

GENA2322A General History of China (in English) [中國通史]

2nd Term, 2019-20 (Fridays 1:30 – 3:15 pm at NAH213)

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This course examines the development of the major Chinese schools of thoughts, such as Confucianism, Taoism, and Legalism (pendulum cycle) as well as the main themes and events in Chinese history. The course also examines the greatness of Han and Tang as well as the dynastic imperial China and modern/20th century China (from ancient to modern).

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Comprehend the Chinese thought, especially Confucianism, Taoism, and Legalism;**
- 2. Understand the development and main themes in Chinese history;**
- 3. Arouse the students' interests in Chinese history and culture.**
- 1. Jan. 11, 2020 Introduction: Historical & Philosophical Background (Hsiao's *A History of Chinese Political Thought*. Introduction, pp. 3 – 27).
Major Themes: The Theory of Pendulum or Cycle of Confucianism, Taoism, and Legalism (The Intellectual Foundations in the Legacy of Ancient China). (Hsiao, Chapter I: Various Schools of Political Thought in the Pre-Ch'in Age, pp. 28-78).**
- 2. Jan. 17 The Life and Times of Confucius (Hsiao, Chapter II: Confucius, 551-479 B.C., pp. 79-142; and Lau, D.C., tr. *Confucius: The Analects*. Introduction, vii-xlix) and Mencius & Hsun Tzu.**
- 3. Jan. 24 HOLIDAY**
- 4. Jan. 31 The Thought of Lao Tzu and Chuang Tzu (Hsiao, Chapter V: Lao Tzu and Chuang Tzu, pp. 273-318; and Lau, tr. *Tao Te Ching*, Introduction, ix-xl).**
- 5. Feb. 7 Legalism in the Ch'in and Han Dynasties (Hsiao, Chapter VIII, pp. 427-468).
Confucianism, the Yin-Yang School, & Legalism in Han China, and the Nature of Disillusionment of the Later Han Thinkers (*Cambridge History of China*, Vol. 1: The Ch'in & Han Empires. Chapter XV: Confucian, Legalist, and Taoist Thought in Later Han, pp. 766-807).**
- 6. Feb. 14 Mid-term (50%)**
- 7. Feb. 21 Traditional Chinese Medicine**
- 8. Feb. 28 Legalism under Sui Wen-ti, and Confucianism, Taoism & Buddhism in T'ang China (*Cambridge History of China*)**
- 9. Mar. 6 The Greatness of T'ang China (*Cambridge History of China*)**
- 10. Mar. 13 The Prosperities and Weaknesses of the Sung Dynasties and the Mongol Yuan Dynasty**
- 11. Mar. 20 The Centralized Government of the Ming Dynasty**

12. Mar. 27 The Rise and Fall of the Ch'ing China (Hsu, *The Rise of Modern China*)
13. Apr. 3 Modern China in the 19th century (Hsu, *The Rise of Modern China*);
Modern China in the 20th century: 1911 Revolution, the Sian Incident, 1936,
and the establishment of the Peoples' Republic of China (Hsu, *The Rise of
Modern China*)
14. Apr. 10 HOLIDAY
15. Apr. 17 Conclusion and Overall Review
16. Centralized Examination (to be arranged by the RES)

Assessment Method:

Mid-term Quiz	50%
Centralized Final Exam.	50%

Main Reference:

Hsiao, Kung-chuan. *A History of Chinese Political Thought*. Tr. by Frederick Mote. Princeton: Princeton U. Press, 1979.

*Confucius. *The Analects*. Tr. by D.C. Lau. 2nd ed. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1992.

*Mencius. *Mencius*. Tr. by D.C. Lau. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1984.

*Lao Tzu. *Tao Te Ching*. Tr. by D.C. Lau. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1982.

Cambridge History of China. Vol.1: The Ch'in and Han Empires.
Eds. by Denis C. Twitchett & Michael Loewe. Cambridge:
Cambridge U. Press, 1986.

Creel, H.G. *Chinese Thought*. Chicago: U. of Chicago Press, 1953.

-----, *What is Taoism?* Chicago: U. of Chicago Press, 1970.

Fung, Yu-lan. *A History of Chinese Philosophy*. Tr. by Derk
Bodde. Princeton: Princeton U. Press, 1952.

Hsu, Immanuel. *The Rise of Modern China*. Oxford: Oxford U. Press, 2000.

*Mote, Frederick W. *Intellectual Foundations of China*. 2nd ed., New York:
McGraw-Hill, 1989.

Weber, Max. *The Religion of China: Confucianism and Taoism*.

Tr. & ed. by Hans H. Gerth, with an Introduction by C.K. Yang. New York: Free
Press, 1951.

錢穆：《國史大綱》。臺北：國立編譯館，1984年。

黃仁宇：《中國大歷史》。臺北：聯經，1993年。

余英時：《中國思想傳統的現代詮釋》。臺北：聯經出版事業公司，1987年。

Keywords: Chinese history, Confucianism, Taoism, Legalism, modern China.