

**HISTORY 3617G**  
**World War, Empire, and Nation in the Asia-Pacific**  
**Fall/Winter 2022-23**  
**Wednesdays 9:30 AM-12:30 PM**  
**Course delivery in-person**

**Instructor: Dr. Carl Young**

Office Hours: Wednesdays & Thursdays 1:00-2:00 PM

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**This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.**

**Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic**

The intent is for this course to be delivered in-person but should the COVID-19 landscape shift, the course will be delivered asynchronously (eg., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. The course will return to an in-person mode of delivery when the University and local health authorities deem it safe to do so.

**Course Description:**

An investigation of the background and consequences of the First and Second World Wars in the Asia-Pacific region, focusing on Asian as well as outside actors. It will also deal with political, economic, cultural, and social aspects of this period and how these affected imperialism, nationalism, conflict, and diplomacy.

**Prerequisite(s):**

1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Antirequisite(s):**

The former 3611E.

**Course Syllabus:**

The region that we know as the Asia-Pacific or Pacific Asia encompasses the regions most commonly known as East Asia (modern China, Japan, and Korea) and Southeast Asia (modern Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Burma Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, East Timor, and the Philippines). The region houses a high proportion of the world's population and has long had a large economic and political importance. At present, the

Asia-Pacific is gaining increased economic and political prominence because of its industrial development and large and powerful states.

The aim of this course is to investigate historical developments within the international system in the Asia-Pacific and the region's interactions with the wider world, mainly concentrating on the background and consequences of World War I and World War II in the Asia-Pacific region. The course will be focussed on Asian actors during this period, although it will also deal with the important involvement of outside countries. It will also deal with political, economic, cultural and social aspects of this period and how these affected conflict and diplomacy. It will begin with the effects of imperialism, political change, and economic development on the region before World War I and how this contributed to the setting of the First World War in the Asia-Pacific. Although the Asia-Pacific front of World War I did not last very long, it did have important consequences on the region and the subsequent peace settlement also reverberated in the Asia-Pacific. The course will also deal with the interwar period and how the growth of nationalism, political and economic instability, and Japan's renewed push for imperial conquest provided the setting for the Pacific theatre in World War II. The course will conclude with the Asia-Pacific front of World War II up to 1945 and the ongoing legacies of this period on the region.

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

- Provide accurate information about the processes, people, and events behind the developments and processes of the history of international relations in the Asia-Pacific in the first half of the twentieth century. These will include transitions in the regional systems of international relations, imperialism, nationalism, and interactions with other regions.
- Describe the importance of regional developments in relation to wider global trends
- Analyze and discuss secondary and primary sources in dealing with a variety of issues and approaches to the history of international relations in the Asia-Pacific
- Synthesise primary and secondary sources to produce a research paper

### **Course Materials:**

Selected readings available on the course OWL website.

### **Methods of Evaluation:**

Term Paper (approximately 10-15 pages)	30%
Final Exam	25%
2 Article/Document analyses (15% each: 3-6 pages)	30%
Discussion Participation and Response papers	<u>15%</u>
	100%

The term paper will be a research paper on a topic of your choice in the history of international relations in the Asia-Pacific in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Suggested topics will be handed out early in the beginning of the semester. The suggested length of the papers will be approximately 10-15 pages. The paper will be due on **March 15**.

The final exam will take place in the April final exam period. It will be a 3-hour exam composed of a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

The two article analyses will be based around the readings for each class. During the semester, students will choose any **2** of the articles indicated with a “\*\*” on the reading list and write a 3-6 page paper each on the articles. These papers are **due on the day of the relevant seminar in which the particular reading is assigned. This assignment will not normally be accepted late. The last chance to hand in a 1<sup>st</sup> article analysis, for articles between Jan. 18 and Feb. 15, is Feb. 15. The last chance to hand in a 2<sup>nd</sup> article analysis, for articles between March 1 and April 5, is April 5.** This assignment is more than merely a summary. The main purpose of the paper is to bring forth the main issues of the article or series of documents, discuss how the author(s) bring forth their point of view, and also analyze the effectiveness of the readings in conveying information and opinion, as well as their contribution to the topic under discussion in the particular seminar.

Discussion and reflections on the readings are an important part of the course and will be worth 10% of the total mark. The class will be divided into 2 tutorial groups and these will meet on alternate weeks in the last hour of the class. For the weeks in which one’s group’s tutorial is not meeting, students will be required to write up a short 1-2 page informal response paper based on the readings of the week detailing their thoughts and reflections on the readings. This does not require formal referencing **and will be handed in on OWL for the relevant Wednesday class by midnight** and marked on-line. Both discussion participation and the response papers will be marked on a scale of 1 to 5 for each class and at the end of the semester, the marks will be added together to give an overall participation mark.

If you should have any questions pertaining to the structure or content of the course, please do not hesitate to contact me during my office hours, or by phone or e-mail to make an appointment.

### **Lateness and Absence Policy**

The term papers will be accepted late. However, there will be a penalty of 2% a day that will be applied for every day the assignments are late, including weekends and holidays. In case of family emergency or illness, penalties can be removed from assignments by undergoing the process laid out in the next paragraph relating to academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds. The article/document analyses will normally not be accepted late. If you have missed class, try and get notes from another member of the class.

