HIST 311: History of Modern Asia
3 credits
South Dakota State University
Fall 2012
Internet

Instructor:
Dr. Karl J. Schmidt, Professor of History
Office Hours: Not on campus
Contact me via e-mail in D2L
   The best way to use D2L email in a class is to:
   Be in the course
   Click on Classlist
   Check the box in front of the person you want to send a note to
   Click on the email icon
   Type note

Course Description:
An upper-division survey of the modern history of Asia in the 19th and 20th centuries. Some attention will be given to the earlier periods to provide full coverage. Course will focus on India, China, Japan, and Southeast Asia, including the Philippines.

Course Pre-requisites:
None, but some course in collegiate-level history would be helpful.

Technology Skills:
This course requires basic word-processing and Internet skills.

Description of Instructional Methods:
Course is offered exclusively on-line, using D2L. Students are required to read and master an assigned textbook, and will be asked to engage in on-line discussions with classmates. Some short PowerPoints and YouTube videos will also be made available for student viewing. I encourage vigorous discussion, and will ask many questions of you.

Textbooks:

NOTE: Additional readings will be assigned, focusing on the modern period, such as journal articles and web links; they will be provided to you through D2L.

NOTE ON READING AND THE OTHER WORK OF THIS COURSE: Part of the college experience involves reading. This is particularly true of distance/on-line education. You will be
expected to read the assigned readings thoroughly. I will expect you to master the material at hand.

Course Requirements:

Examinations (300 points—100 points each): Students will be expected to read and master the assigned readings. Three on-line examinations will be given through D2L and will consist of essay questions. You will need to upload your answers to the Dropbox on D2L.

- **Examination 1:** Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm
- **Examination 2:** Friday, Nov. 2, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm
- **Examination 3:** Friday, Dec. 7, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm

Participation/Discussion (200 points): On-line discussions will be held twice weekly during the course, based on the readings. Participation is mandatory; a lack thereof on your part will result in reduced grades. Your cooperation in this endeavor will be strongly appreciated (and even rewarded!). **Students are expected to log on and participate at least twice per week.**

I will evaluate the overall quality of your participation at the end of the semester and will assign a grade accordingly. Quality participation is defined as follows: responding to questions I ask in a thoughtful way; active participation in group class discussions (not reading the assigned material for the discussion prevents you from being an active participant); and performance on the readings quizzes.

- Logging in minimum of 2x per week and reading all discussion comments by classmates = 100 points
- Active participation in the discussions (responding to questions, asking questions) = 100 points
- NOTE: Students do not need to answer all of the questions in each discussion block, but must participate in each of the numeric discussion blocks each week.
- Students will need to introduce themselves to their on-line classmates at the beginning of the course, so that we can all get to know each other better. I will introduce myself, too.
- I will be interacting with you weekly through the discussion board, responding to follow-up questions you may pose to the group, as well as posing additional questions as appropriate.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will be able to identify arguments and use of facts in historical scholarship and to evaluate them critically.
2. Students will gain an understanding of Asian intellectual, political, economic, social, and cultural history from approximately 1800 to the present.
3. Students will understand of the constructions of race, color, gender, or ethnicity in history.
4. Students will learn about debate and intellectual engagement through use of on-line methods.

Course Grades:

Grades for the course will be assigned based on the possible total of 500 points for the examinations and participation and discussion and will be based on these standards: A = 90-100% (450-500 point total); B = 80-89% (400-449 points total); C = 70-79% (350-399 points total); D = 60-69% 300-349 points total); F = less than 60% (fewer than 300 points total).

Extra Credit:

There is **NO** extra credit in this course. Please concentrate your efforts on the assigned materials.

Policies:

Correspondence via E-mail: I will respond to student e-mails within 24 hours (1 working day, M-F).

Posting of Grades: Grades for exams will be posted within one week (5 working days, M-F). Final course grades will be posted by the university’s grade posting due date.

Excused Late Work: The only valid excuse for not meeting the requirements of the course is if you are hospitalized for a major illness or accident, or for certain verifiable collegiate extracurricular activities that will take you away from the campus, such as band, sports, etc. In all such cases, you must present a letter from your physician, or from your faculty sponsor, to be exempt from penalty.

Cheating: Any student who cheats on any assignment will be disciplined in accordance with University policies. At a minimum, failure for the assignment will take place. Severe cases of cheating will result in failure for the entire course.

Suggestions:

**How Much to Study?** I won't mislead you about the workload of this course—it is substantial. You are taking a 3-credit course on-line and must commit to serious study. You should expect to devote about 2 hours per day to this course over the semester.
Questions, Comments, Opinions, Criticisms? Your questions, comments, opinions, and criticisms are welcome and encouraged in this course. Your final grade will be based on your performance on the assignments and in class participation, not on your agreement or disagreement with me. Problems? Contact me as soon as possible.

ADA Statement

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Nancy Hartenhoff-Crooks, Coordinator of Disability Services (605-688-4504 or Fax, 605-688-4987) to privately discuss her or his needs. The Office of Disability Services is located in Room 065, the University Student Union.

Course Outline (subject to some change):

Week 1  India at the turn of the 19th century: Nabobs and Nawabs
          Manchu China at the turn of the 19th century

Week 2  Japan before the arrival of Commodore Perry
          Southeast Asia in the early 19th century

Week 3  Opium Wars: Testing Imperial China
          The War of 1857 in India: Birth of the Raj

Week 4  The ‘Opening of Japan’
          Colonialism in Southeast Asia

Week 5  British India to 1914
          FIRST EXAMINATION (Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm)

Week 6  China: From Empire to Republic
          Meiji Japan to 1914

Week 7  Southeast Asia to 1914
          Building an Empire: The US and the Philippines

Week 8  Asia and the First World War
          China in the Interwar Period: Warlords, Nationalist, and Communists

Week 9  Rise of Indian Nationalism
          Japan: 1920 to the Second World War

Week 10  SECOND EXAMINATION (Friday, Nov. 2, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm)
          Southeast Asia to the Second World War

Week 11  Asia and the Second World War

Week 12  Post-War India
          Post-War China
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| Week 14 | Post-War Japan  
          | Post-War Southeast Asia |
| Week 15 | Asia in the late 20th Century/Early 21st Century  
          | **THIRD EXAMINATION** (Friday, Dec. 7, 2012, 6:00 am to 11:59 pm) |

**Freedom in learning.** Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled. Under Board of Regents and University policy, student academic performance shall be evaluated solely on an academic basis and students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any courses of study. Students who believe that an academic evaluation is unrelated to academic standards but is related instead to judgment of their personal opinion or conduct should first contact the instructor of the course. If the student remains unsatisfied, the student may contact the department head and/or dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.