

MO3335: The Japanese Empire and its Aftermath, 1873-1952

Tutor: Konrad M. Lawson

Fall, 2017



Overview

0. 15.9 **Introduction: Japanese History and the Transitions of the 19th Century**
1. 19.9 **Entering the World Stage and Building an Empire**
2. 26.9 **Authority, Ethnography, and Assimilation**
3. 03.10 **The Idea of Colonial Modernity and its Distortions**
4. 10.10 **Settler Colonialism and Migration in the Empire**
5. 17.10 **Imperial Innovation in Manchuria and the Development of Pan-Asianism**
6. **Independent Learning Week - No meeting**
7. 31.10 **The Sino-Japanese Conflict and the Kōminka Movement**
8. 07.11 **The Empire in Southeast Asia and Dying for the Emperor**
9. 14.11 **Long Essay Discussion and Pair Writing**
10. 21.11 **The Anti-Empire, and Overcoming Modernity**
11. 28.11 **Decolonisation and the Politics of Memory**
12. 05.12 **Revision Session**

Key Details

Lecturer: Konrad M. Lawson **Email:** kml8@st-andrews.ac.uk

Meets: Fall, 2017 - Tue 13:00-15:00 **Location:** St Katharine's Lodge 1.10

Office: St. Katharine's Lodge B3 **Office Hours:** Tue 15:00-16:00

Description

This module traces the history and contradictions of Japan's empire from the first debate over how to "punish" Korea in 1873 and through to consider the early postwar aftermath of Japanese defeat in 1945. We will compare Japanese colonialism in Taiwan, Korea and Okinawa to that of Western empires, the important role of the Sino-Japanese war, and the development of nationalist and pan-Asian ideals.

Assessment Summary

60% Coursework

2 Short Essays (600-800 Words 15% each of coursework) - Thursday of Week 3 5pm; Thursday of Week 7 5pm

Long Essay (5,000 Words 30% of coursework) - Thursday of Week 11 5pm

Presentation (20% of coursework)

40% Exam

Take-Home Examination - Date TBD, Answer 3 out of 6 Questions, 10 Hours

Learning Outcomes

- Understand how imperialism was translated and transformed by Japan
- Assess the role of Japanese empire on the development of China, Japan, and southeast Asia
- Analyse the creative responses in Japan and throughout Asia to ideas of modernity as seen through the rise of pan-Asianism and competing resistance nationalisms

Assignments

The assessed portion of the coursework for this module consists of one long essay, a presentation, and two short essays. In addition, students are required to come prepared each week having completed the assigned reading and ready to discuss them.

Note: Paper submissions are not requested for any of these. You may upload the submissions directly onto MMS. Your handout for presentations should also be uploaded to the presentation section of MMS by the beginning of class on the day of the presentation, but hard copies of this for the class should be brought for distribution to everyone.

Headers and Formatting

At the top of all your written work or on a cover page, please include:

- The date of submission
- The assignment you are submitting (e.g. Short Essay 1, Long Essay, etc.)
- Your student number
- A specific title describing the contents (for short essay, write Prospectus and proposed essay title, or Critical Review and full text citation)
- The total number of words (use the word count feature of your word processor)

When formatting your assignments, please follow these guidelines:

- Add page numbers
- Use a minimum of 12 sized font
- Use a serif font (such as Times Roman, Georgia, Garamond), not a sans serif font (such as Arial, Helvetica, Verdana)
- Please double space your essays

Other aspects of formatting are highlighted in the School of History style sheet. See the following section.

Footnotes and References

Please carefully read the St Andrews School of History Style Sheet:

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/infoug/stylesheet.html>

This document, sections 1-4, contains extremely valuable information on how to compose your essay, including how to format your footnotes and bibliography. In particular, please follow the instructions for footnotes carefully. See below for more on the simpler citation method for use in the critical review essay and in the final examination.

Short Essays

There are two short essays for this course which should be between 600-800 words in length, including any footnotes. They are designed to help you in preparation for your longer essay and may take one of two forms:

1. **Prospectus:** You may write a short essay that summarises the argument you plan to make in the coming long essay, or are exploring at the moment for your longer essay, but also says something about the sources you will use and approach you will take. Look to article, dissertation, and book abstracts as the model for this assignment. Write the prospectus as if the long essay is already written and complete and you are merely summarizing what it has accomplished. You can find these abstracts for academic presentations, for example, on the websites of annual conferences such as the AAS (Association of Asian Studies) meeting or countless other conferences. Article abstracts, another possible model, are found at the beginning of articles of many journal articles. This is an excellent opportunity to test some early ideas you have, or give me an indication of where you are going with your thinking. Due to the very short nature of this assignment, state your topic clearly along with a prospective argument for your essay, then write in a bit more detail about in greater depth discussing how you will use certain sources, what new approach you will take or what existing approaches you are hoping to contest. This exercise can be very helpful to you in processing your thinking about the long essay, and giving me an opportunity to offer feedback along the way. Please note: your first prospectus may come very early in the semester, but still write confidently about a topic an argument even if you are not sure if you will actually able to follow through in the final essay or suspect you may have to change topics.
2. **Critical Review:** If you are not willing to write a prospectus, or if you have already submitted one prospectus and are happy with the feedback, you may instead write a critical review of one secondary source in the form of a book (which is a minimum of 150 pages in length) that you have selected to help you write your long essay. In it you should state clearly and briefly what the book argues and what you have extracted from it that will help you make the argument in your longer essay. Your critical review should include your evaluation of

the work. What are its strong points? Where does it fall short? Include a full reference for the book at the top and you may make reference to page numbers within by means of simple page numbers in parentheses rather than full footnotes. When writing a critical review, consider using book reviews in major academic journals as your model.

You may decide to write one of each of these, or two versions of the prospectus. Writing two versions of the prospectus is recommended when you have significantly shifted the focus of your ideas or completely changed topic for the long essay. You may not submit a second prospectus which is merely a slight revision of the first. Please mark at the top of your short essay which you are selecting, prospectus or critical review, and, in the former, include a title for the proposed long essay.

Questions to consider as you write the short essay:

- Was my short essay written in a coherent and highly focused manner, and avoid distraction or unnecessary information?
- If I am writing a critical review, did I include a concise overview of what the source is about?
- If I am writing a critical review, did I tie the arguments of the book to where I hope to go in the argument for my longer essay?
- If I am writing a critical review, did I include an evaluation of the work with a specific example of its strong and/or problematic aspects?
- If I am writing a prospectus, did I include a concise presentation of what I plan to argue in my coming long essay, even if I'm not yet entirely sure if I can demonstrate the argument?
- If I am writing a prospectus have I situated the essay I am proposing to write in terms of the existing historiography?
- If I am writing a prospectus, did I include some reference to the kinds of sources I will be using, or hope to use in making the argument?
- If I am writing a prospectus, did I include a specific example or two illustrating the argument I will be making in the long essay to come?
- If I am writing a second prospectus, have I either shifted my focus or topic enough to merit a second prospectus?

Long Essay

The essay for the course is worth 50% of the total coursework and has a limit of 5,000 words including footnotes. The process of composing an essay of this length is made far easier if you make steady progress throughout the semester rather than face potential panic and disappointment nearer the deadline. Narrow down an area of interest, read within this area of interest, isolate a few questions of interest, carry out further reading and analysis, and then proceed to write an essay which makes a convincing historical argument.

Some class time in most weeks will be dedicated to discussing the essay. It is not uncommon for a student to change topics once or twice during the semester, as the feasibility of one topic or another is evaluated and the sources explored. My suggestion is that you answer two questions for yourself very early in your research: 1) Once you have a general topic or area of history you are interested in, think about what kinds of arguments or historical approaches have been applied to this area before that will serve as the starting point for your intervention? 2) What kinds of primary sources will I have realistic access to for use in the essay unless I want to make a purely historiographical essay based exclusively on secondary materials.

Making an Argument

The academic study of history embraces change in the past as a way to explore solutions to particular problems. The object of an analytical historical research essay is not to tell us simply what happened, but to use what happened in order to make a historical argument about some problem clearly defined. For example, if an essay was written (to take an example from Chinese history) about some aspect of the Boxer Rebellion, it should not consider its task complete when the major facts of the Boxer Rebellion have been retold. That is closer to the genre of the encyclopaedia entry than of academic historical study. It should endeavour to use the Boxer Rebellion as an opportunity to tell us something, to make an argument about something: what does the rebellion reveal about the nature of Western imperialism? The rise of new religious movements in China? The weakness of the late Qing state? The rise of Japan? And so on. The possibilities are many, but in every case, they offer an answer to the question: So

what? Why does this history matter? History can and should tell stories, but a research essay embeds a story within an arc of an argument - if it contains narrative elements, it must also always include an analytic element.

The historical argument in your long essays, in particular, should be clearly and unambiguously stated in the span of 1-3 sentences somewhere in the opening third of the essay, preferably in the opening paragraph or two. It should not be obvious, trivial, or a well-known and rarely contested fact. Challenging as false an existing historian's argument that has become considered obvious and rarely contested, however, is one ambitious way to find your way to an interesting and original argument but only if your evidence is sufficient. Alternatively, if you have found evidence that supports the existing arguments of historians in a given area of research in a new set of sources, from a fresh perspective, or in greater depth, or in a comparative light, that also often yields a strong argument. If you have identified a debate in the historiography and wish to take a position on it without simply repeating all of the points made by one of the participants of the debate, that can also yield an essay with a strong argument but you should take care to acknowledge the position and evidence of the other side.

Presenting your Argument: There are a number of different ways to write a strong essay and present the argument, but in this module, I would like to strongly encourage you to "front-load" your argument and do so clearly, that is, to present clearly early in the essay what it is you will argue and why it is important. For example, avoid sentences such as "I will explain..." or "I aim to understand..." or "I will explore..." unless such sentences are immediately followed by the explanation, what you ended up understanding, or what the result of your exploration was. Otherwise, there is a danger that your essay will merely provide a summary of some quantity of information you have found, rather than present the results of your analysis of that research in a useful way. In other words, do not use the introduction to make predictions about what you will do, but tell the reader in very clear terms what you **have argued and shown** in the essay. There are many ways to do this in more or less subtle language but there is no harm in a very clear, "In this essay, I will argue that..." followed by a short overview of what kinds of evidence you will use, how your argument fits into a historiographical context (how your argument relates to what other historians have to say about the matter), and why you think it is important.

For example replace:

In this essay, I will explore the relationship between the alarm clock sleep function and our productivity in modern life.

with something like:

I will argue that the alarm clock sleep function is a major hindrance to our productivity without contributing at all to our rest after a night of sleep. I will base this upon the studies of Hansen and Jenson in 1983 and in a series of interviews with wise old people in 2014. This argument is important because, as I will show, evidence shows that the increased availability of time in the morning to eat a healthier breakfast, carry out some light house chores, and do morning exercise, not only allows for greater evening rest after a long day of work, but decreases the tiredness we feel throughout the day.

Sticking to your Argument: All of us come across many interesting stories, anecdotes, and sub-points that we want to share in writing our essays. However, it is important to stay sharply focused on the argument you are going to make in the essay. After you have finished writing your essay, read it through and for each paragraph and sentence ask yourself if it supported your argument, provided essential background to establishing your argument, or else if it does not offer much of a contribution. If it doesn't, cut it ruthlessly from your essay to make room for better material.

Engaging with the historiography: What does this phrase mean? It means directly and explicitly acknowledging what historians have said about your topic and your specific question in existing work. Point out both positive contributions and problematic ones when appropriate. Who has worked on this before, and what specifically have they argued? See your essay as part of a larger conversation (it doesn't necessarily have to be an adversarial one) that includes previous historians.

Some other questions to ask yourself as you write the long essay:

- Does the essay have a clear introduction which articulates the argument I wish to make in the essay? Does it move beyond telling the reader what the essay is "about" and what the essay "will do" to tell the reader very clearly what *has been accomplished* in the essay and *what be specifically shown* in the essay, and not leave this only for the conclusion?
- Does the essay have a clear conclusion which restates the main points and then makes some effort to contextualise the findings in the broader issues of the course?
- Does the essay situate the argument being made in the context of the sources used, and its relevance to the study of our module topic?

- Does the essay show a good understanding of the sources used, and use them effectively in supporting my argument with clear and specific examples to enforce my points?
- Does the essay avoid long quotations from secondary works whenever possible? Do I instead summarise, without plagiarising, and cite the work of secondary work except when the particular wording or language is key to the argument I wish to make?
- Have I cited with footnotes all claims that are not a well-known and general historical fact.
- Have I used a variety of appropriate sources?
- Have I avoided using phrases like “many historians argue” or “much scholarship” or “it is often argued” and offer specific examples and citations?
- Does the essay retain a strong focus on the main argument, and avoid passages which stray significantly from the main points?
- Does the essay avoid being a summary or introduction to a particular topic, event, or person in order to make a clear argument that is falsifiable?
- Have I gone back and considered my major claims from a critical perspective, and answered any major possible weaknesses in my essay?
- Is my argument non-trivial? That is, does it go beyond a well-known historical consensus about a topic?
- Has the long essay engaged with the historiography on the relevant issue effectively throughout?
- Does the essay consider alternative explanations, acknowledge inconvenient facts, and point out sources or historians who may have differing approaches?
- Did I proofread my essay, check the spelling, and reread for sentences that are unclear?
- Did I carefully follow the style guide for the School of History for all my footnotes?
- Did I include a bibliography at the end of my essay and is it formatted according to the School of History style guide?
- Have I avoided using websites and newspaper articles not by academic authors to support my claims when there are good academic historical scholarship (in monograph, journal article, or online published forms)
- Have I taken care that the background for the argument does not take up too much of the entire length of the essay (less than 25%, usually)
- Did I include a word count in the header and followed the other header guidelines?

