

Revised: Fall 2016

HIS 253 Asian Civilization I

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

Surveys the civilizations of Asia from their origins to the present. Part I of II.

Upon completing HIS-253 (Asia to ca.1500 c.e.), the student will have gained valuable insight into the socio-economic, cultural, political, and historical events instrumental in the formation of this important and most populous region of the world. Given the scope and diversity of the subject, "Asian Civilization," the focus of HIS-253, will be primarily on China and Japan. Lesser emphasis will be given to Korea, Vietnam, and peripheral regions.

Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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HIS 253: Asian Civilization I

Course Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Recognize the origins of Asian civilizations especially as concerns China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.
- Trace the origins of Buddhism from its roots in India eastward to China and beyond.
- Compare and contrast the political and social philosophies of various Chinese Dynasties. and evaluate their impact.
- Examine the social, political, economic, religious, and military institutions of the early dynasties of China understanding their influence "at home" and beyond China's borders.
- Form an appreciation for the various Asian art forms which are important to their respective early civilizations.
- Trace the development of Japan from antiquity to its feudal period.
- Be familiar with the events involved with the formation of Korea and Vietnam; especially relative to these countries' relationships with China.
- Understand the importance of intrusion by "barbarian" peoples, especially as viewed by China and Japan..
- Comprehend and appreciate the unique characteristics and distinct qualities of Asian civilization.

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HIS 253: Asian Civilization I

Required Materials:

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Blackboard

Textbook:

Murphey, Rhoads. East Asia: A New History. Boston, Mass.: Longman Press, 5th ed., 2010.
ISBN: 978-0-205-69522-5

The following supplementary materials are available: None

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Topical Description:

Introduction to East Asia

"Earliest China"

Chou/Zhou Dynasty China

The Beginnings of Empire Ch'in/ Qin Dynasty

HAN Dynasty

BUDDHISM

TANG Dynasty

SONG & YUAN Dynasties

MING Dynasty

Culture and Chinese Art

Early Japan

Medieval Japan

Early Korea

"Pre-modern" Vietnam

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Notes to Instructors

- None