

## **Introduction to East Asia seminar**

Fall 2004, Lexington Public Library Conference Room B

Thursday evenings, 4:30 to 7:30 pm, Sept. 9 through Nov. 18, with no class Sept. 16.

Seminar leaders:

Kristin Stapleton, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Kentucky

Telephone: 859-257-1357

E-mail: kristin.stapleton@uky.edu

Beth Goldstein, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Policy and Evaluation,  
University of Kentucky

Telephone: 859-257-2705

E-mail: bethg@uky.edu

The seminar is designed to give teachers a foundation to teach about the East Asian countries of China, Japan, and Korea and to explore methods and materials for introducing East Asia into their classrooms. The seminar is funded by a grant from the Freeman Foundation and is administered by the Asia Center at the University of Kentucky, in partnership with the Indiana University East Asian Studies Center (EASC). The three-hour sessions will be broken up into segments which will include lectures, discussions, videos, slides, guest speakers, and hands-on activities.

### **Participant commitment:**

1. Attend all ten sessions of the seminar and prepare any required assignments. If you must miss class for an acceptable reason (such as illness or coaching), you must make up the contact hours. Consult with the seminar leaders about this, if necessary.
2. Complete three "Teaching Implementation Plans," one each on China, Korea and Japan. The TIPs should introduce Chinese, Korean, and Japanese material into the curriculum that you teach. We will discuss these in detail in class. Rough drafts are due and will be discussed on October 21. Final drafts are due on November 18.
3. Implement these lesson plans in the year following the seminar.
4. Participate in follow up activities and submit a report on how the lessons were implemented.
5. Continue integrating East Asia into the curriculum wherever possible.

Participants who wish to receive graduate credit for this course should enroll in History 595, section 201. You will be responsible for tuition payments as well as some additional academic work, which you should discuss with the instructors.

If school is canceled in Fayette County Public School District, the seminar will also be canceled and the class session will be made up. When uncertainty exists about canceled sessions, participants should call the Asia Center at (859) 257-7253.

You will receive the books listed below at our first meeting. We will also distribute handouts throughout the seminar. The detailed schedule below lists the readings we will discuss at each session of the seminar. We will distribute an outline and discussion questions for each session during the preceding week.

Craig Clunas. *Art in China*. Oxford University Press, 1997.

Haruko Taya Cook, Theodore F. Cook. *Japan at War: An Oral History*. New Press, 1993.

- Patricia Buckley Ebrey. *Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook*. 2nd edition. Free Press, 1993.  
 Patricia Buckley Ebrey. *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*. Cambridge University Press, 1999.  
 Ji-Li Jiang. *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*. HarperTrophy, 1998.  
 Donald Keene. *Anthology of Japanese Literature from the Earliest Era to the Mid-Nineteenth Century*. Grove Press, 1988.  
 Richard E. Kim. *Lost Names: Scenes from a Korean Boyhood*. University of California Press, 1998.  
 Joan Stanley-Baker. *Japanese Art: Revised Edition*. Thames and Hundson, 2000.  
 H. Paul Varley. *Japanese Culture*. 4th edition. University of Hawaii Press, 2000.  
 Susan Whitfield. *Life along the Silk Road*. University of California Press, 2001.

## WEEK ONE

### September 9: Introductions, East Asian geography and origin stories

Questions: How is East Asia distinguished from other regions of the world? How have the peoples of East Asia explained their origins?

Guest speakers: NCTA alums Carol Parkey and Michelle Peck Williams

Handouts: *Sources of Korean Tradition*, pp. 3-7  
*Sources of Japanese Tradition*, pp. 14-18  
*An Anthology of Chinese Literature*, pp. 10-13, 16-21

## WEEK TWO

### September 23: Ways of thought in early China and Chinese characters

Questions: What are the main ideas of Confucianism and Daoism? How did East Asian writing and literature develop?

Guest speaker: Shengqing Wu, Chinese program at UK,  
 “The Classic of Poetry and the origins of Chinese literature”

Background reading: Ebrey, *Cambridge Illustrated History* (CIH), chapters 1-2  
 Reading for discussion: Ebrey, *Chinese Civilization* (CC), chapters 1-3, 6-8, 10.  
 Handout: Excerpts from *The Book of Songs* and *Confucius Speaks*

## WEEK THREE

### September 30: Early kingdoms and empires

Questions: What political ideas and institutions characterized early East Asia? How did empires develop and grow? How much communication was there between the early East Asian states and other parts of the world?

