History 3371: Asia in the Age of Imperialism, 1800-1945
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30-1:45 pm
Location: A 227

Instructor & Contact Information
Laurie Dickmeyer, PhD
laurie.dickmeyer@angelo.edu
Office: Academic Building, 210C
Office Phone: 325-942-2120
Office hours: Academic Building, 210C
  MWF: 9-10 am
  T/Th: 3:30-4:30 pm

Course Catalog Description: A study of Asia in the age of Japanese and European colonialism; with an emphasis on economic, political, and diplomatic relations, culminating in independence movements and World War II.

Course Introduction: This course explores the history of East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea) from 1800 to 1945 broadly and with a special focus on the topic of Japanese and European imperialism. We will explore how dynastic decline, encounters with the West, and global warfare impacted the lives of ordinary individuals in the different but interconnected societies of China, Japan, and Korea. We will do this while keeping an eye on current events to see what relevance the age of imperialism has for today.

A major goal of this class is to conduct a short but thorough research paper assignment incorporating primary and secondary sources. A series of assignments will break down the research process into doable chunks and will culminate in a final paper and presentation.

Required Reading: Feel free to read any edition of the *Modern East Asia* textbook as long as it covers the years 1800 to the present. You can purchase or rent the two books below. They are also available on reserve at the library. You can check these books out from the circulation desk and read them in the library for 2 hours at a time.


Student Learning Outcomes: The desired student learning outcomes align with the mission of the Department of History, which seeks to assist students in “acquiring a fundamental understanding of world events and the manner in which humankind is affected by historical currents. The history program also aims to have its students write competently, read analytically, think critically and conduct research independently.”
After this course, students will be able to...

- identify and describe the major events of East Asia's nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century
- compare and contrast how China, Japan, and Korea responded to their encounters with imperialist powers
- differentiate what makes East Asia's modern experience distinctive from other nations
- explain how class, race, ethnicity, and gender affected individual experiences
- contextualize, analyze, and critique the thoughts and actions of historical actors
- evaluate and synthesize information from disparate sources
- construct an evidence-based argument based on primary and secondary sources

Assignments & Grading:
Please see the “Weighted Grade” column on Blackboard for your updated grade in this course.

- **Map Quiz (5%)**: This quiz on Sept. 6 will include major countries in Asia. A study guide is available on the course website.
- **Current Events (5%)**: Part of the reason we are studying Asia is because of its importance in the world today. You should be prepared to briefly explain an East Asian current event once a week. Any major news story concerning China, Japan, North Korea, and/or South Korea can be presented.
- **Participation (15%)**: Participation means your on-time attendance and daily participation in discussion and in-class writing activities.
- **Midterm Exam (20%)**: The midterm exam will have a variety of multiple-choice and essay questions. It will be held on Oct. 16. A study guide will be provided a week before the exam.
- **Final Exam (20%)**: The final exam will be the same as the midterm in format with a mix of multiple-choice and essay questions. A study guide will be provided a week before the exam.
- **Research Paper (35%)**: Students will choose a topic in consultation with the instructor that relates to East Asia during the period under consideration for this course, 1800 to 1945. The final paper will be 6-8 pages long. This grade will be broken down into several parts:
  - Brainstorming Assignment (2 points): due Sept. 20
  - Annotated Bibliography (2 points): due Oct. 4
  - Primary Source Analysis & Secondary Source Notes (2 points): due Oct. 11
  - Partial Rough Draft (2 points): due Oct. 25
  - Full Rough Draft (2 points): due Nov. 1
  - Final Draft (20 points): due Nov. 15
  - Research Presentation (5 points)
    - During weeks 14 & 15, each student will present their research paper to the class for 8-10 minutes.
Course Policies & Expectations: More than anything else, I ask that you be proactive about your progress in this course.

- Pay attention to the due dates.
- Complete the reading as due.
- Pay attention and participate during class meetings.
- If you are struggling, come to office hours for assistance and/or e-mail me.
- Study for exams.
- Visit the Writing Center for help with the research paper.

I know that you are all intelligent, capable people, and I want you to succeed in this course!

Attendance: My expectation is that you attend every class. I will keep track of your attendance through in-class activities. Excused absences will not count against you, but can only be secured with a doctor’s note, or other proof of extenuating circumstances. You may miss two class meetings for whatever reason without penalty. Additional absences will impact your participation grade and will likely mean that your grasp of the material will not be sufficient to perform well in the course.

I expect you to be on time to class. Please let me know if there is something that will consistently cause you to be late to class.

Participation: I expect you to be actively engaged during class meetings. This means you should come prepared to class having done the reading. You should also be prepared to take notes and discuss readings, assignments, and lecture material with your classmates and instructor during in-class activities. There will often be a written component accompanying these in-class activities, so that I can give you credit for your work.

It should go without saying that your interactions with classmates and the instructor should be conducted in a respectful manner. Please be quiet during lecture. Participate in a focused manner during in-class group work.

Late Assignments: While it is best if you submit your assignments on time, I understand that many of you have busy schedules. Do your best to submit work in a timely manner. It can be difficult to catch up if you fall too far behind in coursework. If you anticipate needing more time to complete an assignment, get in touch with me early (24 hours before the assignment is due, at the latest), and we can discuss the possibility of an extension.

