

University of Pennsylvania
Department of History
History 630-401

Readings in Chinese History: China's Wars Since 1894-95

Fall Semester 2015
Professor Arthur Waldron

Summary:

The Qing Dynasty (1644-1912) ended in war; the two Chinese states that succeeded it were also almost constantly fighting, both internally and with external foes. Today war once again threatens East, Southeast, and South Asia.

This course provides a solid narrative of more than a century of war-fighting in these regions. It looks at the causes, courses, and strategies both of direct engagement and of indirect assistance. It also compares the imperatives of internal struggles with external. Beginning with Japan's first defeat of the Qing in 1894-95, it examines ethnic hostilities in the subsequent Chinese overthrow of the Manchus, and then the dynamics of intra-Chinese political fighting for control of government. Substantial attention is paid to the pivotal war against the Japanese invasion of 1937-1945. The conflicts of the People's Republic of China are also examined, right up to the present Asian face-off over the South China Sea.

Although neither fiction nor art is specifically assigned, students in this course are encouraged to look not only at the military aspects of conflicts, but also at their economic and social effects, as well as the ways that they were understood by participants and represented in the arts including visual and literature. The instructor welcomes novel approaches taken by students, after consultation.

Instructor:

Arthur Waldron
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Biography:

Arthur Waldron has been the Lauder Professor of International Relations in the Department of History at the University of Pennsylvania, since 1997. He works mostly on the history of Asia, China in particular; the problem of nationalism, and the study of war and violence in history. Educated at Harvard (A.B. '71 *summa cum laude* Valedictorian; PhD '81) and in Asia where he lived for four years before returning to Harvard. He previously taught at Princeton University, the U.S. Naval War College (Newport, RI) and Brown University. His publications include *The Great Wall of China: From History to Myth* (1989) also in Italian and Chinese; *The Modernization of Inner Asia* (1991); *How the Peace Was Lost: The 1935 Memorandum "Developments Affecting American Policy in the Far East" Prepared for the State Department by John Van Antwerp MacMurray* (1992) also in Japanese; *From War to Nationalism: China's Turning Point, 1924-1925* (1995) being translated into Chinese at Peking University, and (with Daniel Moran) *The People in Arms: Military Myth and National Mobilization since the French Revolution* (2003). His latest book, *The Chinese* should appear in 2016. In addition he has fourteen articles in peer reviewed journals, ten chapters in books, and two edited volumes in Chinese, as well numerous scholarly and popular reviews and journalistic essays. In government, he served as one of twelve members of the highly-classified Tilelli Commission (2000-2001), which evaluated the China operations of the Central Intelligence Agency. He was also an original member of the Congressionally-

mandated U.S-China Economic and Security Review Commission (2001-2003). He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a Board Member of the Jamestown Foundation (Washington, D.C.) and former Director of Asian Studies at the American Enterprise Institute (Washington, D.C.). A regular traveler, he has visited some fifty countries in Asia and beyond. He has lectured all over the world, including Europe, Russia, Australia and Japan. Born in Boston in 1948 Professor Waldron married the former Xiaowei Yü 余曉薇 (born Beijing) in 1988. With their two sons they live in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania.

Office Hours: College Hall 311C T 4:30-6:00 R: 1:30-3:30

Course Requirements: Attendance at seminars, research paper on a related topic of your choice, 15-40 pages.

Seminar Schedule:

We meet Tuesday from 1:30 to 4:30 in my office, College Hall 311C

Week One:

September 01 Introduction

Reading:

Week Two:

September 08 The First Sino-Japanese War

Reading S.C.M. Paine, *The Sino-Japanese War of 1894–1895: Perception, Power, and Primacy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. ISBN 9780521617451

Week Three:

September 15 The End of the Qing

Reading: Edward J. M. Rhoads. *Manchus and Han: Ethnic Relations and Political Power in Late Qing and Early Republican China 1861-1928*. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2000. ISBN 0-295-079368-0

Week Four:

September 22 Internal War

Reading: Arthur Waldron. *From War to Nationalism: China's turning point, 1924-1925*. Cambridge: Cambridge

University Press, 1995. ISBN 0-521-47238-5.
DS777.36.W34.

Week Five:

September 29

The Second Sino-Japanese War

Reading:

Freda Utley, *China At War* London: Faber & Faber, 1939.
S. C. M. Paine. *The Wars for Asia, 1911-1949* Cambridge:
Cambridge University Press, 2014. ISBN 9781107697478

Week Six:

October 06

The Civil War

Reading

Odd Arne Westad, *Decisive Encounters: The Chinese Civil War, 1946-1950*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2003 ISBN 9780804744843

Week Seven:

October 13

The Korean War

Reading: Chen Jian, *China's Road to the Korean War: The Making of the Sino-American Confrontation*. New York, N.Y.: Columbia University Press, 1996. ISBN 9780231100250

Week Eight:

October 20

The Taiwan Crises

Reading:

Nancy Bernkopf Tucker, *Strait Talk: United States-Taiwan Relations and the Crisis with China*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2011. ISBN 0674060520

Week Nine:

October 27

The Sino-Indian War

Reading:

John Garver, *Protracted Contest: Sino-Indian Rivalry in the Twentieth Century*. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2002. ISBN 0295980745

Week Ten:

November 03 The Vietnam War

Reading: Qiang Zhai, *China and the Vietnam Wars, 1950-1975*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2000 ISBN 9780300186833

Week Eleven:

November 10 Reconciliation with the United States

Reading: John H. Holdridge. *Crossing the Divide: An Insider's Account of the Normalization of U.S.-China Relations*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. 1997. ISBN 0-8476-8504-7. E183.8.C6 H65 1997.

Week Twelve:

November 17 The 1979 Vietnam War

Reading: Edward C. O'Dowd. *Chinese Military Strategy in the Third Indochina War: The Last Maoist War*. London and New York: Routledge, 2007. ISBN ISBN-13: 978-0415545280

Week Thirteen:

November 24 The Tiananmen Massacre, 1989

Reading: Rowena Xiaoqing He, *Tiananmen Exiles: Voices of the Struggle For Democracy in China*. London: Palgrave, 2014 ISBN-13: 978-1137438317

Week Fourteen:

December 01 New Territorial Claims

Reading: Bill Hayton, *The South China Sea: The Struggle for Power in Asia*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2014. ISBN 9780300186833

Week Fifteen:

December 08 Conclusion

*Papers due Friday December 18
(Last Day of Examinations)*

Good Luck!