
HISTORY OF ASIAN CIVILIZATION I in Fall 2020 (HI1008)

Course Code	HI1008	Professor(s)	Albert Wu
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-007
Class Schedule	F: 18:10-19:45 in C-102 T: 12:40-14:15 in C-102	Office Hours	Fridays 15:30-16:30 or by appointment
Credits	4	Email	awu@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2020	Office Tel. Ext.	705

Course Description

This course examines the major development of civilizations in East Asia from prehistory to the end of the sixteenth century. We will examine the histories of China, Korea, Japan, focusing primarily on China. You will also be asked to think comparatively, examining not only how the different countries and regions developed in East Asia, but also how East Asian developments compare with the “West.”

Course Learning Outcomes

Local and Global Perspectives: Students will enhance their intercultural understanding of languages, cultures, and histories of local societies and the global issues to which these relate. (LO1CCI)

Aesthetic Inquiry and Creative Expression: Students will engage with artistic or creative objects (e.g., visual art, theatrical works, film) in different media and from a range of cultural traditions. (LO2CCI)

Exploring and Engaging Difference: Students will think critically about cultural and social difference; they will identify and understand power structures that determine hierarchies and inequalities that can relate to race, ethnicity, gender, nationhood, religion, or class. (LO3CCI)

General Education

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE:

September

Week I

Friday, September 25

TOPICS Introduction: “Asian” “Civilizations”; Oracle Bones and Bronze Inscriptions

Week II

Tuesday, September 29

TOPICS Myths, Writing, and Confucianism

Friday, October 2

TOPICS Confucianism and Daoism

Week III

Tuesday, October 6

TOPICS Legalism and the Qin Dynasty

Friday, October 9

TOPICS The Han Dynasty and the World

Week IV

Tuesday, October 13

TOPICS Early Korean and Japanese Sources

Friday, October 16

TOPICS Buddhism in China

Week V

Tuesday, October 20

TOPICS Buddhism in Korea

Friday, October 23

TOPICS Buddhism in Japan

First Short Essay Due

Week VI

Tuesday, October 27

TOPICS State Formation in Japan

Friday, October 30

TOPICS Mid-term Exam

Week VII

Tuesday, November 3

TOPICS The Tang Dynasty and its global reach

Friday, November 6

TOPICS Goryeo

Week VIII

Tuesday, November 10

TOPICS Heian Japan and the *Tale of Genji*

Friday, November 13

No class, Fall Break

TOPICS Heian Japan and the *Tale of Genji*, cont.

Week IX

Tuesday, November 17

TOPICS Neo-Confucianism

Friday, November 20

TOPICS Women and Neo-Confucianism.

Week X

Tuesday, November 24

TOPICS The Mongols

Friday, November 27

TOPICS The Ming Dynasty

Second Short Essay Due

Week XI

Tuesday, December 1

TOPICS Joseon Korea

Friday, December 4

TOPICS Joseon Korea, continued

Week XII

Tuesday, December 8

TOPICS The Warring States in Japan

Friday, December 11

TOPICS Can We Talk about an East Asian Civilization?

December 22 Final exam and Final Paper Due

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

GRADING:

Participation (Attendance and Participation in Discussions) 10%

Quizzes (Announced and unannounced) and Weekly Annotations (See below) 20%

2 short (c. 1000-1500 words) essays, due **Oct. 23, Nov. 27** 20%

Mid-Term Exam, **October 30** 15%

Everything but Paper Research Assignment 15% **Due December 22**

Take-home Final Exam 20% **Due December 22**

Other