Carrying Out Research for Essays

When you have selected a question or topic for your longer essay the first, most obvious place to look for information on the topic is among the various books and articles that are assigned or proposed in this course. Early on, it is useful to focus on skimming through sources as you find them, noting carefully works of potential interest found in the footnotes or bibliographies of these works to help you broaden and then later focus in your research. As you find works of interest, make note of the authors and look for other articles or books by the same author, then repeat the process, looking again through the footnotes and bibliography for sources more specifically related to the topic you are researching.

When you do not find enough through the above method of beginning your trail with our existing assigned works, proceed to search in various databases for relevant keywords:

- Our library catalogue
- Major journal databases we have access to such as JSTOR
- Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) which can then direct you to other journals our library may provide access to
- Consult with librarians - they are your friend. Bring them what you have found already and work with them to find further resources.
- Learn to use Google more effectively:
 - Search for phrases in quotation marks “ ” when appropriate
 - Try adding filetype:pdf to limit results to PDF files
 - You can limit searches to a particular domain or top-level domain, e.g. including: site:st-andrews.ac.uk or site:.edu

The long essays should use at least half a dozen sources which are not websites and the inclusion of primary sources is encouraged but not required. An essay based on sources that are the results of a simple google search can be written in an evening of frantic last minute work, but rarely demonstrates much effort, research skill, or ability to

isolate high-quality materials to support an argument. This is not because there are not excellent websites with overviews on a topic, excellent wikipedia entries, etc. but because there is still usually far greater quality material found in published articles and books on most historical topics, including those which are assigned above. It is wise to make use of online research skills to get oriented in a new topic, but use this course as an opportunity to explore the wealth of academic research on your topics. Your essays will be assessed, in part, on how effectively your sources demonstrate your research efforts. Of course, digitized primary (archival sources, documents) or secondary sources (e.g. articles in academic databases) found in digital collection are permitted and an online source or two in addition to your other sources beyond the minimum is fine if chosen carefully for quality.

When you have found a good selection of a dozen or two sources through a process of skimming of footnotes and bibliographies etc., start your more detailed reading with something of broader coverage to give you some ideas of potential specific arguments or hypotheses. Then move swiftly and with more focus to search through the other sources in the specific sections that are likely to show whether your potential argument holds or not. In researching for an essay you rarely have to read an entire work, and even when you do so, you should skim less relevant sections. Unlike reading for pleasure, historical research involves reading as a hunt for answers to problems. If you find that your argument does not hold or has insufficient evidence to support it, zoom out again and restart the process.

This circular movement is one very effective approach to historical research. Start broad, find potential key arguments and inspiring ideas. Moving quickly, test these ideas and arguments by searching in other sources and zooming into detailed cases and examples. If this doesn't work or is insufficient, zoom out again and repeat. Once you are happy with an argument and the available evidence, then read more slowly and with determination, taking more detailed notes, and outlining your essay as you go.

The Worst Possible Way to Proceed: Perhaps the worst possible way to do research for your essay is to find a dozen or two works on your broad topic by title search. This usually results in you finding several very general and introductory works on your topic. Allow this collection of books and articles to rest comfortably on your shelf until the deadline nears, and then sit down and attempt to read all these works and hope that your essay will emerge from the vast knowledge you have gained in reading these books.

How your Long Essay is Evaluated

The points that follow should be fairly clear from the questions posed above but are restated from the perspective of the marker of a very strong long essay:

- The essay gives a clear presentation of its argument in the introduction of the essay
- The essay is written well and has a clear structure.
- The essay is within the word limit and of a sufficient length for its proposed scope.
- The argument is well signposted, with different sub-arguments of the essay clearly introduced with clear topical sentences.
- The essay shows that extensive reading and research was done in order to write this essay.
- The School of History Style Guide was carefully followed.
- A well-formatted bibliography is provided showing that research was carried out using sources of an appropriate quality and number.
- The essay consistently cites its sources with footnotes and these footnotes are generally formatted well.
- This essay employs evidence based on its sources in an effective manner.
- Unless it is a historiographical essay, the essay works with primary sources which make a substantive contribution to its main argument.
- The essay engages with the relevant historiography on this topic directly and effectively
- The essay has a good balance between empirical examples and presenting evidence on the one hand, and strong analysis contributing to the argument on the other
- The argument of the essay is not trivial, overly general, or merely represent a summary of the widely recognized academic consensus on a given topic

Online Submission

Unless otherwise indicated, work will be considered submitted by the date the document was submitted online on the MMS. Paper copies do not need to be submitted: let's save paper. If you are concerned that any given assignment was not correctly submitted to the MMS, you are free to email a copy of your submitted assignment, if you like. In

the event an assignment was not correctly uploaded to the MMS for some reason, but an emailed copy was sent in time, that date of submission will be used, but a copy will still need to be submitted to the MMS thereafter.

Feedback

Feedback is generally provided directly on the mark sheet, which will be posted to the MMS within 10 work days (2 weeks). Presentations, however, are marked in bundles with feedback out at the end of week 5 and week 11. If you submit your essay as a .doc, .docx, (Word) or .odt (Open Office) file, additional minor feedback notes, especially on the long essay and final exam, will be found using the comment feature in the margin of your submitted file as posted on MMS.

Presentation

Being able to synthesise reading, and present ideas in class is a key skill. In our module this will take the form of serving as a guide to a text, a role that is not formally assessed, and a formally assessed longer presentation.

Assessed Presentation: The assessed presentation should be 10 minutes in length and not a minute longer. The presentation should briefly summarise the main arguments, point out what was most interesting or useful as a takeaway from the text, and make 1-3 focused critiques or observations about the read material. It is not a detailed summary of the content: it should highlight the arguments, strengths and set the context. A supplementary handout (one piece of paper front and back at most) should be brought that includes some bullet points that may include arguments, interesting empirical examples, key quotes, any interesting sources used, or highlight key persons or dates. The bullet points should be complete sentences (describing an argument or concrete point), not merely short phrases representing vague topics in an outline form. Please bring copies of the handout to class but also add (or link) the handout text to the class collaborative notes document. When possible, excellent presentations will ideally connect what is read and presented to our other readings and the discussion of the day. Thus, it is very important that you do not focus on your assigned reading to the exclusion of other readings for that week. Connecting the reading to past readings and discussions in the module is also a very welcome. Outside research is not required. Slides are not needed for the presentation and not assessed, but the handout may include 1-2 images or a map if appropriate. Please note, when discussion questions have been provided in advance on a topic, the presentation need not provide any answer to these, though the presentation may raise points that are a relevant contribution to those questions.

Feedback for presentations will be sent at two moments during semester, rather than on a rolling basis, once at the end of week five, and the second batch at the end of the semester.

Some questions to consider as you prepare:

- Did the distributed handout of one or at most two sides of a piece of paper accurately summarize the general points to be made in the presentation in the form of concise bullet points?
- Did the handout include any important dates, sources, or a map that serves as a useful reference?
- Was the 10 minute limit very strictly observed in the presentation?
- Did the presentation briefly provide the context of the work, and introduce the author very briefly?
- Was the presentation well structured, organized, and focus on a only few key points?
- Was there a good balance of arguments, examples to support them, and critique?
- Did the presentation avoid being a presentation of a series of bullet-point style facts?
- Did the presentation make an effort to connect the readings to other readings for the day or find ways to connect to the reading and discussion from previous weeks?

Exam

The final examination is a take-home exam worth 40% of your total assessment for the module. The questions (six will be presented, of which you choose three), will be made available online through our MMS at the appointed start time, and you will be required to submit the answers within 10 hours online to the MMS. The exam is designed to only take you a few hours (3-5 hours of writing, there is a strict word limit of 3750 words total for all three answers combined) but to give you the freedom to complete it at a time that works for you, as well as other benefits such as: giving you the freedom to draft and initial answer and then review notes to strengthen areas you feel are weak before returning to complete the final version.

Those who are not experienced with this format often make one critical mistake: They see the questions, and immediately begin a long and intensive process of reading and reviewing on the questions before beginning the writing process towards the end of the allotted time. I strongly urge students not to take this approach as it does not, in my experience, produce the strongest answers. You tend to become exhausted and produce poor quality answers, answer in far too much empirical detail but often straying from the question, and sometimes finding yourself critically short on time or sloppy in execution. I strongly encourage you to consider the following approach:

- View the questions
- Review your existing notes and draft out an outline for half an hour or so
- Write a full draft of all three answers, even if they are only half complete in terms of word count
- Read over your work as a marker might and find the areas you think are weak
- Eat a meal or snack, take a nice break, go for a walk, have a nap, do something fun
- Read over your notes or return to the original texts to address the weaknesses in your answer
- Revise your drafted answers and submit the exam

Questions for the exam typically will strive to get you to think synthetically, to make observations and comparisons across the themes of the semester, and as such should show an ability to make sharp analytical arguments, combined with the ability to employ a few detailed empirical examples to support these arguments.

The exam uses a modified citation practice for the exam and does not need any footnotes or a bibliography because the body of evidence you are using should consist of our course readings (whether those are the required weekly readings or supplemental readings from each week). You should not have to do any outside reading for the exam, and in fact, the questions do not assume that you have done any of the further reading. In fact, doing outside reading beyond works listed in our required or further reading show that you have not sufficiently digested our existing available material. Thus, for citation, you need only indicate the author last name (when only one work by them, a short version of title if there are multiple works by same author) and a page number. Quotes should be kept to a very minimum but you should cite where you are taking arguments and ideas from, as in any essay. Example: Lawson makes the argument that ... (Lawson, 233). If we have read multiple works by an author during the semester, add the title as well, or make it clear in your sentence which work you are referring to. If, for some reason, you really want to include an outside reading to support your argument, then you must follow the School of History Style Guide citation practices, and the footnote will be included in your overall word count.

Previous versions of the examination are available, as with most classes at St Andrews, through the online portal for that purpose.

If you have any problems submitting the exam through MMS, please email a copy of it to me before the deadline. It is critical that you get the exam submitted by the appointed time so please leave enough time to make sure you have uploaded the exam to MMS or at least emailed me a copy.

Questions to ask yourself as you prepare for the exam throughout the semester:

- Important: Do I have printed, photocopies, or digital versions of the texts I need so that I am not dependent on either an internet connection or the short loan process should I want to look up any particular references?
- Do I have good notes for each of the readings?
- Do I have good “notes on notes” which further filters and reduces my notes down to more general points and arguments, and make it easier to refer to or look up more specific notes or text references?
- Have I kept track of page numbers for key arguments or key evidence/examples so that I can easily find/cite them for the exam?
- Have I worked together with some of my fellow classmates before the exam as I prepare, comparing notes, discussing past exam questions, and sharing reference information.

- Have I consulted the collaborative class notes before the exam and incorporated useful information there, or from the presentation handouts throughout the semester so that I am better prepared?
- Have I thought about ways to connect readings to each other and into larger themes that may bridge across weeks?

Questions to ask yourself as you review over your answers on the examination:

- Did I state my answer concisely and clearly at the outset?
- Did I use evidence from our readings to support my answer?
- Did I use some specific examples to support my answer?
- Was everything in my answer relevant to the question as asked?
- Have I included a parenthetical citation for each of the claims I make which come from the module reading?

Policies

Marking

Within the School of History all work is assessed on a scale of 1-20 with intervals of 0.5. Module outcomes are reported using the same scale but with intervals of 0.1. The assessment criteria set out below are not comprehensive, but are intended to provide guidance in interpreting grades and improving the quality of assessed work. Students should bear in mind that presentation is an important element of assessment and that failure to adhere to the guidelines set out in the School of History Style Sheet will be penalised.

The marking scale can be found here:

<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/infoug/markshons.html>

Extensions

Prior permissions for late submission of work (“Extensions”) to make fair allowance for adverse circumstances affecting a student’s ability to submit the work on time will be considered on a case by case basis. Normally such permissions will only be granted for circumstances that are both unforeseen and beyond the student’s control.

Word Limits and Late Work

It is important to work consistently through the semester and work around your other commitments and deadlines. Plan ahead and don’t save your work until the last minute. Assessed work with word limits should be always submitted within those limits. Writing in a clear and concise manner, and being able to structure and execute an argument that may be shorter than you feel is required is a skill that is of great use in academic fields as well as the workplace beyond. Please do not go over the limit and force yourself to work within them as a practice that will be important for writing assignments in your future careers.

The official School of Histories penalties for late work and short/long work are followed in this module:

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/infoug/penalties%20for%20late%20work.html>

Absence from Classes

Please see this document for more on Student Absence:

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/infoug/absence.html>

Emails

If you have a question that requires an answer with significant detail, please consider asking during office hours, or at the beginning or end of class. Please avoid sending emails that require more than a very brief answer. If the email requires a substantive answer, I may ask you to bring the question up again after our next class or in office hours. I will strive to offer a reply to emails received within 48 hours, whenever possible. Emails are usually not responded to over the weekend and may not even be read until Monday. In writing emails, please try to be clear about what you are asking, and keep in mind that your message is one among many from students of multiple classes and differing contexts. Please mention which course you are in and what specific matter you are referring to. As in class, feel free to address me by first name in emails. Finally, before hitting the send button, please confirm that the answer to your question is not found in the handbook, on official school websites, or other handouts provided to the class.

Laptops in Class

Recent studies are increasingly showing that, for whatever reasons, the handwriting of notes, and the reading of essays on physical paper as opposed to computers or other reading devices increases the quality of notes, significantly boosts recall, and better processing of content in general.

There are, however, many benefits to using a laptop for notes, and keeping reading content in digital form, not the least ready access, easy distribution, ability to re-sort notes, searchability, and for those who have handwriting as poor as mine: simple readability.