Students are reminded that academic accommodation on medical grounds can in most instances **only** be granted if supported by a **University of Western Ontario Student Medical Certificate**. This form can be accessed at the following website: [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_document.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf) or be picked up at the Academic Counselling Office in the student’s home faculty. (For Social Science students 2105 SSC.) Further details on this policy can be found at the following website: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>

If you do hand in your assignment late, please hand it in to the wooden drop-off box outside the History Department office at Lawson Hall. The staff will pick up the assignment and stamp it with a date and time and put it in my mailbox. This provides greater security and clarity for the handing in of the assignment. Please avoid shoving the paper under my office door if at all possible, because it could get lost.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

It is expected that proper footnoting and referencing will be used for all the papers of this course. Plagiarism is a serious offence and can bring forth severe academic penalties. Please refer to the University calendar and to the department website for more details. More detailed information is provided at the end of this course outline.

### **Course Schedule and Readings:**

(Readings with a '\*\*' are eligible for the article analysis assignments)

#### **Jan. 11—Introduction**

#### **Jan. 18—The Setting: The Asia-Pacific in the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

Jonathan Spence, *The Search for Modern China (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*(New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1999), p. 258-263, 271-277

Conrad Schirokauer et al, *A Brief History of Japanese Civilization* (Thomas Wadsworth, 2006), p. 216-228

Nicholas Tarling (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia (Vol. 2)*(Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1992), p. 79-130

\*\* Ching Fatt Yong, “A Historical Turning Point: The 1911 Revolution and its Impact on Singapore’s Chinese Society” in Lee Lai To and Lee Hock Guan (eds.), *Sun Yat-sen, Nanyang, and the 1911 Revolution* (Singapore: ISEAS Publications, 2011), p. 148-169

\*\* “Coup d’État in Three Acts: The Taishō Political Crisis, 1912-1913” in Danny Orbach, *Curse on This Country: The Rebellious Army of Imperial Japan* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2017), p. 129-157

***Group 1 meets for discussion; Group 2 hands in response papers***

#### **Jan. 25—World War I in the Asia-Pacific**

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century (4<sup>th</sup> edition)*(Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014), p. 171, 174-177

Jonathan Spence, *The Search for Modern China (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*(New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1999), p. 277-289

\*\* “Imperialism in the Service of Democracy: Katō Takaaki and the Twenty-One Demands” in Frederick R. Dickinson, *War and National Re-invention: Japan in the Great War, 1914-1919*, (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Asia Center, 1999), p. 84-116

\*\* “Work” in Xu Guoqi, *Strangers on the Western Front: Chinese Workers in the Great War* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2011), p. 80-102

***Group 2 meets for discussion; Group 1 hands in response papers***

**Feb. 1—An Uneasy Peace: The Consequences of World War I on the Asia-Pacific**

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century (4<sup>th</sup> edition)*(Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014), p. 196-198

Igor V. Naumov, *The History of Siberia* (Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2006), 163-176

\*\* Tadashi Nakatani, “What Peace Meant to Japan: The Changeover at Paris in 1919” in Tosh Minohara et al (eds.), *The Decade of the Great War: Japan and the Wider World in the 1910’s* (Leiden: Brill, 2015), p. 168-188

\*\* Gi-wook Shin and Rennie Moon, “1919 in Korea: National Resistance and Contending Legacies”, *Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 78, No. 2 (May 2019), p. 399-408

\*\* Paul E. Dunscomb, “A Great Disobedience Against the People: Popular Press Criticism of Japan’s Siberian Intervention, 1918-22”, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 1 (Winter 2006), p. 53-81

***Group 1 meets for discussion; Group 2 hands in response papers***

**Feb. 8—Empire and Nationalism in Colonial East and Southeast Asia in the 1920’s and early 1930’s**

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century (4<sup>th</sup> edition)*(Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014), p. 157-168

Norman G. Owen (ed.), *The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2005), p. 252-267

R. Keith Schoppa, *East Asia: Identities and Change in the Modern World, 1700 to Present* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008), p. 257-282

\*\* Sandra Khor Manickan, “Common Ground: Race and the Colonial Universe in British Malaya”, *Journal of Southeast Asian History*, Vol. 40, No. 3 (Oct. 2009), p. 593-612

\*\* “Post-March First Policy Reform and Assimilation” in Mark Caprio, *Japanese Assimilation Policies in Colonial Korea, 1910-1945* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2009), p. 111-140

\*\* “Prison Cells and Party Cells: The Indochinese Communist Party in Prison” in Peter Zinoman, *The Colonial Bastille: A History of Imprisonment in Vietnam, 1862-1940* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2001), p. 200-239

***Group 2 meets for discussion; Group 1 hands in response papers***

## **Feb. 15—Chaos, Disunity, and Nationalism in China in the 1920's**

R. Keith Schoppa, *Revolution and its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese History* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)(Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006), p. 181-200

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century* (4<sup>th</sup> edition)(Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014), p. 178-186