Background reading: Ebrey, CIH, chapter 3-5; Varley, chapters 1-3.  
 Reading for discussion: Whitfield, *Life Along the Silk Road*  
 Keene, pp. 63-66, 82-91.  
 Handout: Bingham and Gross, *Women in Japan*, chapter three.

**WEEK FOUR****October 7: Buddhism in East Asia, East Asian art, and Samurai culture in Japan**

Questions: How did Buddhism evolve in East Asia? What influence did it have on East Asian art? What explains the rise of a warrior caste in twelfth-century Japan?

Background reading: Varley, chapters 4-5; Clunas, pp tbd; Stanley-Baker, pp tbd

Reading for discussion: Keene, 179-212, 231-241.

Handout: Excerpt from the Lotus Sutra

**WEEK FIVE****October 14: Song China and the Mongol Empire**

Questions: What impact did the development of the examination system in China have on East Asian politics and social life? How did the rise of the Mongols affect East Asia?

Guest speaker: Rob Foster, History Department, Berea College  
“Chinese bureaucracy and the examination system”

Background reading: Ebrey, CIH, chapters 6-7.

Reading for discussion: Ebrey, CC, chapters 32, 36-39, 41.

Handout: Morris Rossabi, *Khubilai Khan*, ch. 5.

**WEEK SIX****October 21: The Ming/Qing, Chosŏn, and Tokugawa Japan**

Questions: What was the state of the East Asian world economically and militarily on the eve of the “Age of Exploration”?

Guest speaker: David Blaylock, History Department, ECU,  
“The Historical Sources for Japanese Economic Development”

Background reading: Ebrey, CIH, chapters 8-9; Varley, chapters 6-8

Reading for discussion: Keene, pp. 363-373, 377-383.

Handouts: *Choe Pu's Diary*, pp. 29-63, 119-145.

Excerpt from Levathes, *When China Ruled the Seas*

Excerpt from *The Japanese Discovery of America*

Rough drafts of Teaching Implementation Plans due. We will discuss these in class.

**WEEK SEVEN****October 28: Early 20th century upheaval and the rise and fall of Japan's Asian empire**

Questions: What effects did European and American imperialism in East Asia have on politics and culture there? Why were the consequences so different for China, Korea, Vietnam, and Japan?

Guest speaker: Kuo-Huang Han, Asia Center fellow, UK School of Music

Performer: Hong Shao, pipa

Background reading: Ebrey, CIH, ch. 10; Varley, ch. 9-10

Reading for discussion: Richard Kim, *Lost Names*

Cook and Cook, *Japan at War*

**WEEK EIGHT****November 4: Communist China, 1949-1976**

Questions: How radically did the Maoists alter Chinese life? Why did so many young people enthusiastically join in the Cultural Revolution?

Guest speaker: John Klus, NCTA alum and Sayre School social studies teacher  
“Teaching about the Cultural Revolution”

Background reading: Ebrey, CIH, chapter 11.

Reading for discussion: Ji-Li Jiang, *Red Scarf Girl*

**WEEK NINE****November 11: Post-war Japan**

Questions: How important was the American Occupation in Japan’s recent history? How stable are Japan’s social system and cultural values?

Guest speaker: Marro Inoue, UK Japan Studies Program

Background reading: Varley, chapter 11.

Reading for discussion: Handouts of Nobel Literature Prize acceptance speeches by Kawabata and Oe

**Special reception with Ji-li Jiang, author of *Red Scarf Girl***

**November 18, 4 to 5:30 pm**

**WEEK TEN****December 2: East Asia Today**

Questions: Given the rapid economic growth being experienced in much of East Asia, to what extent are cultural patterns and political systems changing as well? What are the most important challenges facing East Asian peoples?

Guest speakers: Larry Burmeister and Keiko Tanaka, UK Dept. of Community and Leadership Development

Background reading: Find stories that interest you in the newspaper or on the internet. One good source is the *Far Eastern Economic Review*. Web site: [www.feer.com](http://www.feer.com)

Reading for discussion: Handouts to be specified

Final drafts of Teaching Implementation Plans due.