You are welcome to bring a laptop to class and use it for notes and reading. If you do not bring a laptop, I ask that you bring either printed or photocopied copies of assigned reading that is made available every week or else good notes so that you can easily refer to the readings as we discuss them. It is especially important that you have copies of assigned primary sources with you and not bringing them makes for very ineffective use of a seminar that is based on the discussion of reading.

Please do not use applications on your laptop not related to our class, including email applications and social media. Obviously they will interfere with your own concentration but that is not the primary concern: using other applications on your laptop is a severe distraction to anyone sitting next to you.

Collective Notes

I believe in the benefits of sharing notes, not only with your classmates, but with future potential students of the class. For this purpose, I have created, and will provide the link for a Google document where you can post readings, organize reference material and online links to info and sources, etc. throughout the semester. I will also provide a link to notes from previous years (which may include some different readings and seminar topics). Both present and past years should be treated as you might any historical source: you should not use them to replace your own reading and note taking, and you should not treat content and notes provided by others as something you can uncritically accept as accurate. Use them as a productive supplement, as an alternative perspective as you conduct your own studies.

Knowledge Transfer and Ongoing Feedback

The collective notes document is one example of how communication can happen from one year of students in this module to the next. In addition to this, as coordinator, I share my own thoughts about how the ways in which the module worked or fell short online here:

<http://muninn.net/teaching/>

There are also links to a repository containing the full history of changes to this handbook over time. The reflections on the course include some selections from student feedback. I value your evaluations a great deal and take them, both the formal evaluation at the end of the semester, and any feedback informally received during the course of the semester, very seriously. Please do not hesitate to share with me your concerns as well as suggestions for how you think the module might be improved in the future. I also encourage all students to consider including advice to future students of the module in the shared collective notes document, especially suggestions on the selection of topics, research, and the writing process.

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is fundamental to the values promoted by the University. It is important that all students are judged on their ability, and that no student is allowed unfairly to take an advantage over others, to affect the security and integrity of the assessment process, or to diminish the reliability and quality of a St Andrews degree. For more information on university policies see:

<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/rules/academicpractice/>

If you are unsure about the correct presentation of academic material, you should approach your tutor. You can also contact CAPOD, which provides an extensive range of training on Academic Skills.

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/>

Films of Interest

For each week of our seminar I have listed one or more films that relate somewhat to the theme for that week. Many of these films are, to be frank, awful. Some of them use a historical event as a backdrop for their own plots. Some generally focus on the historical event or some historical figure in it, but almost all of them deviate significantly from the historical events and generally should be treated as fictional accounts.

However, I am a very strong supporter of watching bad historical films, especially around the time when one is studying the same period with good historical accounts and primary sources. A great pioneer of this is Henry Smith and other historians who put together [the book *Learning from Shogun* \(1980\)](#) to allow students to learn something about Tokugawa period Japanese history from the very popular novel (and later horrible but also very popular TV series) called *Shogun*. This work was my own first encounter with Japan as a child, and like for many of us, seeing these films or television shows, for better or for worse, leaves us with incredibly long-lasting images of a historical event. Thus, instead of ignoring them, dismissing them contemptuously, or merely non-critically accepting them as pure entertainment, I think it can be productive to watch them while you are studying a historical period and critique them.

When I say critique them, I do not mean to complain about anachronistic historical dress, or invented composite characters, or impossible to recreate dialogue, or even more blatant distortions of historical events. I mean to think of them as a narrative, because, like the narratives of historians, these films are forced every minute of the way to make important decisions about what to show and not to show, who to highlight and who not to, what aspects of a historical story are important and which ones aren't. Critiquing this in films is a fun and perhaps easier way to practice the art of being sensitive to these decisions made by historians in their own writings.

These films are listed for your reference and I welcome student comments in class who have seen them and wish to raise thoughts they have about them. However, you are not required to watch any of these films during the semester and, indeed, many of them are very difficult to get a hold of, and some cannot be found with official or fan based subtitles.

Reading

Weekly average pages of required reading: 210 (175 if you include two weeks with no assigned reading)

This honours module is by no means an easy one. The fact that the module is on East Asian history, an area which students may have very little familiarity with, but not a sub-honours survey module, means that students should be prepared to take the initiative to read around the assigned materials and delve into the further reading in order to get a better understanding of the material.

A work load of an average of fifteen hours a week (some weeks you may need a few more, some weeks less) outside of seminar is expected. Of this, you should expect your weekly preparation for class in terms of reading to be 7-12 hours in all weeks except the consolidation week and pair writing week, together with 3-6 hours of work on your assignments and research, especially for the long essay. I urge you to spread the load of your work on assignments across the weeks, to prevent stress towards the end of the semester.

Your weekly reading will usually consist of 180-250 pages of required reading, plus some reading that you should select from the further reading, or other supplementary reading chosen by yourself to address content you may have trouble understanding or to boost your knowledge if it is related to your long essay research. Thus, working on an estimate of 250 pages a week total is a safe bet, or, at roughly 30 pages an hour (taking some limited notes), about 8.5 hours.

It is not wise to do your reading in a single sitting, as your concentration will fade, so I suggest you split the readings into two or three, and read them across several days. Give yourself more time for the primary sources vs the secondary sources relative to their length to allow you to pay especially close attention to language and detail in the former. I would recommend that you try to "timebox" the readings, giving yourself a fixed period of time for any given reading and, if it looks unlikely that you will have time to read something carefully, skim it with general notes on the main arguments, events, and issues, as necessary. This is especially useful in weeks when you need to limit your reading preparation time in order to work more on your research for the long essay.

You may find the readings on short loan in the library or in some cases in scanned versions or in digital databases online. You can find our module list through the University Library:

<http://resourcelists.st-andrews.ac.uk/index.html>

Chronology

Below are some of the major dates relevant to this course, mostly limited to political history of the empire.

- 1853 - First arrival of Commodore Matthew Perry, who demands an opening of Japan
- 1868 - New government established, the Meiji Restoration
- 1873 - Debate by oligarchy over punishing Korea
- 1874 - Taiwan punitive expedition
- 1876 - Kanghwa Treaty
- 1879 - The Ryūkyū islands become Okinawa prefecture
- 1889 - Meiji Constitution establishes Japan as a constitutional monarchy
- 1894-1895 - The (First) Sino-Japanese War
- 1895, Apr - Taiwan Becomes a Colony of Japan
- 1900 - Boxer Rebellion, Japanese forces join allied forces sent to China
- 1902 - Anglo-Japanese alliance concluded
- 1904-5 - Russo-Japanese War
- 1905 - Korea made into a protectorate of Japan
- 1905 - Karafuto (South Sakhalin) becomes Japanese colony
- 1909 - Itō Hirobumi assassinated by Korean independence activist
- 1910, Aug - Korea is Annexed by Japan
- 1912 - Death of Meiji emperor, Taishō period begins
- 1914-1918 - Japan fights in WWI as one of the Allies
- 1915, Jan - Japan Issues the 21 Demands to China
- 1919, Mar - March First Movement for independence in Korea
- 1919, May - May Fourth movement and anti-Japanese protests in China
- 1923 - Great Kantō earthquake in Japan, leading to slaughter of minorities
- 1925 - Universal suffrage and Peace Preservation Act in Japan
- 1926 - Death of Taishō emperor, Shōwa period begins under Hirohito
- 1928 - Japanese assassination of major Chinese warlord Zhang Zuolin
- 1930 - Japan experiences deep deflation
- 1931, Sep - The Japanese Invasion of Manchuria
- 1932, Mar - Manchukuo (Manzhouguo) proclaimed independent state
- 1933 - Japan withdraws from the League of Nations
- 1933 - Japan occupies Rehe (Jehol) province in inner Mongolia
- 1936 - Japan joins the Anti-Comintern Pact
- 1936, Feb - "2.26" attempted coup by Imperial Way faction in Tokyo
- 1937, Jul - The Marco Polo Bridge Incident
- 1937-1945 - The (Second) Sino-Japanese War
- 1937, Dec - Fall of Nanjing to Japan and the Nanjing Massacre
- 1938, Feb - National General Mobilisation Law in Japan
- 1940 - Japan, Italy and Germany form tripartite alliance
- 1940, Mar - Japan forms new Chinese government in occupied zone under Wang Jingwei
- 1940, Sep - Japanese troops occupy northern French Indochina
- 1941, Jun - Japanese occupy all of French Indochina
- 1941, Jun - US freezes Japanese assets and implements strict embargo
- 1941, Dec - Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and Southeast Asia
- 1942, Jun - Battle of Midway
- 1942, Jun - "Overcoming Modernity" conference
- 1942, Nov - Greater East Asia Ministry established
- 1943, Feb - Fall of Guadalcanal
- 1943, Nov - Great East Asia conference
- 1944 - Imphal campaign attempts Japanese invasion of India
- 1944, Jun - Saipan falls to US forces, now Japan within bomber range
- 1945, Jul - Potsdam Declaration
- 1945, Aug - Hiroshima and Nagasaki atom bomb attack, Soviets invade Manchuria
- 1945, Aug - Japanese surrender
- 1951 - San Francisco Peace Treaty
- 1952 - End of allied occupation of Japan

Seminars

Full references to the readings below can be found in the following section ordered by last name of the author. For each week. Please read all of the primary source reading, all of the secondary reading, and please consider reading one of the further readings.

Abbreviations for readings:

- GORDON: Andrew Gordon *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*
- SOURCES: *Sources of Japanese Tradition: Volume 2, 1600 to 2000* [Library ebook](#)
- MASON: Mason, Michele, and Helen Lee, eds. *Reading Colonial Japan: Text, Context, and Critique* [Library ebook](#)

Week 0 - Introductions: Japanese History and the Transitions of the 19th Century

Reading:

- GORDON Ch 4-12 (p48-223, 175 pages)
 - *What to Look For:* These chapters, from a survey history of modern Japan, will be crucial for you to get the broad historical sweep for the course. Given the thematic emphasis of this course and its focus on empire, much of what is in this reading is the only reading you will have that covers some of the domestic developments in Japanese history and the only time that you will have a strictly chronological overview. If you have never studied East Asian or specifically Japanese history before, I would urge you to read this twice, once at the beginning of the semester, and again during the mid-semester break.
 - I would tackle the reading in two or three sessions and read these pages closely, and take good notes to refer to throughout the semester. How long did it take you to read these 175 pages closely, taking good notes along the way? Perhaps 8-12 hours? Make a note of this as your “slow rate” - some texts during the semester will require this slow reading to fully absorb them well, and others can be read or skimmed much faster (perhaps 50 pages an hour or more?) as you search for the main arguments, closely read a few of the difficult theoretical sections, make note of key case studies and evidence, and skim over sections you think are less relevant. This is the key to managing reading of 150-250 pages a week while working on your long essay research.

Preparation:

- Those of you who joined the course late or for any other reason were not able to attend this first meeting, please still be aware of the need to read the Gordon material during the course of the semester.
- I would urge students to purchase your own copy of Andrew Gordon's *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. The most recent edition is best, but any edition will suffice. It serves as a concise and useful survey of Japanese history in general, as opposed to the empire in particular, and therefore will serve as a good reference for grounding yourself in the broader national narrative of the imperial metropole.
- Bring a list of at least three themes or general areas related to the history of Japanese empire that interest you and be prepared to say something about why you find them interesting
- Be ready to share some thoughts on how a module on Japanese empire might differ from a module entitled, for example, ‘Modern Japanese History’
- You will spend a significant portion of time during this semester working on your own original research essay: bring at least 2 ideas of broad areas that interest you for possible research on. They don't need to be limited to Japan as a geographic location but can be a theme, or a kind of source.
- Look at the readings for each of the weeks ahead and read the handbook section on presentations. Be prepared to sign up for the week you would like to do an assessed presentation. This can be done on the module moodle wiki. You may change weeks for the assessed presentation in the future but only if you make an arrangement to switch with someone and they agree. You do not need to contact me about this change, but it must be indicated on our online class presentation schedule.

Overview:

- Our first meeting will talk about the relationship between studying the history of Japan, and the history of Japanese empire.

- Everything you need to know about the module can be found in this handbook, but we'll use this meeting to discuss some of these features and give you a chance to ask for clarification. We will discuss the assignments, and particularly emphasise the importance of beginning early and working consistently on your long essay. I will explain what the expectations are and urge you to make good use of this handbook which offers a lot of detailed advice.
- We will discuss the format of the final examination, and share tips for how to deal with the reading load from week to week.
- We will discuss the collective notes and how it has helped students in past iterations of this module.
- We will sign up for presentations.
- Finally, we will also have a chance to get to know each other a bit better.

Week 1 - Entering the World Stage and Building an Empire

Primary Source Reading: ~30 pages

- **SOURCES:**

- Ch 37: Letters from Saigō Takamori to Itagaki Taisuke on the Korean Question
- Ch 37: Ōkubo Toshimichi's Reasons for Opposing the Korean Expedition
- Ch 38: Fukuzawa Yukichi's View of Civilization; An Outline of a Theory of Civilization
- Ch 38: Nakamura Masanao: China Should Not Be Despised; Japan's Debt to China
- Ch 41: Tokutomi Sohō: A Japanese Nationalist's View of the West and Asia
- Ch 45: Konoe Fumimaro: Against a Pacificism Centered on England and America
- Fukuzawa Yukichi - "Good-bye Asia"

Secondary Source Reading: ~150 pages

- Beasley *Japanese Imperialism* Ch 4-7 (60 pages) [Library ebook](#)
 - "Intervention in Korea, 1894-5, Peace Settlement with China 1894-6", "New Imperialism and the War with Russia 1895-1905", "Formal and Informal Empire in North-East Asia, 1905-1910"
 - This is a survey text but will help deepen your understanding of the events. Compare this with your reading of GORDON for the same period.
- Eskildsen, "Of Civilization and Savages" (31 pages) [Online](#) (P)
- Yumi Moon, "Immoral Rights: Korean Populist Collaborators and the Japanese Colonization of Korea, 1904-1910" (25 pages) [Online](#)
- Please read and view carefully one of the following three MIT Visualizing Cultures exhibits, each of which has several sub-pages:
 - [Throwing Off Asia I: Westernization \(Visual Narratives\)](#)
 - [Throwing Off Asia II: Sino-Japanese War 1894-5 \(Visual Narratives\)](#)
 - [Throwing Off Asia III: Russo-Japanese War Woodblock Prints \(Visual Narratives\)](#)
 - [Yellow Promise/Yellow Peril \(Visual Narratives\)](#)

Further Reading:

- Lecture by John Dower on [Visualising the Russo-Japanese War](#) (1hr)
- Duus, Peter. *The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea, 1895-1910* (P)
 - This is a classic work now which goes into great depth on the lead up to annexation in Korea.
- Kowner, *Impact of the Russo-Japanese War*, 1-26
- Valliant, "The Selling of Japan", 415-438
- Wolff ed., *Russo-Japanese War in Global Perspective*, Hashimoto Yorimitsu, "White Hope or Yellow Peril?: Bushido, Britain, and the Raj", 379-403
- MASON p55-75 Ch 2: "Hokkaido Former Natives Protection Law, Rule in the Name of"Protection"
- "Ainu Identity and the Meiji State" in David L. Howell, Geographies of Identity in Nineteenth-Century Japan
- Auslin, Michael R. *Negotiating with Imperialism: The Unequal Treaties and the Culture of Japanese Diplomacy* Harvard University Press, 2009.
- Cassel, Pär Kristoffer. *Grounds of Judgment: Extraterritoriality and Imperial Power in Nineteenth-Century China and Japan*. Oxford University Press, 2012. (P)
- Paine, S. C. M. *The Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895: Perceptions, Power, and Primacy*. (P)
- Naoko Shimazu, "Patriotic and Despondent: Japanese Society at War, 1904-5"
- Rotem Kowner, ed., *The Impact of the Russo-Japanese War*, 1st ed. (Routledge, 2006).
- David Wells and Sandra Wilson, *The Russo-Japanese War in Cultural Perspective, 1904-05* (Palgrave Macmillan, 1999).
- Hyman Kublin, "The Japanese Socialists and the Russo-Japanese War," *The Journal of Modern History* 22, no. 4 (December 1, 1950): 322-39.

- Simon Partner, “Peasants into Citizens? The Meiji Village in the Russo-Japanese War,” *Monumenta Nipponica* 62, no. 2 (July 1, 2007): 179–209.
- David Schimmelpenninck Van Der Oye, “Rewriting the Russo-Japanese War: A Centenary Retrospective,” *Russian Review* 67, no. 1 (January 2008): 78–87.
- Caprio, Mark [Neo-Nationalist Interpretations of Japan’s Annexation of Korea: The Colonization Debate in Japan and South Korea](#)

Preparation:

- Choosing one of the two long essay ideas you brought to class from last week, spend an hour “blitz” researching your topic: who has written about it? What kinds of sources do they use? What kinds of arguments have historians made, write down at least a dozen bullet points or a paragraph or two for discussion. This exercise is to help you start thinking about the broad topic for your long essay. Remember, the short essay (either a prospectus for the long essay or critical review) is due sooner than you think.
- The primary sources, along with the Moon and Eskildsen pieces will be discussed in depth, please read them closely
- For many, the topics here are unfamiliar. When you run into unfamiliar territory review the survey text by Gordon, or get in the habit of looking up names, places, or people you are unfamiliar with. Note them down if they pop up and bring them up in class - you may not be the only one!
- Review the page load of readings for the weeks ahead, start planning ahead to make time for your long essay research and writing. Take advantage of weeks with a lighter load to schedule time for the long essay. Think about “time boxing” your reading - fixing in advance the hours you will dedicate to your reading and working within those limits to allow other time for the module on your long essay research, presentation, and other preparation.
- Try to commit to memory the basic, mostly political, events in the “Chronology” section of this student handbook, for the years up to 1920. Note down one or two of these events that you know little or nothing about that you think might be interesting and look them up on Wikipedia.

Overview:

- This period, from the early 1870s, until about 1920, represents a huge transformation for Japan, going from a relatively inward looking archipelago to a modern nation with colonial rule over places such as Okinawa, Karafuto (Sakhalin), Taiwan and Korea. It is a period which includes Japan’s victory over the Qing dynasty in the first Sino-Japanese War, its inclusion among the imperial powers who intervened in the Qing’s Boxer Rebellion, and its triumphant victory in the Russo-Japanese War 1904-5 that sealed its hegemony on the Korean peninsula and established its influence in Manchuria. It also includes World War I, in which Japan fought with the Allies, took over German interests in the Pacific and Shandong, and subjected China to its 21 Demands.
- Our primary sources this week give you several Japanese perspectives on the international environment they face, from Fukuzawa’s contemplations of civilisation and Japan’s relationship with the West, to the growing frustrations of Tokutomi and Konoe about Japan’s place in a world of Western empires. We will discuss and compare these perspectives.
- We will spend some time on the arguments of Eskildsen and Moon in particular, which both complicate the narrative in various ways, and introduces new perspectives.
- The MIT exhibits have wonderful sources and we will discuss and analyse a few of those which you have found particularly interesting.
- Between Gordon and Beasley, we now should have a basic skeleton of the major events in Japanese imperialism, we will review these
- We will ask ourselves what commonalities and differences we see so far between Japan as a coloniser and those of other western empires at this time.
- Any time left over we will use to discuss topics for the long essay and your overviews

Ideas for Long Essay Themes

- Note: In this section I will put general themes to consider for long essays, but keep in mind that you are by no means limited to them and each of theme contain a full range of more appropriately narrow questions and arguments you might pursue within them.

- There are many sources in non-Japanese languages that will allow you to examine the way Japan's colonization was portrayed abroad, focusing in on one aspect or example of this and making an argument is one possibility for a long essay
- Depictions of Japan, or by Japan of world order?
- Aspects of Meiji period transitions within Japan
- Issues of cultural contact between Japan and its neighbors in this period
- Responses of Chinese, Korean, or already colonized peoples to Japan in this period
- Further exploring the visualizations of Japanese imperialism

Week 2 - Authority, Ethnography, and Assimilation

Primary Source Reading: 45 pages

- Nitobe Inazo, “Japan as Colonizer” in *The Japanese Nation Online at Archive.org*, 231-258.
- **SOURCES**, Ch 41: Yanagi Muneyoshi and the Kwanghwa Gate, For a Korean Architecture About to Be Lost
- **MASON** 109-123 Ch 4: “Demon Bird, Violence, Borders, Identity”

Secondary Source Reading: 143 pages

- Robinson, *Korea's Twentieth-century Odyssey*, Ch 2 Colonial State and Society, 36-75 [Library ebook](#)
- Tierney, selection from “From Taming Savages to Going Native” *Tropics of Savagery*, 38-63 [Library ebook](#)
- Atkins, selection from “Ethnography as Self-Reflection: Japanese Anthropology in Colonial Korea” *Primitive Selves*, 59-74, 96-101 [Library ebook](#)
- Caprio, *Japanese Assimilation Policies in Korea*, 81-140: Ch 3-4

Further Reading:

- Henry, *Assimilating Seoul: Japanese Rule and the Politics of Public Space in Colonial Korea, 1910-45* (P)
- Peattie, *Japanese Colonial Empire*
- Liao, *Taiwan Under Japanese Colonial Rule*
- Kim Brandt, “Objects of Desire: Japanese Collectors and Colonial Korea,” *Positions: East Asia Cultures Critique* 8, no. 3 (2000): 711–46.
- Chen, Ching-Chih. “The Japanese Adaptation of the Pao-Chia System in Taiwan, 1895-1945.” [Jstor](#)
- Ching, *Becoming Japanese*, 1-50: Introduction and Ch 1-2 [Library ebook](#) (P)
- [Through Formosa: an account of Japan's Island Colony](#), Ch. 7, 11
- Barclay, “Cultural Brokerage” 323-360 [Online](#)
- Antonio C. Tavares, “The Japanese Colonial State and the Dissolution of the Late Imperial Frontier Economy in Taiwan, 1886-1909,” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 64, no. 2 (May 1, 2005): 361–85 [Online](#)
- Moon, Yumi. *Populist Collaborators: The Ilchinhoe and the Japanese Colonization of Korea, 1896-1910*. 1 edition. Cornell University Press, 2013. (P)
- Brandt, Kim. *Kingdom of Beauty: Mingei and the Politics of Folk Art in Imperial Japan*. Duke University Press Books, 2007. (P)
- Naoko Shimazu, *Japan, Race and Equality: The Racial Equality Proposal of 1919* (London: Routledge Press, 1998) (P)

Preparation:

- Examine a map of the Korean peninsula and of the island of Taiwan. Familiarise yourself with the location of the major cities.
- Robinson will give you the general background on the history of colonial Korea. You can use this chapter and the broader book to help you with the Korean context
- Tierney is not all an easy read, make sure you understand what you are reading.
- Look up Nitobe Inazo and read a little about him. Some of you may be interested in exploring his key role in popularising the idea of “Bushido”
- Atkins and Tierney will form an important part of the discussion, as will the “Demon Bird” and the Nitobe readings.
- You should be working on your first prospectus or critical review.

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations

- One way we might have examined the history of colonial territories under Japanese control is to examine the chronology of events in each place. We are taking another approach, one that is more thematic. Our readings today step back from the political events to the cultural realm and also the ways in which the Japanese empire attempted to form and change the peoples and places it colonised. In particular, we will see how the world of folklore, cultural artefacts, and the field of anthropology are key to understanding other ways that power figure into the relationship between coloniser and colonised.
- We will take a closer look at the Nitobe Inazo reading and discuss the ways that Japan is described as a colonial power and presented to a western audience, with care taken to the rhetoric and language used as well as the selection of material chosen for presentation.
- We will set aside some time in class to talk about how your topics for the long essay, and your first prospectus or critical review is coming along. We will discuss this groups and then together.
- Abstracts Discussion: I will bring a list of abstracts for conference presentations and published articles. These are (somewhat shorter) examples of what you are aiming for in the prospectus. We will discuss what kinds of information they contain and what makes them stronger or weaker.

Questions:

1. What are some of the ways that knowledge about the colonised peoples were deployed in the Japanese empire?
2. In the period focused on here, what were the primary goals for the Japanese colonisers in attempting to form the peoples under its rule?

Ideas for Long Essay Themes

- There is a much more rich literature on ethnography and empire, many other possible sources for anthropologists in East Asia to explore these questions of knowing the author. The even richer and broader literature on orientalism offer another way to look at both Japan's use of knowledge in its domination of its neighbours but also of European empires simultaneously jockeying for power in the region.
- Assimilation policies across multiple empires is a fascinating area that opens lots of possible topics that take a comparative approach
- Our text by Nitobe this time was only one of many such texts, exploring others or a pattern within multiple of them is another area.
- Kim Brandt's piece in the further reading is part of a growing literature (not limited to Japan) which looks at the intersection of art and antiquities related to empire that may give you ideas.

Films of Interest:

- Warriors of the Rainbow (賽德克・巴萊 2011)
- YMCA Baseball Team (YMCA 야구단 2002)
- The Sword with No Name (불꽃처럼나비처럼 2009)

Week 3 - The Idea of Colonial Modernity and its Distortions

Primary Source Reading: 27 pages

- MASON 77-104 Ch 3: “Officer Ukama, Subaltern Identity in Okinawa”, 77-89

Secondary Source Reading: 190 pages

- Robinson, *Korea's Twentieth-century Odyssey*, Ch 4 Colonial Modernity, Assimilation, and War, 76-99 [Library ebook](#)
- Todd A. Henry, *Assimilating Seoul* Ch 4 Civic Assimilation: Sanitary Life in Neighborhood Keijō [Library ebook](#)
- Matsutani, Motokazu ‘A New Perspective on the ‘Name-Changing Policy’ in Korea” in *Gender and Law in the Japanese Imperium*, 240-266.
- Shin, *Colonial Modernity in Korea* [Library ebook](#)
 - 1-20: Introduction
 - 21-51: Modernity, Legality, and Power in Korea
 - 52-69: Broadcasting, Cultural Hegemony
- Lee, Hong Yung “A Critique of ‘Colonial Modernity’” in Lee ed. *Colonial Rule and Social Change in Korea, 1910-1945*, 3-38
- “The ‘Modern Girl’ Question in the Periphery of Empire: Colonial Modernity and Mobility among Okinawan Women in the 1920s and 1930s” in Tani Barlow, ed. *The Modern Girl Around the World*, 242-258 [Library ebook](#)

Further Reading:

- Kikuchi, Yūko, ed. *Refracted Modernity: Visual Culture and Identity in Colonial Taiwan* (P)
- rest of Henry, Todd. *Assimilating Seoul: Japanese Rule and the Politics of Public Space in Colonial Korea, 1910-45* (P)
- Oh, Se-Mi. “Consuming the Modern: The Everyday in Colonial Seoul, 1915-1937.”
- Tani E. Barlow, ed., *Formations of Colonial Modernity in East Asia* (P)
- Ming-cheng M. Lo, *Doctors within Borders: Profession, Ethnicity, and Modernity in Colonial Taiwan* (P)
- Wang, Taisheng, *Legal Reform in Taiwan Under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895-1945* (P)
- rest of *The Modern Girl Around the World* (P)
- rest of *Gender and Law in the Japanese Imperium* (P)
- Robinson, Michael *Cultural nationalism in colonial Korea, 1920-1925* (P)
- Choi, Hyae-wol *New Women in Colonial Korea : a Sourcebook*
- Kim, Janice *To Live to Work: Factory Women in Colonial Korea* (P)
- Morris, Andrew *Colonial Project, National Game: A History of Baseball in Taiwan* (P)

Preparation:

- SHORT ESSAY DUE - Your first prospectus or a critical review is due. For guidance, think of a longer version of the abstract for a conference or published article, and for the critical review, read some of the book reviews from a journal like the Journal of Asian Studies or Past & Present.
- Think about the case of Officer Ukama in Okinawa. What are some of the features of his story that might be common to the experience of other people under Japanese colonial rule that we have been reading about. Is that experience unique to colonial settings? If so, in what ways? If not, then what other settings resemble it?
- Many of the readings for today are filled with ironies: where intentions of the coloniser often lead to very differing outcomes when seen in retrospect. Some of them also suggest that simplistic nationalist narratives that emerge in a postcolonial setting are also problematic. In what ways is this the case?

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations

- We'll start by jumping forward a bit to some of the ways that the unfortunately named idea of "colonial modernity" has been come to mean two things today - one thing in the hands of revisionist Japanese historians and politicians, as well as Korean nationalists who oppose them, and another within the scholarly world
- We'll discuss the concepts of modernity, modernisation, the implicit progressivist narrative in these concepts, and the ways in which these are complicated by their place in a colonial setting.
- Group task: We will set aside time again to ask you to reflect on the prospectus or critical review exercise. What did you learn from the process, what advice can you offer your fellow students. Where do you go from here?
- Our MASON readings so far have been literary texts. We will continue to make a lot of use of such fictional works written during or very close to the period. Time permitting we will set aside some time to think about what it means to use literary sources in history. What does it do well which other sources often done? What challenges does it bring as we use them?
- If there is time left over we will discuss what kinds of sources have been used in the secondary readings we have done so far for the course and their strengths and challenges.

Questions:

1. What is the difference between modernity and modernisation?
2. According to theorists of colonial modernity, how was it distinct from modernity experienced elsewhere?
3. Apologists for empire have often justified past rule as having had, at the very least, a positive impact on their former colonies in terms of infrastructure and economic development. In what ways does the theory of colonial modernity, and indeed, those who critique the idea, call this into question?

Ideas for Long Essay Themes

- This week, perhaps more than any others, offers chances to explore literary sources as a way into the period. There is a growing body of English translations of not only Japanese literature from this period but Korean, Chinese, and Taiwanese literature. Many of these offer settings that give the appearance of a bustling early 20th century modern society, but often with all the distortions and limitations of that apparent modernity that we expect to find in a colonial setting.
- Despite talking about "modernity" which is a more abstract concept, we have said relatively little of modernization, of economic and technological transformations in the colonies, and the development of infrastructure under colonial rule that was of benefit to the coloniser and its increased extraction of resources from its possessions. This could be explored in an essay through an example or comparison, but when doing so, be aware that this is a field that demands careful consideration of: for whom and who benefits.
- We also see this week that the colonizer - colonized two-sided approach has severe limitations and a long essay can look in more depth at some impact of colonisation on a particular group in metropole or colony.
- Students interested in urban history might consider exploring a long essay with a topic related to cities in the empire - also the topic of a fourth year module I offer for those who want more readings on this.

Film of Interest:

- 미동 (죽음의자장가) Sweet Dream (Lullaby of Death) - 1936
 - Available thanks to the Korean Film Archive's youtube channel with English subtitles: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>
 - click the "captions" button to turn on English subtitles
- 戲夢人生 Puppetmaster - 1993
- Radio Days (2008 - 라듸오데이즈)
- Assassin (2015 - 암살)
- Modern Boy (2008 - 모던보이)

Week 4 - Settler Colonialism and Migration in the Empire

Primary Source Reading: 39 pages

- Kim Sa-ryang “Into the Light” in Wender, Melissa L. ed., *Into the Light: An Anthology of Literature by Koreans in Japan* (39 pages)

Secondary Source Reading: ~210 pages

- Mark R. Peattie *The Japanese Informal Empire in China, 1895-1937* Ch 6 “Japanese Treaty Port Settlements, 1895-1937” pp167-174, pp188-209
- Caprio, Mark and Yu Jia “Occupations of Korea and Japan and the Origins of the Korean Diaspora in Japan” in Ryang, Sonia ed. *Diaspora without Homeland: Being Korean in Japan*, 21-38 [Library ebook](#)
- Han, Eric C. *Rise of a Japanese Chinatown: Yokohama, 1894-1972* Ch 2 “Expatriate Nationalists and the Politics of Mixed Residence, 1895-1911” Ch 1 pages from 23-41, Ch 2 pp72-80
- Uchida, Jun, “A Sentimental Journey: Mapping the Interior Frontier of Japanese Settlers in Colonial Korea” [Online](#)
- Uchida, Jun. *Brokers of Empire: Japanese Settler Colonialism in Korea, 1876-1945* Ch 1 “The Growth of Settler Communities” p62-70, Ch 2 Settlers and the State p96-139
- Young, *Japan's Total Empire* “The Migration Machine: Manchurian Colonization and State Growth” 352-398 [Library ebook](#)
- Smith, W. Donald. “Beyond ‘The Bridge on the River Kwai’: Labor Mobilization in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.” *International Labor and Working-Class History*, no. 58 (October 1, 2000): 219–38. [Online](#)

Further Reading:

- Uchida, Jun. “The Public Sphere in Colonial Life: Residents’ Movements in Korea Under Japanese Rule.” [Online](#)
- Driscoll, Mark. *Absolute Erotic, Absolute Grotesque: The Living, Dead, and Undead in Japan’s Imperialism, 1895–1945* (P)
- O’Dwyer, Emer Sinéad. *Significant Soil: Settler Colonialism and Japan’s Urban Empire in Manchuria* (P)
- Rest of Uchida’s *Brokers of Empire* (P)
- Rest of Han *Rise of a Japanese Chinatown* (P)
- Lie, John. *Multiethnic Japan*. Cambridge, Mass.; London: Harvard University Press, 2004.

Preparation:

- Reading is on the heavy side this week while you wait for feedback on your first short essay focus on your reading more this week.
- The migrations described here exist on a spectrum of coercion. What are some of the differing ways the Japanese state became involved in the migrations described here
- Think about ways of tying the Kim Sa-ryang piece to our readings in the secondary sources.
- Look for connections across our readings for this week.

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations
- Until the full-scale Sino-Japanese war in the 1930s most of the places we have been looking at were assumed to be permanent parts of the Japanese empire. This was a multi-ethnic empire and the strategies of the Japanese government, colonial officials, settlers, and others for what kind of relationships its constituent communities were to have with each other evolved over time. We will focus our time on trying to unpack these relationships.
- We will do a closer reading in class of some parts of the Kim Sa-ryang story

Questions:

1. How do our readings help us understand some of the dynamics of the relationship between the coloniser and the colonised?
2. How is this relationship complicated, if not completely transformed, in the case of settlers or colonised peoples in the metropole?

Ideas for Long Essay Themes

- Migration in the empire is an ideal way in to the deeply transnational possibilities of studying the Japanese empire, and exploring contradictions of identity, of power relationships, and networks. Consider exploring the bibliographies of Uchida, Han, Caprio, and O'Dwyer for some inspiration. Our Kim Sa-ryang piece is only one of many Korean works, for example, now available in English translation which attempt to capture the challenges of minorities in the empire.
- Uchida's *Brokers of Empire* introduction suggests the rich possibilities of comparative studies of settler colonialism with other empires.
- The idea of “informal empire” has been used as a replacement for an alternative Marxist inspired language of “half-colonialism” as it is still known in China today. This area offers a huge variety of possible case studies, potential comparisons, and questions you might explore.

Films of Interest:

- City of Sadness (悲情城市 1989)
- Blue Swallow (청연 2005)
- Rikidōzan (역도산 2004)
- The Last Princess (2016 - 끝혜옹주)
- A significant number of Japanese gangster (yakuza) films include characters who are depicted as Korean or Korean-Japanese. Some films makes this an active element of the plot, while others give it merely indirect mention.

Week 5 - Imperial Innovation in Manchuria and the Development of Pan-Asianism

Primary Source Reading: ~60 pages

- **SOURCES**

- Ch 41 Okakura Kakuzō: Aesthetic Pan-Asianism; “The Ideals of the East”
- Ch 42 Ishibashi Tanzan - “Fantasy of Greater Japanism”; “Before Demanding the Abolition of Racial Discrimination”
- Part V, Ch 45 Ishihara Kanji “Plan to occupy Manchuria”; “The Economic Need for Expansion”
- **MASON** 209-224 Ch 7: Text and Critique “Manchu Girl”, Imperializing Motherhood”
- Saaler, *Pan-Asianism : A Documentary History, 1920-Present* [Library ebook](#)
 - Ch 4 - Ōkawa Shūmei “Various Problems of Asia in Revival” 69-74
 - Ch 13 - “The Greater Asia Association and Matsui Iwane, 1933” 137-147
 - Ch 16 - “Japanese Pan-Asianism in Manchukuo, 1935” 163-166
 - Ch 18 - Rōyama Masamichi “Principles of an East Asian Community” 175-178
 - Ch 22 - Ishiura Kanji “Argument for an East Asian League” 201-207

Secondary Source Reading: ~160 pages

- Young, *Japan's Total Empire* Ch 2 pp29-35,40-54: Part I - The Making of a Total Empire* [Library ebook](#)
- Duara, Prasenjit *Sovereignty and Authenticity* Ch 2-3 Manchukuo: A Historical Overview; Asianism and the New Discourse of Civilization pp41-122
- Tamanoi, Mariko Asano. “Knowledge, Power, and Racial Classification: The ‘Japanese’ in ‘Manchuria.’” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 59, no. 2 (May 1, 2000): 248–76. [Jstor](#)
- Saaler *Pan-Asianism in Modern Japanese History*, Ch 1-2: 1-18, 21-33 [Library ebook](#)
 - Ch 1 Pan-Asianism in modern Japanese history: Overcoming the nation, creating a region, forging an empire
 - Ch 2 Pan-Asianism in modern Japan: Nationalism, regionalism and universalism

Further Reading:

- Mitter, Rana. *The Manchurian Myth: Nationalism, Resistance and Collaboration in Modern China* (P)
- Esherick, Joseph, ed. “Railway City and National Capital: Two Faces of the Modern in Changchun.” *Remaking the Chinese City: Modernity and National Identity, 1900-1950*, 65-89
- Shao, Dan. *Remote Homeland, Recovered Borderland: Manchus, Manchoukuo, and Manchuria, 1907-1985* (P)
- Tamanoi, Mariko, ed. *Crossed Histories: Manchuria in the Age of Empire*
- Aydin, Cemil. *The Politics of Anti-Westernism in Asia: Visions of World Order in Pan-Islamic and Pan-Asian Thought* (P)
- Hotta, Eri. *Pan-Asianism and Japan's War 1931-1945* (P)
- Culver, Annika A. *Glorify the Empire: Japanese Avant-Garde Propaganda in Manchukuo* (P)
- Smith, Norman. “Disguising Resistance in Manchukuo: Feminism as Anti-Colonialism in the Collected Works of Zhu Ti.” *The International History Review* 28, no. 3 (2006): 515–36.
- Tankha, Brij. *Kita Ikki and the Making of Modern Japan: A Vision of Empire* (P)
- Yamaura, Chigusa. “From Manchukuo to Marriage: Localizing Contemporary Cross-Border Marriages between Japan and Northeast China.” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74, no. 03 (August 2015): 565–88
- Duara, Prasenjit “The New Imperialism and the Post-Colonial Developmental State: Manchukuo in comparative perspective” [Online](#)
- “Military fascism and Manchukuo, 1930-36” and “Bureaucratic visions of Manchukuo, 1933-39” in Mimura, Janis. *Planning for Empire: Reform Bureaucrats and the Japanese Wartime State*

Preparation:

- Watch “[Manchukuo: The Newborn Empire](#)” on Archive.org or YouTube (about 13m) and make note of how the Japanese project in Manchuria is justified, and its people and places described.

- How is your progress with your long essay topic coming along? Start thinking about your second prospectus or critical review.
- As you read, please consider the questions listed below for this week carefully.

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations
- We'll talk about your observations and thoughts regarding the Manchukuo film.
- The class will dive roughly half way between a focus on the Japanese invasion and state building project in Manchuria, and the other half on Japan's evolving Pan-Asianist ideas.

Questions:

1. How did the Manchurian “experiment” differ from Japan’s experience of imperialism in Korea or Taiwan? How does it differ from any kind of colonialism found in Western empires?
2. What are some of the differences between the ways Asian unity was imagined by Japanese in the sources we consider?
3. Compare the Ishiura Kanji and Ishibashi Tanzan readings. What assumptions do they share, and in what ways do they differ?

Ideas for Long Essay Themes

- Japan’s Manchurian project is arguably unique in 20th century history, and yet paradoxically, has many characteristics that invite deep comparisons with many other state building, nationalist, and legitimization projects in many other places, including in Japan’s Chinese occupied areas in years to come. An essay might focus in on one of these areas, and if English sources are short, then a comparative study might work well.
- Pan-asianism is an entire sub-field to itself now in East Asian studies with a host of works out in the past decade, not least in Japanese but also in English. Comparative studies with other pan-movements, or an essay exploring one particular aspect or argument made by pan-Asianists or looking at its reception or its development are some examples of where to go, as well as essays that look at the manifestation of pan-Asianism in a particular area such as architecture, education, wartime propaganda, etc. Look to the further reading for guidance.
- Manchukuo created a crisis for an already crisis ridden League of Nations. There are a range of possibilities for exploring the international context for Manchuria that will have a range of non-Japanese sources
- Manchukuo was not just a site of Japanese occupation, within it many other things were going on. The work of Duara, Norman Smith, and Rana Mitter show this. It was also the crucible of Korean nationalism and resistance that would later play a critical role in the development of North Korea in particular.

