National Consortium for Teaching About Asia
The Freeman Foundation and the East Asian Studies Center at Indiana University, Bloomington
Tuesdays 6:00-9:00 January 20 - March 31 (+ April 14th, 21st in case of makeup for cancellation)
PLACE: Northside College Prep High School
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DRAFT SYLLABUS

ASIA: LEARNING FROM, TEACHING ABOUT

AIMS

1. To examine the history and culture of China, Korea, and Japan from classical times to today in order to deepen our own understanding and appreciation. Unlike a college survey, however, we emphasize knowledge useful in the classroom. We listen to debates in China, Japan, and Korea over the individual, the family, social groups, religion, and government to bring out similarities and differences among these cultures and recognize these peoples as “us” not “them.” We start from the “images” of Asia today – the rising power of China, conflicted Japan, divided Korea – and balance them against the classic traditions as they changed through the ages. We explore how traditions change in order to endure and ask how – or whether – classical traditions are related to Asia’s and the world’s future.

2. To find reliable, teachable materials and prepare ourselves to teach them. We locate and evaluate teaching resources, especially on the exploding internet; look at the challenge of teaching with film, fiction, music, visual arts, and popular culture; introduce Chicago area resources, such as museums, consulates, and other groups; exchange tips on how to promote Asia outside the classroom; and keep up with Asia in the news.

3. To build networks and sharing within this group, with participants from previous years, and with regional and national NCTA networks.

BACKGROUND

The East Asian Studies Center at Indiana University, Bloomington, organizes this seminar on behalf of the National Consortium on Teaching about Asia (NCTA), a national initiative supported by the Freeman Foundation.

For more information, see the Indiana University East Asian Studies Center Center’s website: http://www.iub.edu/~easc/outreach/educators/seminar/index.shtml

NCTA REQUIREMENTS: For credit, stipend, money for curriculum materials, & other benefits you must

• Attend 33 hours of class (eleven sessions – see below)

• Complete the reading or viewing assignments, before class whenever possible

• Participate in discussion and individual or group presentations; present your evaluations of teaching units, books, websites, current events, or other resources.

• Prepare a Teacher Implementation Plan (TIP). By the seventh class submit a draft made up of three lesson plans, one each for China, Japan, and Korea. The final version is due by the last session unless arranged otherwise with the instructor. For TIP requirements, please see the last page of this syllabus.

• Implement these lesson plans in the year following the seminar.

• Follow Up: in the year following our seminar attend at least one follow up event; submit to the IU office an evaluation of how your TIP was used in class.

* Links are clickable
GRADUATE CREDIT (OPTIONAL)

Participants are eligible to purchase three graduate credits from Indiana University. In addition to three TIPs, you must write an additional project approved by the instructor, ordinarily an Annotated Bibliography of 25+ books, articles, and websites. For details, see the Center website.

ATTENDANCE AND FULFILLING THE THIRTY-THREE HOUR REQUIREMENT

We have eleven three hour sessions (plus one backup). If you miss class for an acceptable reason (such as illness, family, or school responsibilities), you may make up the hours (not more than twice) by writing a one to two page response paper on the reading from the missed class or a course-related activity (such as a film or an art exhibit), or a similar topic you and I negotiate.

RESERVE APRIL 14, 21 (APRIL 7 IS CPS SPRING BREAK) FOR MAKE-UP SESSION if we cancel, e.g., for Chicago weather.

STRUCTURE OF THE SESSIONS

Sessions begin with a presentation from the instructor, guest scholar, or returning teacher. After questions and discussion, we may review a film, introduce resources, comment on headlines, investigate a teaching unit presented by a guest or members of our group, or pursue further discussion or small group activity. We also share developments in the news and local Asia related events. There may be quick (ungraded!) class writing, and from time to time we ask you to introduce a book or teaching resource.

TEACHING MATERIALS

We introduce teaching units, materials, catalogues from such sources as Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE); National Center for History in the Schools (NCHS); China Books and Periodicals; etc.

WEBSITES AND INTERNET RESOURCES

Each week we introduce websites and resources (listed week by week below). There are collections of websites organized by tags on my Delicious, a social bookmarking website. A Google blog: Asia: Teaching About, Learning From has occasional posts. I will send you a link to our Dropbox, which has files, sample TIPs, images, and power points. The IU East Asian Studies Center maintains an informative listserv, IUNCTA, (Indiana University NCTA), to which you will be subscribed.

BOOKS (PROVIDED)

• Donald CLARK, Korea in World History (Association for Asian Studies, 2012).
• James L. HUFFMAN, Japan and Imperialism, 1853-1945 (Association for Asian Studies, 2010)
• Asia: Learning From, Teaching About (Chicago 2014). Short readings and handouts.