Grading Scale
90-100 = A
80-89  = B
70-79  = C
60-69  = D
59 & < = F

Office Hours & Communication: Office hours will be held in Academic Building 210C at the times listed at the top of the syllabus and by appointment. Please do not hesitate to contact me at laurie.dickmeyer@angelo.edu if you need to schedule a meeting outside regularly scheduled office
I urge you to take advantage of the opportunity to introduce yourself to me, to ask questions that you may have, to discuss current or future assignments, or to seek private instruction on specific problems with which you might be wrestling.

I also encourage professional communication through email. Please remember to sign your email with your name and include the class name and meeting time in your email. I will respond to your email within 24 to 36 hours.

*Please use and check your angelo.edu email regularly (at least once a day).* I will use it to communicate with you outside of class time.

**Technology:** Computers and tablets are allowed in class *only* for note taking, research, and writing purposes. Please be mindful not to distract your classmates (or yourself) with your technology usage. If you need to make a call or send a text urgently, please step outside to do so.

Do not video or audio record lecture without permission. Contact the instructor if you have any questions about the lecture or slides.

Lecture slides and handouts will be uploaded to the website following each class meeting.

**Student Disability Services:** ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:

- **Ms. Dallas A. Swafford**
  - Director of Student Disability Services
  - 325-942-2047
  - dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
  - Houston Harte University Center

**Title IX Statement:** Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU’s Title IX Coordinator:

- **Michelle Nicole Boone, J.D.**
  - Director of Title IX Compliance
  - Michelle.boone@angelo.edu
  - 325-486-6357
  - Mayer Administration Building 204
**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**: A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

**Incomplete Grade Policy**: It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

**Student Conduct Policies**:

**Academic Integrity**: Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

- [Academic Integrity](#)

**Plagiarism**: Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

**Copyright Policy**: Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**General Policies Related to This Course**: All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

**Department of History**

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- Twitter: @angelosuhist (Tweet using #angelohist)
Acknowledgments
This course has been inspired by the History of Modern East Asia course syllabi by Kyle David and Matt Combs (University of California, Irvine).

WEEKLY SCHEDULE
Readings are listed by week. Please complete the reading assignments before Tuesday’s class each week.

UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIA

Week 1: Lands and Languages of East Asia
- August 28: Course Introduction + Overview + Key Terms (imperialism, East Asia, brief intro to the region & each major country)
- August 30

UNIT 2: THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Week 2: Qing China in the Eighteenth Century
Read Ch. 16
- September 4
- September 6: Map Quiz

Week 3: Korea and Japan in the Eighteenth Century
Read Ch. 17
- September 11
- September 13

UNIT 3: INTERNAL CONTRADICTIONS, EXTERNAL PRESSURES (1800-1860s)

Week 4: The Qing in Decline
Read Ch. 18
- September 18
- September 20: Research Paper Brainstorming Assignment due

Week 5: Japan on the Eve of Modernity
Read Ch. 19
- September 25
- September 27
UNIT 4: TRADITIONALIST REFORMS AND THE ORIGINS OF MODERNITY (1860s-1895)

Week 6: Japan’s Meiji Transformation
Read Ch. 20
- October 2
- October 4: Annotated Bibliography due

Week 7: Qing Reform And the Taiping Rebellion; The “Opening” of Korea
Read Ch. 21
- October 9
  - Study Guide for the Midterm Exam to be shared
- October 11: Primary Source Analysis & Secondary Source Notes due

UNIT 5: MEIJI JAPAN RISES, QING AND CHOSON FALL, 1895-1912

Week 8: The Rise of Meiji Japan
Read Ch. 22; Preface of The Man Awakened from Dreams
- October 16: Midterm Exam
- October 18

Week 9: The Fall of the Qing and Choson
Read Chs. 1 & 2 of The Man Awakened from Dreams
- October 23
- October 25: Partial Draft of Research Paper (at least 4 pages)

UNIT 6: TRIUMPHS, REVOLUTIONS, AND HARD TIMES (1910-31)

Week 10: Modernizing Korea and Colonial Rule
Read Ch. 23
Read Ch. 3 of The Man Awakened from Dreams
- October 30:
  - November 1: Full Research Paper Drafts due

Week 11: Remaking China
Read Ch. 24
Read Ch. 4 of The Man Awakened from Dreams
- November 6
- November 8
UNIT 7: THE FIFTEEN-YEAR WAR AND ANTI-JAPANESE WAR OF RESISTANCE (1931-45)

Week 12: War and Revolution in China
Read Ch. 25
Read Ch. 5 of The Man Awakened from Dreams
  ● November 13
  ● November 15: Final Research Papers due

Week 13: War and Aftermath in Japan
Read Ch. 26
Read Ch. 6 & Epilogue of The Man Awakened from Dreams
  ● November 20
  ● November 22: Thanksgiving (No Class)

UNIT 8: Research Presentations

Week 14: Research Presentations
  ● November 27: Student Presentations
  ● November 29: Student Presentations

Week 15
  ● December 4: Student Presentations
  ● December 6: Student Presentations
    ○ Study Guide for the Final Exam to be shared

Final Exam: Thursday, December 13, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm