

**Division of Humanities  
Tentative Course Syllabus**

**Course Code:** HUMA 1440  
**Course Title:** Modern China [C]  
**Course Offered in:** Fall 2023  
**Course Instructor:** Professor Lawrence Zhang

**Course Description:** This general history course introduces students to China's political, economic, social, and cultural life during the 19th and 20th centuries. A survey of major political, social, and cultural events and changes in China from the late-imperial period to the founding of the People's Republic of China. The course focuses on dramatic changes in China in order to review how these changes have radically reshaped Chinese society, economy, politics, and culture.

**Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):**

	Course ILOs
1	paraphrase the most important political, economic, social, and cultural events in China in the past 200 years
2	analyze the causes and significance of the important historical events in modern China;
3	summarize the general trends in modern Chinese history such as the rise of nationalism and Communism so that they may better understand what is happening in China today.
4	compare and contrast the influences of historical and revolutionary legacies to China

**Course Outline:**

Week	Topic
1	Introduction
2	Late Imperial Political System and Chinese Frontiers
3	The Opium Wars
4	The Taiping and Other Rebellions
5	The Self Strengthening Movement
6	Foreign Invasions
7	The End of Empire

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8	Midterm Exam
9	The May 4 Movement
10	Republican China
11	Mao and Rural Revolution
12	The Second Sino-Japanese War
13	Civil War and Communist Victory

**Planned Assessment Tasks:**

Midterm: 40%

Final Exam: 40%

Attendance: 20%

**Readings:**

Jonathan D. Spence: *The Search for Modern China* (New York: Norton, 1990, 1999).

One or two chapters are allotted each week.