\*\* *Sources of Chinese Tradition* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), Vol. II (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000), p. 314-347

\*\* Debin Ma, “The Rise of Modern Shanghai, 1900-1936: An Institutional Perspective” in Billy K.L. So and Ramon H. Myers (eds.), *The Treaty Port Economy in Modern China: Empirical Studies of Institutional Change and Economic Performance* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2011), p. 33-46

***Group 1 meets for discussion; Group 2 hands in response papers***

\*\*\*\*\****Last Chance to hand in 1<sup>st</sup> Article Analysis—Feb. 15***\*\*\*\*\*

Feb. 18-26—Reading Week—No class

## **March 1—Japan: Democratic Hope and Failure and the Rise of Militarism, 1920-1936**

Frederick Dickinson, *World War I and the Triumph of a New Japan* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2013), p. 84-102

James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2002), p. 405-440

\*\* “The Geneva Years” in Thomas W. Burkman, *Japan and the League of Nations: Empire and World Order, 1914-1938* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2008), p. 104-141

\*\* “Manchukuo and the Dream of Pan-Asia” in Eri Hotta, *Pan-Asianism and Japan's War, 1931-1945* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), p. 107-139

***Group 2 meets for discussion; Group 1 hands in response papers***

## **March 8—The China War in the late 1930's and the Road to Pearl Harbor**

S.C.M. Paine, *The Japanese Empire: Grand Strategy from the Meiji Restoration to the Pacific War* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2017), p. 109-139

Diana Lary, *China's Republic* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2007), p. 112-149

\*\* W.G. Beasley, *Japanese Imperialism: 1894-1945* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987), p. 198-219

\*\* “A sort of wartime normal” in Rana Mitter, *China's War with Japan, 1937-1945: The Struggle for Survival* (London; Allen Lane, 2013), p. 171-195

***Group 1 meets for discussion; Group 2 hands in response papers***

### **March 15—World War II in the Asia-Pacific: Japan’s Short Triumph**

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century (4<sup>th</sup> edition)*(Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014), p. 209-220

\*\* *Sources of Japanese Tradition (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), Vol. II, Part II* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2006), p. 288-319

\*\* “The Patriotic Collaborators” in Jeremy A. Yellen, *The Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere: When Total Empire Met Total War* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press), p. 105-140

***Group 2 meets for discussion; Group 1 hands in response papers***

\*\*\*\*\***Term Paper due—March 15**\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\***Response papers and article analyses for the week of March 15 are due March 20 by midnight**\*\*\*\*\*

### **March 22—World War II: Wartime Empire**

Nicholas Tarling, *A Sudden Rampage: The Japanese Occupation of Southeast Asia, 1941-1945* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2001), p. 144-217

\*\* “Procurement of comfort women and their lives as sexual slaves” in Yuki Tanaka, *Japan’s Comfort Women: Sexual Slavery and Prostitution during World War II and the US Occupation* (London: Routledge, 2002), p. 33-60

\*\* Shigeru Sato, “ ‘Economic Soldiers’ in Java: Indonesian Laborers Mobilized for Agricultural Projects” in Paul H. Kratoska (ed.), *Asian Labor in the Wartime Japanese Empire: Unknown Histories* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2005), p. 129-151

\*\* Tarak Barhawi, “Culture and Combat in the Colonies: The Indian Army in the Second World War”, *Journal of Contemporary History*, Vol. 41, No. 2 (April 2006), p. 325-355

***Group 1 meets for discussion; Group 2 hands in response papers***

### **March 29— World War II in the Asia-Pacific: A Setting Sun**

\*\* Tsuyoshi Hasegawa, “The Soviet Factor in Ending the Pacific War: From the Neutrality Pact to Soviet Entry into the War in August 1945” in Tsuyoshi Hasegawa (ed.), *The End of the Pacific War: Reappraisals* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2021), p. 189-227

\*\* “A Terrible New Weapon” in Haruko Taya Cook & Theodore F. Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History* (New York: The New Press, 1992), p. 382-399

\*\* John W. Dower, *Embracing Defeat* (New York: W.W. Norton and Co., 1999), p. 254-273

***Group 2 meets for discussion; Group 1 hands in response papers***

## **April 5—Legacies: The Ongoing Reverberations of the Two World Wars on the Contemporary Asia-Pacific**

Conrad Schirokauer and Donald N. Clark, *Modern East Asia: A Brief History (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*(Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2008), p. 324-353

Nicholas Tarling, *Imperialism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge, 2001), p. 237-284

\*\* Alexandra Mackinnon, “The Battle of Hong Kong, Forgotten and Remembered: C Force, Cultural Memory and Commemoration”, *Canadian Military History*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (2021), p. 1-24

\*\* Phillip Deery, “Malaya, 1948: Britain’s Asian Cold War?”, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (Winter 2007), p. 29-54

***Both groups meet together for discussion***

**\*\*\*\*\*Last chance to hand in 2<sup>nd</sup> Article Analysis—April 5\*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*\*Final Exam during April examination period\*\*\*\*\***

### **Use of Electronic Devices:**

No electronic devices are permitted in tests or examinations.

### **Additional Statements:**

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness