

**East Asian Symposium (NCTA) 2008**  
**Eastern Oregon University**  
**103 Ackerman Hall**  
**La Grande, Oregon**

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**Introduction**

While the 20<sup>th</sup> century has often been labeled, “The American Century,” the 21<sup>st</sup> century has been forecast as “The Pacific Century.” Whether this will be true or not, certainly East Asia contains some of the richest cultures and dynamic economies of interest to Americans. This course will help our teachers gain some background to help prepare our young people to understand the countries of China, Japan, and Korea. The course will examine the following primary themes:

- Introduce the basic social, philosophical and cultural foundations of East Asia
- Survey the broad sweep of traditional history
- Focus on the Western impact and subsequent modernization efforts
- Understand twentieth century political transformations
- Examine the current political and economic conditions

**Readings**

The class will consist of lectures, films, interactive group work, and discussions. Please pay attention to the reading schedule; for those taking the class for credit, reading response essays will be due at the beginning of each class session.

**NOTE: This is a tentative schedule. Although dates are fixed, assignments and lectures are subject to change. Please check the website for up-to-date changes re: readings and lectures**

**Session I: Foundations of East Asian Civilization**

**Session I reading due:**

**Friday, March 7, 2008 - 6:00-9:00 pm**

6:00-6:15 Introduction: Resources, syllabus, readings, expectations, credit option

6:15-6:45 Introductions of presenters and participants

6:45-7:30 Language and Culture: Chinese, Japanese, and Korean

7:30-7:45 Break

7:45-9:00 Origins: Mythology and ancient history in China and Japan

**Saturday, March 8, 2008 - 8:30 am-4:00 pm**

8:30-9:15 Confucianism

9:15-10:00	Daoism (Taoism)
10:00-10:30	Shinto
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	The Buddhist Conquest of East Asia
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	China's Early Imperial Period: Creation of an Empire
2:00-2:15	Break, with Chinese tea
2:15-2:35	Introduction to Course Exercise: The Chinese Dynasties Workshop
2:35-4:00	Courtly Japan and Early Korean Kingdoms

## **Session II: East Asia in Transition**

### **Session II reading due:**

#### **Friday, April 18, 2008 - 6:00-9:00 pm**

6:00-7:30	The Mongol Conquest and the Silk Road ( <i>Journey to the West</i> )
7:30-8:45	Break
8:00-9:00	Joseon Korea

#### **Saturday, April 19, 2008 - 8:30 am-4:00 pm**

8:30-9:45	Medieval and Tokugawa Japan
9:45-10:30	Recess: Taiji quan
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	Japan's Meiji Restoration
12:00-1:00	Lunch and video (Chinese and Japanese drama)
1:00-2:30	China Marches to Modernity
2:30-2:50	Chinese Dynasties Workshop
2:50-3:00	Break
3:00-4:00	Discussion of Teaching Applications with Gena Marker

## Session III: Modern East Asia

### Session III reading due:

#### Friday, May 9, 2008 - 6:00-9:00 pm

6:00-7:45 World War II in East Asia

7:45-8:00 Refreshment Break

8:00-9:00 The People's Republic of China: From Marx to the Market

#### Saturday, May 10, 2008 - 8:30 am-4:15 pm

8:30-9:45 Guest Speaker: Dr. Eric Cunningham, Department of History, Gonzaga University  
Topic: Japan in the Postwar World, Democratic and Economic Revitalization

9:45-10:00 Refreshment Break

10:00-12:30 Film: *Not One Less*

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:45-2:45 Chinese Dynasties Workshop - Presentations

2:45-3:00 Break

3:00-4:00 Professor Jodi Varon, English/Writing Department - EOU,  
Topic: Asian American Literature

4:00-4:15 Wrap-up & Discussion of follow-up