FILMS FOR HOME VIEWING

• LEE Ang, Eat, Drink, Man, Woman (1994) Amazon Instant Video Link @ $2.99.
• TAKAHATA, Grave of the Fireflies (1985) (provided).
• Korean film TBA.
• FAN, The Last Train Home. Amazon Instant Video Link @ $3.99.

EDUCATION ABOUT ASIA (EAA)

Education About Asia is the Association of Asian Studies magazine for teachers with many articles also suitable for students. Please suggest that your school library subscribe! Articles are now available for free if you register at http://www.asian-studies.org/EAA/index.htm. When you complete the course you will receive a year’s subscription.
1. 1/20 INTRODUCTIONS: WHAT DO WE TEACH WHEN WE TEACH “ASIA”?


2. 1/27 CONFUCIUS: SAGE, IMPERIAL PHILOSOPHER, DEVIL... NATIONAL HERITAGE

   What is Confucian “tradition” in modern China, Japan, and Korea? Is Confucian culture the basis for recent East Asian growth? What is the role of language in East Asian culture? How do you write “Chinese characters” (hanzi/kanji)? What is lost (gained?) in translation?

   Please Read: Ebrey, China, Chaps 1, 2, readings in Asia: Learning From, Teaching About: “100 Schools of Thought,” “Death, Religion, and the State.”

   Optional Home View: Ang Lee, Eat, Drink, Man, Woman (Taiwan, 1995) (Amazon Instant Video)

   Websites o’ the Week:
   Asia for Educators (East Asian Institute, Columbia University): http://afe.easia.columbia.edu
   Metropolitan Museum of Art: http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hilte_index.asp?i=Asia

3. 2/3 WHY IS CHINA SO BIG?

   Chinese claim thousands of years of civilization and 2,000 years of imperial rule. What caused this longevity? What balance of continuity, evolution, and change? Circular reasoning (what’s “Chinese” is Chinese)? Was “China” separable from its neighbors in present day Central Asia or Korea? Is the PRC the most recent dynasty, a modern Chinese empire, or a standard modern-style nation? Will the empire fall apart like the Ottoman, Mughal, or Romanov? Will the communist nation fall apart like the Soviet Union?

   Please Read: Ebrey, China Chaps. 3, 4; “100 Schools of Thought,” in Teaching Asia

   Discussion: “Resolved: Confucius Lives!” (Discussion of films and reading).

   Websites O’ the Week:
   Chinese Geography: Readings, Maps: http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/china/geog/maps.htm#1b

4. 2/10 EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION: GLOBALIZATION AND THE SILK ROAD

   The Tang Dynasty (6th-9th centuries) was cosmopolitan, multi-ethnic trade and cultural hub of East Asian civilization in Korea and Japan; this civilization welcomed and tamed varieties of Buddhism; the Song Dynasty (10th-12th centuries) was the world’s richest realm, at the center of an international system it did not dominate. Was this China “premodern” or “premodernized”?

   Please Read: Ebrey, China Ch 5, 6; start, Milward, A Very Short Introduction to the Silk Road.

   Websites O’ the Week:
   The Song Dynasty: http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/song/ “Wikipedia City of Cathay/ Along the River During Qingming”; Mongols; Silk Road.
5. 2/17 WHO CREATED THE MODERN WORLD? ASIAN AND EUROPEAN IMPERIALISMS

The Mongol Empire briefly unified Eurasia, facilitated trade, and destroyed traditional cultures and empires, making way for new regimes in China, Japan, and Korea – only strong governments survived. Europeans then explored sea alternatives to the Silk Road, connected the seas, leading to global trade, exploitation of the New World, and overseas imperialism.

Please Finish: Milward, Silk Road: A Very Short Introduction; handouts; continue TIPs research
Websites O’ the Week:

6. 2/24 JAPAN: MODERNITY, EMPIRE, AND WAR

The Meiji Emperor (r. 1868-1912) presided over a “revolution from above” which combined traditions and new elements to invent a nation. This nation then built an empire, invaded China, and vied with the West. Was Japan’s modernization a peculiarity or normal for modern nations?

Guest Presenter: TBA

Read: Huffman, Japan and Imperialism; Menton, Rise of Modern Japan, pp. 4-32, skim/scan 33-168.
Websites O’ the Week:
http://aboutjapan.japansociety.org/page/japaneducation_home

7. 3/3 KOREA: KINGDOM, COLONY, AND WAR

PLEASE HAND IN DRAFT NOTES FOR YOUR TIPS

Korea historically was a major power and cultural center; from the 17th century the Chinese tributary system kept the peace; imperial rivalries from the 19th century to 1945 tore it apart; today the two parts of a divided Korea must rethink relations with China, Japan, the American dominated(Tributary?) world system, and with each other.

Guest Presenter: TBA

Please Read: Clark, Korea in World History; Teaching Asia on Korea.
Website O’ the Week: Korea.net (Korean Culture and Information Service)
http://www.korea.net/exploring.do

8. 3/10 JAPAN’S CONTESTED IDENTITY: FROM EMPIRE TO CONSUMER DEMOCRACY

Japanese have long debated the nature of Japanese identity, first in relation to China, then the West, then Asia, then globalized world culture. In the 1930s, Japanese turned to expansion, after World War II, rethought their responsibility for the war, tradition, and the meaning of modernization; this debate is revealed in fiction, film, and popular culture.

Returning Teacher: TBA

Please Read: (Tentative) Menton, Rise of Modern Japan, pp. 169-256. Read for TIPs.
Website O’ the Week: Visualizing Cultures Image Driven Scholarship (MIT):

Home View: Takahata, Grave of the Fireflies (1985)
9. 3/17 MAO’S REVOLUTION AND CHINA’S RISE

Mao Zedong’s revolution created a Chinese nation in 1949. For many years radical Maoism, especially the Cultural Revolution of 1966-1976, defined China in terms of authoritarianism and economic autarchy. Are recent rapid growth and stability of the “reform period” rooted in the earlier revolutionary years or in China’s history? Both?


Website O’ the Week: Stephen Landsberger, *Chinese Posters: Propaganda, Politics, History, Art*:
http://chineseposters.net/index.php;

Optional Home View: Fan, *Last Train Home* (Amazon Instant Video)
Discussion: “The Pleasures and Dangers of Film in Understanding Asia”

10. 3/24 1) OPEN TOPICS: CHINA TODAY? CRISIS IN EAST ASIA?

11. 3/31 GRAND FINALE!! PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF TIPS

12. 4/14, 4/21 RESERVE IN CASE OF CANCELLATION MAKEUP
The Teacher Implementation Plan (TIP) is the primary course requirement. The purpose is to prepare lesson plans to use in your own classroom which the NCTA can make available to others. Since each of you is in a different situation, however, your TIPs aim at different grade levels, present different topics, use different methods, and explore different materials. Since IU wants to share TIPs with other teachers, your China, Japan, and Korea TIPs are independent, and each must contain all the elements 1-6.

ELEMENTS OF A TIP

Your three TIPs are independent units and must each include all of these elements. That is, your China, Japan, and Korea TIP must each include all of these elements. Or, to put it another way, all of these elements must be included in each of your three TIPs. Please number the sections as they are listed below. TIPs will NOT be approved if a section is missing.

1. A reflective essay on how this NCTA seminar enhanced your knowledge of and thinking about East Asia. This may be repeated for each of the three TIPs.

2. An explanation of the opportunities you will have to teach East Asia content in the next school year, including grade level, subject area, and hours of instruction. You should also describe other ways you will share the information from the seminar with the community beyond your own classroom, including your colleagues, school, and community. This may be repeated for each of the three TIPs.

3. A description of the specific ways in which you will apply the seminar content in your teaching. This may be repeated for each of the three TIPs.

4. Summarize the local, state, or national standards addressed in each lesson plan. You do not need to address all three local, state, and national standards. Choose whichever is applicable to your situation.

5. Three separate and self-contained lesson plans: one each on China, Japan, and Korea. Depending on your situation, a single “lesson plan” may be a multi-day unit or a single activity that requires only one class period. Please specify the number of days and amount of class time required for each lesson plan. Also, insure that your lesson plans and descriptions are detailed enough so that another teacher can implement them with only limited preparatory research. If appropriate for your teaching, this may be repeated for each of the three TIPs with only the proper nouns adjusted.

6. A list of resources (books, periodicals, videos, websites, etc.) which you plan to use for each lesson plan.

FORMAT

• Your three TIPs, each with all the elements 1-6, should be given or mailed to the instructor in two forms: hard copy and CD disc. Do NOT send it as an e-mail attachment. The CD version of your TIP should contain only text, not supplementary readings and such.

• Use either Microsoft Word or WordPerfect software.

• The TIP should be fully documented. If you make a reference to a particular work, please include it in a reference list.

• Your TIP becomes the property of NCTA and may be published, bound, or shared with other NCTA members for their use. Your TIP may be selected for publication on the NCTA website.

• Page number and your name on each page of each of the three TIP files – the office in Bloomington gets a ton of TIPs, and we don’t want to lose a single precious page!

• Each individual TIP must contain all six elements. All six (6) elements must be in each TIP.