame: Portraits in Chinese History*

Kenneth J. Hammond, ed. *The Human Tradition in Premodern China*

Arthur Wright, *Buddhism in Chinese History*

Morris Rossabi, *Kublai Khan, His Life and Times*

LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READINGS:

Introductory Matters

- Sept. 4 (W) Introduction to the Course
Sept. 6 (F) Land and Ecologies: The Geographical Setting

From the Neolithic Revolution to the Emergence of a Polity

- Sept. 9 (M) Neolithic Origins
Sept. 11 (W) The World of Shang
Sept. 13 (F) The Imperial Ideal: State and Society in Zhou Times

Readings:

de Bary, et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, pp. 1-40 (41 pp.)

Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, xv-13 (20 pp.)

Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, xi-10 (16 pp.)

Foundations of Chinese Thought

- Sept. 16 (M) Social Change and Political Fragmentation in Late Zhou
Sept. 18 (W) The World of Thought before Confucius
Sept. 20 (F) Confucius and Confucianism

Readings:

de Bary, et al., *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, pp. 41-63 (23 pp.)

Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 11-32 (22 pp.)

- Sept. 23 (M) Mo Zi
Sept. 25 (W) Classical Confucianism: Mencius
Sept. 27 (F) Classical Confucianism: Xunzi

Readings:

de Bary, *Sources*, Mozi and Daoism pp. 64-111; Mencius 112-118 top; 124 middle-through 1B:8; 134 middle through 3B:9; 138: 4A:3-142 4B:28; Xunzi 159-160; 179 (Chapter 23)-183; Zuozhuan 183-189 7 (74 pp.)

The Early Empire

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| Sept. | 30 | (M) | What is Daoism? Laozi and Zhuangzi |
| Oct. | 2 | (W) | Legalism: Laws and Methods |
| Oct. | 4 | (F) | The First Emperor and the Qin Unification |

Readings:

de Bary, *Sources*, pp. 190-223 (34 pp.)
Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 15-25 (11 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 33-71 (39 pp.)

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| Oct. | 7 | (M) | State and Statecraft in the Han |
| Oct. | 9 | (W) | Agriculture and Political Economy: Tilling and Weaving |
| Oct. | 11 | (F) | The Han Collapse and the Period of Division |

Readings:

Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 27-55 (29 pp.)
Begin Wright, *Buddhism in Chinese History*
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 72-99 (28 pp.)

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| Oct. | 14 | (M) | Buddhism |
| Oct.. | 16 | (W) | Buddhism in China |
| Oct. | 18 | (F) | <u>No Class: Take-home midterm due by 11:59 pm</u> |

Readings:

Wright, *Buddhism in Chinese History* complete for Wednesday discussion
deBary, *Sources*, pp. 415-436; 481-504 (46 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 100-126 (27 pp.)

Oct. 19-27 Fall Recess

Chinese Civilization

The Middle Empire

Oct.	28	(M)	The Middle Empire: The Sui Unification
Oct.	30	(W)	The Middle Empire: High Tang
Nov.	1	(F)	The Empress Wu and Female Rule in China

Readings

de Bary, *Sources*, pp. 539-546, 564-567 (11 pp.)
Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 57-92 (36 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 127-167 (41 pp.)

The Emergence of the Later Empire

Nov.	4	(M)	The Tang-Song Watershed and the Birth of Modern China
Nov.	6	(W)	Discussion
Nov.	8	(F)	The Song State

Readings

de Bary, *Sources*, pp. 329-339, 568-586 (30 pp.)
Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 93-109 (17 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 168-180 (23 pp.)

Nov.	11	(M)	Neo-Confucian Education
Nov.	13	(W)	Gender Roles and Relations from the Song Vantage Point
Nov.	15	(F)	Discussion

Readings:

de Bary, *Sources*, pp. 587-596; 667-671; 689-690; 697-699; 720-731; 819-840 (57 pp.)
Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 111-125 (15 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 181-200 (20 pp.)
Rossabi, *Kublai Khan*, begin

Nov.	18	(M)	Pastoral Nomads and the Chinese Empire
Nov.	20	(W)	Storm from the East: The Mongols in History
Nov.	22	(F)	Storm from the East: Genghis Khan and the Rise of the Mongols

Readings:

Chinese Civilization

de Bary, *Sources*, pp. 764-779; 778-779 (17 pp.)
Rossabi, *Kublai Khan*, complete for discussion

- Nov. 25 (M) China under the Mongols: The Yuan Dynasty
Nov. 27 (W) Discussion: Rossabi, Wills, Hammond readings and videos
Nov. 29 (F) **No Class: Thanksgiving Break**

Late Imperial State and Society

- Dec. 2 (M) The Rise of the Ming: From Rebel to Emperor
Dec. 4 (W) Wall-building and the Great Wall in Chinese History
Dec. 6 (F) Contours of Ming History

Readings:

de Bary, *Sources*, 779-796 (18 pp.)
Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 127-141 (15 pp.)

- Dec. 9 (M) China in the World in the 17th Century
Dec. 11 (W) Discussion and Review

Readings:

Hammond, *Human Tradition in Premodern China*, 143-164 (21 pp.)
deBary, *Sources*, 841-842; 850-852; 855-860; 864-870 (18 pp.)
Wills, *Mountain of Fame*, 201-215 (15 pp.)

Reading Period Dec. 13- 16 Final Exam: Thursday, Dec. 19, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
