Course title & code:
CCSS3411 Cultural History of Modern China /
CHES3105 Cultural History of China /
CHES6002 Critical Cultural History of China: Modern China

Lesson: TUTO Friday 8:30pm-9:15pm
LECT Friday 9:30am-11:15pm
Professor: John Lagerwey

This course proposes a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of Chinese cultural history conceived of as a succession of modes of rationality (philosophical, bureaucratic, and economic processes of rationalization). It will focus on the emergence of modern China in the Song-Yuan (960-1368) and of today’s China 1850 to the present. We will see how the modern attack on religion, redefined as "superstition", led not only to religious reform movements but also to a society in which science and the nation became the primary value systems promoted by the state.

**Topic 1 Religion and Thought in the Song, Jin, and Yuan**
All required readings are from *Modern Chinese Religion I: Song-Liao-Jin-Yuan* (960-1368 AD)

Lecture 1 September 6 “Modern China”

Lecture 2 September 13 State Religion
*Tutorial reading*: *Patricia Ebrey, “Song Government Policy,” Modern Chinese Religion I, pp. 73-137* (double credit)

Lecture 3 September 20 Local Society
Fu-shih Lin, “‘Old Customs and New Fashions’: An Examination of Features of Shamanism in Song China,” *Modern Chinese Religion I*, pp. 229-282

Lecture 4 September 27 Daoism in the Song and Jin

Lecture 5 October 4 Buddhism in the Song

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1 An asterisk* indicates required reading for all. All other items are additional suggested readings on which students may also prepare oral presentations on the day indicated.

Lecture 6 October 11 Confucianism in the Song (1)

Lecture 7 October 18 Confucianism in the Song (2)

**Topic 2 Structuring Values 1850-2015**
All readings are from *Modern Chinese Religion II: 1865-2015*

Lecture 8 October 25 Contemporary China

Lecture 9 November 1 Economics (and Art)
Walter Davis, “Art, Aesthetics, and Religion in Modern China,” *Modern Chinese Religion II*, pp. 197-257

Lecture 10 November 8 Science

Lecture 11 November 15 The Woman Question (and Marxism)
Tutorial reading: *Xiaofei Kang, “Women and the Religious Question in Modern China, Modern Chinese Religion II, pp. 491-559

April 5 Qing Ming

Lecture 12 November 22 Spirit Writing and Charity
Lecture 13 November 29 Religions Transformed

Sébastien Billoud, “The Hidden Tradition: Confucianism and Its Metamorphoses in Modern and Contemporary China,” Modern Chinese Religion II, pp. 767-805
Ji Zhe, “Buddhist Institutional Innovations,” Modern Chinese Religion II, pp. 731-766

Course Assessment

CCS3411/CHES3105
1. 15-minute oral presentation of two tutorial readings: 20% each
   Students should prepare a powerpoint presentation, with a hard copy for the professor.
2. 2 take-home tests, to be handed in on October 25 and December 6: 30% each
   The questions to be answered will be distributed at least two weeks in advance and will be based entirely on the required readings: they are designed to test your understanding of these readings.

CHES6002
1. 15-minute oral presentation of two tutorial readings: 15% each
   Students should prepare a powerpoint presentation and a one- or two-page handout for the professor.
2. 2 take-home tests, to be handed in on October 25 and December 6: 35% each
   The questions to be answered will be distributed at least two weeks in advance and will be based entirely on the required readings: they are designed to test your understanding of these readings.

Course assignments: please follow the CUHK rules concerning submission:
1. Each student must upload a soft copy of each completed assignment to the plagiarism detection engine CUPIDE, at the URL: http://cupide.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/student
2. The system will issue a receipt which also contains a declaration of honesty, which is the same as that in http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/p09.htm. The declaration should be signed, and the receipt stapled to a hard copy of the assignment, which should be handed in during class on October 25 (test 1) and placed in the professor’s mailbox by December 6 (test 2).