Films of Interest:

- The Last Emperor 1987
- The Good, the Bad, the Weird (좋은놈, 나쁜놈, 이상한놈 2008)
- Manchukuo: The Newborn Empire circa 1937
 - you can find this on YouTube or on Archive.org

Week 6 - Independent Learning Week

- This is an excellent time to really focus on your research for the long essay and start writing it! Come back having at least written a few paragraphs - even if they are just a stream of ideas and possible directions.
- If you have been falling behind on the reading, this would also be a good time to catch up on this.
- Consider meeting with some classmates in independent learning week to share notes and discuss preparation for the final examination. Or at least go over your notes so far for the semester and identify where you may need to revisit.
- This is also a great time to go over the general survey history of Japan that we began the semester with (GORDON).

Week 7 - The Sino-Japanese Conflict and the Kōminka Movement

Primary Source Reading: ~50

- **SOURCES:**
 - Ch 41, Tokutomi Sohō Justification for the China War
 - Ch 45, Konoe Fumimaro Radio Address
- Brook, *Documents on the Rape of Nanking*, 9-11, 21-24, 28-34, 54-56, 60-61, 77-79, 125-128, 137-8, 156-7, 163, 234-236 (30 pages total)
 - Please note that the material here is of a very disturbing nature describing the violence of the occupation of Nanjing
- Kawakami *Japan in China: Her Motive and Aims*, 71-82, 145-161

Secondary Source Reading: ~180

- Fogel ed., *The Nanjing Massacre in History and Historiography*, 133-180: The Challenges of the Nanjing Massacre [Library ebook](#)
- Chou, “The Kōminka Movement in Taiwan and Korea: Comparisons and Interpretations” in Peattie ed. *The Japanese Wartime Empire, 1931-1945*, 40-70 [Library ebook](#)
- “Medical Modernists (1937-1945)” in Lo, *Doctors Within Borders : Profession, Ethnicity, and Modernity in Colonial Taiwan*, 109-150 [Library ebook](#)
- Read either one of the following chapters from Chatani, Sayaka “Nation-Empire: Rural Youth Mobilization in Japan, Taiwan, and Korea 1895-1945* Dissertation Columbia University, 2014.
 - Ch 6 Taiwanese Youth in the Nationalizing Empire (1937-1945) 205-247
 - Ch 8 The Mobilization of Korean Rural Youth for Total Empire (1930s-1945) 285-329

Further Reading:

- Saaler, *Pan-Asianism : A Documentary History, 1920-Present* [Library ebook](#)
 - Ch 23 - “Nanjing’s Greater Asianism: Wang Jingwei and Zhou Huaren” 209-219
- rest of Lary, Diana. *The Chinese People at War: Human Suffering and Social Transformation, 1937-1945*
- Peattie, Mark, Edward J. Drea, and Hans J. Van de Ven. *The Battle for China: Essays on the Military History of the Sino-Japanese War of 1937-1945*.
- Schoppe, R. Keith. *In a Sea of Bitterness: Refugees During the Sino-Japanese War* (P)
- Mitter, Rana. *China’s War with Japan, 1937-1945: The Struggle for Survival* (P)
- “Breeding the Japanese ‘Race’” in Sabine Früstück and Sabine Frühstück, *Colonizing Sex: Sexology and Social Control in Modern Japan* (University of California Press, 2003), 152-184.
- John Rabe, *The Good Man of Nanking: The Diaries of John Rabe*, Reprint (Vintage, 2000). (P)
- Chongyi Feng and David S. G. Goodman, eds., *North China at War: The Social Ecology of Revolution, 1937-1945* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2000). (P)
- Yoshiaki, Yoshimi. *Grassroots Fascism: The War Experience of the Japanese People* (P)
- Tansman, Alan. *The Aesthetics of Japanese Fascism* (P)

Preparation:

- SHORT ESSAY DUE - Your second prospectus or a critical review is due.
- I do not expect you to read all of the Brook documents on the Nanjing massacre. Instead, use this opportunity to practice your skimming skills as a historian might in the process of their research. Spending a total of no more than an hour on these documents take some notes on what you find to be patterns in the sources: what kinds of violence, what strategies does the safety committee have in their response, what are patterns, in turn, of the Japanese response to these efforts.
- Think about the ways the Kawakami propaganda piece resembles the Nitobe Inazo reading we did earlier in the semester. What rhetorical techniques are at work here?

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations
- The Nanjing massacre is the most famous of Japan's atrocities in war, but unfortunately it was only part of one broader pattern of violence in occupied areas under Japanese forces in almost all parts of the empire, especially from 1937-1945. However, it is one pattern. We will try to evaluate some specific features of the Nanjing episode and then ask how it might have differed in scale and severity from some other areas and times.
- We'll spend the other roughly half of our session on exploring the idea of Kōminka and discussing what this phase of Japanese empire means in relation to earlier periods.

Questions:

1. Discuss the differences or similarities in the portrayal of the Japanese as urban occupiers in the Documents on the Rape of Nanking with the depiction of the same in Aso's memoir From Shanghai to Shanghai
2. What is Kōminka, and what is distinct about it compared to earlier colonial efforts, especially in Taiwan and Korea?

Films of Interest:

- Chocolate and Soldiers (チョコレートと兵隊 1938)
- Devils on the Doorstep (鬼子来了 2000)
- City of Life and Death (南京！南京！ 2009)
- Red Sorghum (红高粱 1987)
- Yellow Earth (黄土地 1984)
- Lust, Caution (色, 戒 2007)
- The Last Emperor (1987)
- The Mountain of Tai Hang (太行山上 2005)
- Back to 1942 (一九四二 2012)
- Feng Shui (风水 2011)
- The Message (风声 2009)
- Scarecrow (Dao cao ren) 稻草人 1987
- John Rabe (2009)

Week 8 - The Empire in Southeast Asia and Dying for the Emperor

Primary Source Reading:

- “Fundamentals of Our National Polity” [Online](#) in Columbia University Asia for Educators
 - There are two versions of the excerpt here, please read the longer of the two excerpts

Choose and skim one of the following. I'll provide the text or selections of the text for this where it is not available in the library.

- Lichauco, “Dear Mother Putnam”; *a Diary of the War in the Philippines*
 - A diary tracing the daily life in urban occupied Philippines up to the eve of the battle of Manila
- Ba Maw, *Breakthrough in Burma* (complete)
 - An account of the Japanese occupation of Burma from the perspective of the Burmese head of state under the Japanese and in the nominally independent Burma after 1943
- *I.N.A. Speaks*
 - A pamphlet with justifications of the collaboration of the Indian National Army with the Japanese
- *Malaya Upside Down*
 - An account of British Malaya under Japanese occupation

Secondary Source Reading: ~70-90

- Lebra-Chapman, Joyce. *Japanese-Trained Armies in Southeast Asia: Independence and Volunteer Forces in World War II*
Choose and read one of the following three chapters:
 - Ch. 2 The Indian National Army 19-38
 - Ch. 3 The Burma Independence Army 39-74
 - Ch. 4 Peta 75-112
- Hayashi, Hirofumi “Government, the Military and Business in Japan’s Wartime Comfort Woman System” [Japan Focus Online](#)
- Fujitani, *Race for Empire*, National Mobilization, 239-298 [Library ebook](#)

Further Reading:

- John W. Dower, *War Without Mercy* [Library ebook](#) (P)
- MASON 243-295 Ch 8: The Adventures of Dankichi, Popular Orientalism
- Brandon. Palmer, “Imperial Japan’s Preparations to Conscription Koreans as Soldiers, 1942–1945,” *Korean Studies* 31, no. 1 (2008): 63–78.
- Palmer, Brandon. *Fighting for the Enemy: Koreans in Japan’s War, 1937-1945* (P)
- Hayashi, Hirofumi “The Battle of Singapore, the Massacre of Chinese and Understanding of the Issue in Postwar Japan” [Japan Focus Online](#)
- Christopher Bayly and Tim Harper, *Forgotten Wars: Freedom and Revolution in Southeast Asia*
- Yoshiaki Yoshimi, *Comfort Women: Sexual Slavery in the Japanese Military During World War II*
- Goodman, Grant ed. *Japanese Cultural Policies in Southeast Asia During World War 2* (P)
- Paul H Kratoska, ed., *Southeast Asian Minorities in the Wartime Japanese Empire* (London: Routledge, 2002). (P)
- Alfred W. McCoy, *Southeast Asia under Japanese Occupation* (P)
- Miller, Ian Jared. *The Nature of the Beasts Empire and Exhibition at the Tokyo Imperial Zoo* (P)
- Nicholas Tarling, *A Sudden Rampage: The Japanese Occupation of Southeast Asia, 1941-1945*

Preparation:

- Following things chronologically, this would normally where many books or classes on Japanese history would turn to Pearl Harbor, to the war in the Pacific, and the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These were monumental events in the history of the climatic conflict between the United States and Japan and, domestically, are what stand out the most for the people of Japan and the United States today. However, what is often neglected with this focus, and what had a broader long term impact on the entire history of a region is the massive invasion by Japan in late 1941 of almost all of southeast Asia and the destruction of European colonial power there. This was the last disastrous stage of Japanese imperialism.
- Put your main priority on working on your long essay (half the preparation time at least) which should be well along by now.
- The primary sources this week are long, but you may not only skim the works as needed, but might have the pleasure of reading the entirety of a single longer piece for perhaps the first time this semester. Use this as an opportunity to analyse this source critically and look for patterns and interesting features.
- Consider choosing a chapter from Lebra in the secondary sources to dovetail the primary source. For example, if you read the Ba Maw text, then consider reading the Burma Independence Army chapter in Lebra.
- If you are unfamiliar with it, look up the general history of the Burmese, Indian, and British Malayan colonies to get oriented a bit.

Overview:

- There may be assessed presentations
- Short Lecture and Group Task: We'll spend a good portion of our class today comparing notes with each other (hopefully we will have a good balance of students who read each of the primary sources) on the experience of Japan's "sudden rampage" as one book title calls it, through Southeast Asia.
- Group Task: We will again meet and discuss the experience of working on the second prospectus or critical review, and discuss progress on the long essay.
- Time permitting we'll discuss conscription and colonial soldiering in general, and compare the case of Korean and Taiwanese fighting for Japan with the auxiliaries of Southeast Asia.

Questions:

1. How did the "double occupations" of southeast Asia (western colonialism and Japanese occupation) make serve to make Japan's war a particularly complex memory for the peoples of southeast Asia?
2. The period from 1941-1945 is called the "Pacific War" and many of the films, books, and indeed classes about this period are taught as the war between Japan and the United States. Reflect on what goes missing from a narrative of this period as a US-Japanese war.

Films of Interest:

- Three Godless Years (1976 - Tatlong Taong Walang Diyos)
- Bose - The Forgotten Hero (2004)
- The Eternal Zero (2013 - 永遠の 0)
- Fires on the Plain (1959 - 野火)
- Letters from Iwo Jima (2006)
- Tora! Tora! Tora! (1970)
- The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)
- Human Condition series (1959-1961 - 人間の条件)
- Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence (1983)
- Empire of the Sun (1987)
- My Way (2011 - 마이웨이)

Week 9 - Long Essay Discussion and Pair Writing

Preparation

There is no assigned reading for this session. The time you would otherwise spend reading for our seminar should be dedicated entirely to work on your long essay. Take good advantage of this time.

Please bring your laptop or tablet to class for this session.

By this point in the semester, you should have made good progress on your long essay and composed at least some portion of it. This might be a first attempt at the introduction, an analytical passage articulating some important argument you wish to make, or an anecdote which provides a piece of support for your argument. It is tempting to have only a detailed outline at this point, but there is a very long way between the beautiful structure apparent on an outline and the reality of text on a screen. Please bring some portion of what you have written, no more than a single printed page in length with you. We will proceed as follows:

1. 30m - First we will form small groups, exchange some of the written work we have done so far, read it silently for 10 minutes, and then have a discussion. Each student can discuss some of their challenges in the research so far, ask for help, and give each other general feedback.
2. 25m - We will form pairs and do a ‘pair writing’ exercise. During this time one student, the ‘driver’ will write on their long essay. This can be a direct continuation of what they have already written, a new section, or more casual free flowing of ideas about their paper. If you like, you can write a summary of your essay as a whole. If you are behind in your work, you can write an updated ‘prospectus’ discussing the direction you are hoping to develop the essay. As you do this, your partner, the ‘observer’ will sit beside you and watch you write, offering occasional feedback, suggestions, or pose questions to you about what you write. If you struggle with a phrase or an idea, your partner should offer you help.
3. 25m - After a five minute break, we will switch driver/observer to allow the other partner to write. Same as above.
4. 30m - Finally we will re-form as a class and share thoughts on the experience and offer each other concrete suggestions on how to overcome problems faced so far, or where to proceed. Did you learn anything from the style or approach of your partner? Did you get any new ideas from interacting with others either in the groups early on or in the partner writing exercise?

Week 10 - The Aftermaths of War and Decolonisation

Primary Reading: ~40 pages

- Brook, *Documents on the Rape of Nanking* Dissenting Opinion of Radhabinod Pal, 269-298
- Selections of treason trial documents (will be provided)
 - Please note that these materials contain descriptions of extreme violence and may be disturbing

Secondary Reading:

- Morris-Suzuki, Tessa “Guarding the Borders of Japan: Occupation, Korean War and Frontier Controls” *Japan Focus Online*
- Watt, Lori. “Embracing Defeat in Seoul: Rethinking Decolonization in Korea, 1945.” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74, no. 01 (February 2015): 153–74
- Totani, Yuma “The Case Against the Accused” Part 4 Ch. 11 in *Beyond Victor’s Justice?: The Tokyo War Crimes Trial Revisited*, 147-162
- Dower, *Embracing Defeat*
 - Ch 16 - “What do you tell the dead when you lose?”
 - Epilogue: “Legacies/Fantasies/Dreams”

Further Reading:

- Consider reading more of Dower’s fantastic survey of the occupation period in Japan
- Bayly, Christopher, and Tim Harper. *Forgotten Armies: The Fall of British Asia, 1941-1945*
- Bayly, Christopher, and Tim Harper. *Forgotten Wars: Freedom and Revolution in Southeast Asia*
- Totani, Yuma. *The Tokyo War Crimes Trial: The Pursuit of Justice in the Wake of World War II* (P)
- Futamura, Madoka. *War Crimes Tribunals and Transitional Justice: The Tokyo Trial and the Nuremberg Legacy*
- Igarashi, Yoshikuni. *Homecomings: The Belated Return of Japan’s Lost Soldiers*, 2016. (P)
- Barshay, Andrew E. *The Gods Left First: The Captivity and Repatriation of Japanese POWs in Northeast Asia, 1945–1956*. University of California Press, 2013. (P)
- Marr, David G. *Vietnam 1945: The Quest for Power*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995. (P)
- Armstrong, Charles K. *The North Korean Revolution, 1945-1950*. Cornell University Press, 2004. (P)
- Dikötter, Frank. *The Tragedy of Liberation: A History of the Chinese Revolution 1945-1957*. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2013.
- Kushner, Barak. *Men to Devils, Devils to Men: Japanese War Crimes and Chinese Justice*
- Itoh, Mayumi. *Japanese War Orphans in Manchuria: Forgotten Victims of World War II* (P)

Preparation

- Please read the primary sources well as we will do a group exercise involving them
- Try to complete a full draft of your essay by now. The best writing is writing that has been written and revised multiple times.

Overview

- We will split this class in three: a discussion on the Tokyo War Crimes trials, a group exercise based on some treason trial documents provided to you the week before, and then a short lecture and broader discussion of the aftermaths of war more broadly across what was once the Japanese empire.
- There may be presentations

Questions:

1. What makes Pal's dissenting opinion an unusual document for the age? What is left unsaid? What different ways can a document like the opinion be used?

2. What are the biggest challenges to conducting a legal reckoning with the past in the aftermath of the war?
3. What are some of the ways in which Japan's decolonization is unique among the major empires of the world?

Films of Interest:

- The Burmese Harp (1956)
- Emperor (2012)
- Pride (1998 - プライド運命の瞬間)
- Better Wishes for Tomorrow (2007 - 明日への遺言)
- The Tokyo Trial (2006 东京审判)
- Tokyo Trial (2016 mini-series)
- Merdeka 17805 (2001)
- Japan's Longest Day (1967 - 日本の一番長い日)
- Under the Flag of the Rising Sun (1972 - 軍旗はためく下に)
- Merah Putih (2009)
- Spirits' Homecoming (2016 - 귀향)

Week 11 - The Politics of Memory

Primary Reading: ~25 pages

- **SOURCES:**

- Part VII, Chapter 51, 1279-1281 Logic and Psychology of Ultranationalism - Maruyama
- Part VII, Chapter 51, 1283-1285 Ienaga Textbook Trials
- Part VII, Chapter 51, 1288-1290 Fujiwara Akira
- Part VII, Chapter 51, 1290-1297 Kobayashi Yoshinori
- Part VII, Chapter 51, 1306-1308 Arano Yasunori and Colleagues
- The reading in Victoria's *Zen Stories* below contains some extended primary source passages

Secondary Reading: ~160 pages

- Lee, Sung-Ae. "Remembering or Misremembering? Historicity and the Case of So Far from the Bamboo Grove." *Children's Literature in Education* 39, no. 2 (June 1, 2008): 85–93.
- Ching, Leo T. S. *Becoming Japanese: Colonial Taiwan and the Politics of Identity Formation*, 1-11 [Library ebook](#)
- Jager, *Ruptured Histories* Carol Gluck "Comfort Women and the World" pp47-77
- Victoria, Brian Daizen *Zen at War*:
 - Ch 7 Emergence of Imperial-Way Buddhism - Buddhism and War pp86-91
 - Ch 8 Imperial-State Zen and Soldier Zen pp101-105
 - Ch 10 Postwar Zen Response to Imperial Way Buddhism - Declarations of War Responsibility pp152-178
- Victoria, Brian Daizen *Zen War Stories*:
 - Ch 1 The Zen Master Wept pp3-16
 - Ch 5 Zen Master Dōgen goes to war pp66-75

Further Reading:

- Shin, Gi-Wook, and Soon Won Park. *Rethinking Historical Injustice And Reconciliation in Northeast Asia: The Korean Experience* (P)
- Igarashi, Yoshikuni. *Bodies of Memory: Narratives of War in Postwar Japanese Culture, 1945-1970* (P)
- Hein, Laura, and Mark Selden. *Censoring History: Citizenship and Memory in Japan, Germany, and the United States* (P)
- Nozaki, Yoshiko. *War Memory, Nationalism and Education in Postwar Japan: The Japanese History Textbook Controversy and Ienaga Saburo's Court Challenges* (P)
- Seraphim, Franziska. *War Memory and Social Politics in Japan, 1945-2005*. Harvard University Press, 2008. (P)
- Soh, C. Sarah. *The Comfort Women: Sexual Violence and Postcolonial Memory in Korea and Japan*. University of Chicago Press, 2009. (P)
- Shin, Gi-Wook, and Daniel C. Sneider. *History Textbooks and the Wars in Asia: Divided Memories*. Routledge, 2011. (P)

Overview:

- There may be presentations
- This week we will examine some of the issues that have collectively come to be referred to as the “history problem” in Japan, including issues related to depictions of empire and war in textbooks and the similar rise of previously neglected voices in the 1980s and 1990s.
- What some of these better known issues don't capture well is how challenging the issue of war and empire is for institutions and communities all throughout Japan. Clubs, families, municipal governments, libraries, religious organizations etc. all have had their own challenges to face the long history of Japanese empire and war. In order to focus in a bit, we will examine one case study in more detail: the role of Zen buddhism. Victoria's readings give you both a look into Zen's relationship with the Japanese state during our period (though keep in mind, Zen buddhists have by no means a unique story to tell here), along with some of the postwar story of their confrontation (or lack of) with their contribution to Japanese empire and wartime expansion.

- We will set some time aside to review the handbook section on the final exam, discuss the plan for the review session next week, and strategies for preparing for the take-home exam.

Films of Interest:

- 2009: Lost Memories (2002 - 2009 **로스트메모리즈**)
- Grave of the Fireflies (1988 - **火垂るの墓**)
- Yamato (2005 - **男たちの大和**)
- No Regrets for Our Youth (1946 - **わが青春に悔いなし**)
- Godzilla (1954)

Readings

Background Reading

- GORDON: Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. (Oxford University Press, 2009).
- Beasley, W. G. Japanese Imperialism 1894-1945. Oxford: Clarendon, 1987.
- Mark Peattie, ed., *The Japanese Colonial Empire, 1895-1945* (Princeton University Press, 1984).

Primary Sources

- MASON: Michele Mason and Helen Lee, eds., *Reading Colonial Japan: Text, Context, and Critique* (Stanford University Press, 2012).
- SOURCES: Bary, Wm Theodore de de, Carol Gluck, and Arthur Tiedemann. *Sources of Japanese Tradition: Volume 2, 1600 to 2000*. 2nd ed. Columbia University Press, 2005.
- Timothy Brook, ed., *Documents on the Rape of Nanking* (University of Michigan Press, 1999).
- Saaler, Sven, and Christopher W. A. Szpilman. *Pan-Asianism: A Documentary History, 1920–Present*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2011.

All Readings

Atkins, E. Taylor. *Primitive Selves: Koreana in the Japanese Colonial Gaze, 1910-1945*. 1st ed. University of California Press, 2010.

Aydin, Cemil. *The Politics of Anti-Westernism in Asia: Visions of World Order in Pan-Islamic and Pan-Asian Thought*. Columbia Studies in International and Global History. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007.

Paul D. Barclay, “Cultural Brokerage and Interethnic Marriage in Colonial Taiwan: Japanese Subalterns and Their Aborigine Wives, 1895–1930,” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 64, no. 02 (2005): 323–360.

Wm Theodore de de Bary, Carol Gluck, and Arthur Tiedemann, *Sources of Japanese Tradition: Volume 2, 1600 to 2000*, 2nd ed. (Columbia University Press, 2005).

Bayly, Christopher, and Tim Harper. *Forgotten Armies: The Fall of British Asia, 1941-1945*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 2005.

Bayly, Christopher, and Tim Harper. *Forgotten Wars: Freedom and Revolution in Southeast Asia*. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2007.

Brook, Timothy, ed., *Documents on the Rape of Nanking* (University of Michigan Press, 1999).

Calichman, Richard, ed., *Overcoming Modernity: Cultural Identity in Wartime Japan* (Columbia University Press, 2008). 1-41.

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Caprio, Mark, “Neo-Nationalist Interpretations of Japan’s Annexation of Korea: The Colonization Debate in Japan and South Korea”, n.d., <http://www.japanfocus.org/-Mark-Caprio/3438>.

Ching-Chih Chen, “The Japanese Adaptation of the Pao-Chia System in Taiwan, 1895-1945,” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 34, no. 2 (February 1, 1975): 391–416.

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Cook, Haruko Taya and Theodore F. Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History*, (New Press, 1993).

Culver, Annika A. *Glorify the Empire: Japanese Avant-Garde Propaganda in Manchukuo*. UBC Press, 2013.

Dower, John W., *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, First edition. (W. W. Norton & Company, 2000). 443-524. 547-564.

Mark Driscoll, *Absolute Erotic, Absolute Grotesque: The Living, Dead, and Undead in Japan’s Imperialism, 1895–1945* (Duke University Press Books, 2010). 1-24, 101-134, 263-314.

- Duara, Prasenjit, *Sovereignty and Authenticity: Manchukuo and the East Asian Modern* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2004). 9-40, 89-130.
- Duara, Prasenjit, "The New Imperialism and the Post-Colonial Developmental State: Manchukuo in Comparative Perspective", n.d., <http://www.japanfocus.org/-Prasenjit-Duara/1715>.
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- Eskildsen, Robert, "Of Civilization and Savages: The Mimetic Imperialism of Japan's 1874 Expedition to Taiwan," *The American Historical Review* 107, no. 2 (April 1, 2002): 388–418.
- Chongyi Feng and David S. G. Goodman, eds., *North China at War: The Social Ecology of Revolution, 1937-1945* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2000). 1-24.
- Fogel, Joshua A., ed., *The Nanjing Massacre in History and Historiography*, 1st ed. (University of California Press, 2000). 133-180.
- Fu, Poshek, *Passivity, Resistance, and Collaboration: Intellectual Choices in Occupied Shanghai, 1937-1945*, 1st ed. (Stanford University Press, 1997). 110-154.
- Fujitani, Takashi. *Race for Empire: Koreans as Japanese and Japanese as Americans During World War II*. University of California Press, 2011.
- Fukuzawa Yukichi "Good-bye Asia (Datsu-a)" trans. David John Lu, in *Japan: a documentary history : The Late Tokugawa Period to the Present*, (M.E. Sharpe, 1997). 351-3.
- Futamura, Madoka. *War Crimes Tribunals and Transitional Justice: The Tokyo Trial and the Nuremberg Legacy*. London ; New York: Routledge, 2008.
- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. (Oxford University Press, 2009).
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- Miller, Ian Jared. *The Nature of the Beasts Empire and Exhibition at the Tokyo Imperial Zoo*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013.
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- Mimura, Janis. *Planning for Empire: Reform Bureaucrats and the Japanese Wartime State*. Cornell University Press, 2011.
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- Binghui Liao and Dewei Wang, *Taiwan Under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895-1945: History, Culture, Memory* (Columbia University Press, 2006). 37-61, 141-159, 160-185.
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- Nozaki, Yoshiko. *War Memory, Nationalism and Education in Postwar Japan: The Japanese History Textbook Controversy and Ienaga Saburo’s Court Challenges*. Routledge, 2008.
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- Oh, Se-Mi. “Consuming the Modern: The Everyday in Colonial Seoul, 1915–1937.” Ph.D., Columbia University, 2008.
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Primary Sources on East and Southeast Asia

Below are a selection of potential starting points for primary sources relevant for historical research on East and Southeast Asia. Many of these are available through our library electronic resources. Others you can contact me about if you are having trouble finding them. Not all of these sources are in English and I have included some sources here for use by students who are able to read Chinese, Japanese, and Korean.

Newspapers and Periodicals:

- [The Times](#)
- [Japan Chronicle](#)
- [19th Century British Newspapers](#)
- [19th Century British Periodicals](#)
- [British Periodicals I & II](#)
- [British Newspapers 1600-1950](#)
- [Historic American Newspapers](#)
- [Irish Times](#)
- [Los Angeles Times](#)
- [North China Herald](#)
- [Guardian & Observer](#)
- [Periodical Archives Online](#)
- [Times of India](#)
- [Economist 1843-2010](#)
- [Scotsman](#)
- [HeinOnline - Legal Journals](#)
- [Newsvault](#)
 - Combines some of the Databases above
- [Old Hong Kong Collections and Newspapers](#)
 - Here you may want to check:
 - * [Hong Kong Collection](#)
 - * [Old HK Newspapers](#)
 - * [Hong Kong Oral History](#) (you can filter by language)
- [Singapore Newspaper Archive 1831-2009](#)
 - Some of these 200 newspapers can be viewed directly but not all of them)
- [XXth Century 1941-1945](#)
 - unusual magazine from Japanese occupied Shanghai
- [Australian Historical Newspaper Archive](#)
- [明六雜誌 1874-5](#)
 - Digitized version of the famous Meiji period journal (Japanese).
- [国民之友 1887-8](#)
- [滿州技術協會誌](#)
 - Journal of Manchuria Technical Association journal 1925-1941
 - Digitized version of “The Nation’s Friend” (Japanese).
- [Chinese Women’s Magazines in the Late Qing and Early Republican Period \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Xiaobao - Chinese Entertainment Newspapers \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Funü Zazhi - Chinese women’s magazine \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Ling Long Magazine \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Korean Historical Newspapers \(Korean\)](#)
- [PRCHistory.org Archive of Journals Remembrance and Yesterday](#)
- [奈良女子大学所藏資料電子画像集](#)
 - Digital collection of historical journals and other materials related to women’s university education in Japan. (Japanese)

- [Puka Puka Parade](#)
 - Post 1945 Newsletter of 100th Infantry Battalion of Japanese-American veterans
- [Japan Times 1998-](#)
- [Press Translations, Japan 1945-1946](#)
- [Kobe University Newspaper Clippings Archive \(Japanese\)](#)
- [Hsinhua News Agency 1977-Present \(Nexis UK\)](#)

Government Documents

- [Wilson Center Digital Archive](#)
 - Massive collection of Cold War period documents, many of them translated and transcribed
- [Wilson Center Chinese Foreign Policy Database](#)
- [British Documents on the End of Empire](#)
- [Cabinet Papers 1915-1984](#)
- [Parliamentary Papers](#)
- [FRUS - Foreign Relations of the US](#)
- [Hong Kong Government Reports Online 1842-1941](#)
- [US Occupation Government in Korea Documents](#)
 - The index is in Korean, but the language of the documents is English
- [Japanese Diet Proceedings Archive \(Japanese\)](#)
- [日本外交文書デジタルアーカイブ](#)
- [帝国議会会議録](#)
- [朝鮮王朝實錄](#)
- [Truman Library Documents on Decision to Drop the Atomic Bomb](#)
- [The Gazette \(British Government newspaper\)](#)
- [Digital South Asia Library](#)
- [CIA National Intelligence Estimates on China](#)
- [Tokyo War Crimes Trial Digital Collection](#)
- [Nineteenth Century Collections Online - Asia and the West](#)
 - U.S. State Department Consular and Diplomatic Records - despatches from many US consuls in region
 - British Foreign Office Political Correspondence: Japan
 - Korean, Siamese, Japanese and Chinese legations in the United States
 - Missionary Correspondence and Journals
- [Burma, *The Struggle for Independence, 1944-1948: Documents from Official and Private Sources*](#)
 - Many British documents on Burma from this time
- [Towards Freedom: *Documents on the Movement for Independence in India, 1943-1944*](#)
 - Many documents on India from this time
- [The Transfer of Power 1942-7](#)
 - Many British documents on India from this time

Memoirs, Diaries, Digitised Books etc.

- [Archive.org](#) - Huge and fantastic resource for published works before 1920s
- [Google Books](#) - If there is only snippet view on old works, try archive.org
- [Gutenberg Project](#) - Pure text versions of many popular out of copyright books
- [Hathi Trust](#)
 - massive collection of digitized books
 - when they cannot be viewed because they are in copyright, they can still help you pin point which pages things are mentioned
- [Historical Texts](#)

- Especially the British Library digitised books 1789-1914
- [Robert Hart Diaries](#)
 - http://digitalcollections.qub.ac.uk/site/hart-diaries/diaries/show_vol.php?v=31
 - <http://gis.rchss.sinica.edu.tw/cmcs/collections-at-academia-sinica/the-diaries-of-sir-robert-hart>
 - <http://cdm15979.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15979coll2>
- [Joseph Berry Keenan Digital Collection](#) - Important primary sources from war crimes trials and early postwar Japan.
- [Ming Qing Women's Writings](#)
 - Digitised Chinese works by women from Ming and Qing dynasties (Chinese)
- [National Taiwan University Open Access Books](#) (Chinese)
- [Diary of Joseph Stilwell 1900-1946](#)
- [World War II Diaries of Ernest F. Easterbrook, 1944-45](#)
- [Hawaii Karate Museum Collection](#)
 - PDFs of books in English, Japanese, and Korean on Karate and martial arts, mostly 1950s.
- [Gallica](#) (French)
 - National Library of France has digitised a huge amount of materials, including a wide range of materials, memoirs, books, images, related to East Asia and Indochina.

Propaganda, Posters, and Pamphlets

- [Chinese Propaganda Poster Collection](#)
- [Chinese Pamphlets](#)
 - from early People's Republic of China - browse by subject, may not show all pamphlets in browse mode
- [Korean War Propaganda Leaflets](#)
- [Korean War Propaganda Digital Horizons](#)

Photographs, Postcards, Films

- [Showa Period Photo Archive from Shashin Shūhō 1938-1944](#)(Japanese)
- [National Archives UK on Flickr](#)
- [US National Archives on Flickr](#)
- [New York Public Library Digital Collections](#)
- [Boston Museum of Fine Arts Image Collection](#)
- [Mainichi Photo Bank](#)
 - You can search the archive of photos from the Mainichi newspaper and see relatively small watermarked images
- [Memories of Metropolis - Tokyo](#) -Japanese (and some English), mostly photographs from various sources on the history of Tokyo. OA.
- [Joseph Needham Photographs - Wartime China, 1942-1946](#)
- [Historical Chinese Postcard Project: 1896-1920](#)
- [Historical Photographs of China](#)
- [Sidney D. Gamble's Photographs of China 1908-1932](#)
- [UW-Madison East Asian Collection Photograph Collection](#)
- [Shackford Collection of Photographs of China](#)
- [Francis E. Stafford photographs of China 1909-1933](#)
- [Visualising China 1850-1950](#)
- [Hoover Institution Political Poster Database](#)
- [Lafayette College East Asian Postcard Collections](#)
- [MIT Visualising Cultures](#)
- [Formosa Nineteenth Century Images](#)
- [Sydney Gamble Photographs of China and Japan](#)

- Japanese Photographs from Late-Tokugawa and Meiji period
- UW Milwaukee Asia and Middle East Photos from American Geographical Society
- An American GI in Japan, Autumn 1945: A Photographic Memoir
- Philippine Photographs Digital Archive
- The United States and its Territories 1870-1925 photographic collections
- Vintage Formosa
 - some 7000 photos of historical Taiwan
- Hedda Morrison Photographs of China
- Dutch East Indies in Photographs, 1860-1940
- Botanical and Cultural Images of Eastern Asia
- Colonial Film Database of the British Empire
- British Pathe Historical Footage
- Everyday in Mao's China - Use these photographs with care and note the source.
- Korean Movie Database
 - Often with English subtitles
 - Includes full length Korean historical movies from earlier decades
 - see more at <http://www.kmdb.or.kr/>

Recordings and Sound

- 1900-1950 Japanese Sound Archive (Japanese)
- NHK Japanese Oral History Testimony Archive (Japanese)
 - Also contains historical news clips and other footage

Maps and GIS

- David Rumsey Map Library
- Japanese Historical Maps - David Rumsey
- Visual Cultures in Asia - Maps
- Old Maps Online
- University of Texas Perry-Castañeda Map Archive
 - contains a lot of WWII military maps of Asia
- Virtual Shanghai Map Collection
- 東洋文庫中華帝国図等
 - Historical maps of China in the Oriental library
- USC Asian Map Collection
- ChinaX Map
 - Amazing collection of GIS layers related to Chinese history
- Disaster of Japan's 2011 Disasters
- Japan Map
 - Collection of GIS layers related to Japan's 2011 Disasters
- WorldMap
 - Many GIS layers and maps are available to browse and sometimes download here
- China Historical GIS
 - can download shapefiles for creating historical maps of China

Other

- [Inside Indonesia](#) - bulletin of the Indonesia Resources and Information Programme, Australia, 1983-2007
- [Online Burma/Myanmar Library](#) - archive of relatively recent digital documents, and portal to more resources
- [Digital Bodleian](#)
- [Atlas of Mutual Heritage](#)
 - Good archive of documents, maps, and images from the Dutch East India Company and the West-Indische Compagnie
 - Digitised books in Harvard-Yenching from 1860s-1940s
- [LawPhil Philippine Laws and Jurisprudence](#) - Massive legal database for the Philippines with court rulings and case info on thousands of cases from recent Philippine history
- [Philippine Diary Project](#) - Collection of digitised diaries from Filipinos from the past two centuries
- [Report of the Philippine Commission to the Secretary of War](#)
- [Digital Vatican Library](#)

Japan

- [Selection of Scanned Open Access Harvard-Yenching Books from Japan on Google Books](#)
- [Japan Air Raids Bilingual Historical Archive](#)
- [Prange Digital Children's Book Collection 1945-49 \(Japanese\)](#)
- [Joseph B. Keenan Digital Collection](#)
- [Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement Digital Archive](#)
- [Hiroshima Archive](#)
- [PRCHistory.org Document of the Month](#)
- [Japanese National Diet Library \(Japanese\)](#)
 - has a variety of digital resources
- [National Archives of Japan Digital Collections](#)
- [Japan Center for Asian Historical Records \(Japanese\)](#)
 - Massive archive of especially military records from pre-1945 Japan
- [Digital Library of the Meiji Period \(Japanese\)](#)
 - pretty much every book published in the Meiji period is digitized here, Taisho period books increasingly available too
- [Denshō Archive for Japanese-American internment](#)
- [Japanese Historical Text Initiative](#)
- [Japan Air Raids Historical Archive](#)
- [ジャパンアーカイブズ 1850-2100](#)

Korea

- [Korean National Archives \(Korean\)](#)
 - some documents can only be viewed within Korean libraries
- [Korean History Digital Archive \(Korean\)](#)
 - a massive variety of historical sources can be found here
- [1945-50 Korean Literary Collection \(Korean\) Univ. Washington](#)
- [Histopia \(Korean\)](#)
 - Collection of digitized historical Korean sources
- [Korean American Digital Archive](#)
- [Korean Independence Outbreak Movement Online Exhibit](#)
- [Japanese Wartime Policy in Korea Digital Archive \(Korean/Japanese\)](#)

- [Korean Literary Collection Digital Archive 1945-1950](#)
 - Some rare books in Korean from the early postwar period digitised by the University of Washington
- [Foreign Broadcast Information Service 1974-1996](#)
 - search SAULCAT

Taiwan

- [Taiwan Postwar National Historical Archive \(Chinese\)](#)
- [National Taiwan University Digital Projects Home \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Taiwan History Digital Library \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Taiwan National Repository of Cultural Heritage \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Taiwan Colonial Court Records \(Chinese/Japanese\)](#)
 - requires online application for access
- [Taiwan Database for Empirical Legal Studies \(Chinese\)](#)
- [Digital Repository of Taiwan Provincial Assembly \(Chinese\)](#)
 - requires online application for access
- [National Taiwan University Taiwan Historical Photo Archive \(Chinese\)](#)
- [National Taiwan University Institutional Repository \(Chinese\)](#)
 - historical records related to NTU
 - chief prosecutor in the Tokyo war crimes trials

China

- [Chinese maritime digitization project](#)
- [Harvard Yenching Library Chinese Republican Period 1911-1949 digitization project](#) - Chinese books digitized by Harvard-Yenching library.
- [Chinese Digital Archive 1966-1976](#)
 - much of it in Chinese
- [Virtual Shanghai](#)
- [Chinese Text Project](#)
 - Collection of classical Chinese texts with translations
- [Heidelberg University China Digital Archive](#)
 - need to apply for an account to access, application online
- [Chinese Civilization in Time and Space](#)
- [Hiroshima Archive](#)
- [International Dunhuang Project: The Silk Road Online](#)
- [Yale Nanjing Massacre Archival Project](#)

See Me

- Some of these databases may be accessible in Edinburgh or elsewhere. Please see me for more information:
- [Shanghai Municipal Police Archives](#)
- [US State Department Records on Japan](#)
- [US Intelligence Files on East Asia \(mostly post-WWII\)](#)
- [Chinese Recorder - missionary journal from China](#)
- [申報 \(Chinese newspaper Shanghai\)](#)

- **人民日报** (Communist newspaper)
- **台湾日日新聞** (Taiwanese colonial newspaper in Japanese)
- **京城日報** (Korean colonial newspaper in Japanese)
- **朝鮮日報** (Korean newspaper)
- **東亞日報** (Korean newspaper)
- **民報** (Taiwan newspaper, early postwar)

Some Key Secondary Source Databases

- [CiNii Japanese Article Database](#) - the “Google Scholar” of Japan. Often has links to PDFs of Japanese language scholarship

Some Good LibGuides for East Asia Related Sources

- These will include links to many resources available only to students of that university
- [Harvard Korea Research Guide](#)
- [Harvard Japan Research Guide](#)
- [Harvard China Research Guide](#)
- [U of California Berkely East Asia Research Guide](#)
- [University of Washington East Asia Guide](#)
- [Yale China English Sources Research Guide](#)
- [Yale China Research Guide](#)
- [Yale Japan Research Guide](#)
- [Yale Korea Research Guide](#)
- [国立国会図書館アジア情報の調べ方案内](#)
- Please get in touch if you find that this list contains any dead links, or you wish to suggest an addition