

# Virginia Western Community College

## HIS 254

### Asian Civilization II

#### **Prerequisites**

None

#### **Course Description**

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

Upon completing HIS-254 (Asia since 1500 c.e.), the student will have gained valuable insight into the socio-economic, cultural, political, and historical events critical to the continuing development of this important and most populous region of the world. Given the scope and diversity of the subject "Asian Civilization," the focus of HIS-254 will be primarily on China and Japan; lesser emphasis will be given to Korea, Vietnam, and peripheral regions.

**Semester Credits: 3**

**Lecture Hours: 3**

#### **Required Materials**

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

#### **Textbook:**

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

#### **Other Required Materials:**

None

## Course Outcomes

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

- Identify the "Unifiers" of 16th/17th. century Japan.
- Recognize the importance of era of the Tokugawa Shogunate.
- Comprehend the significance of European and Western nations contact / arrival in Asia.
- Compare and contrast China's response to western contacts with that of Japan.
- Articulate the various events comprising China's Nineteenth Century Crisis.
- Know the background and details of "the Opening of Japan" and the Meiji Restoration.
- Understand the relationships among the counties of China. Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.
- Outline the details and identify the key persons involved in Chinese politics during the twentieth century.
- Outline the course of Japan's program of "Westernization" and imperial ambitions.
- Be familiar with the causes and results of World War Two as they apply to the nations of Asia, especially China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.
- Analyze the circumstances relative to the Cold War Era as they apply to Asia.
- Compare and contrast the Korean and Vietnam Wars.
- Be familiar with the socio-economic, political, and cultural trends defining Asia during the last half of the 20th. Century.

## Topical Description

|    |                                                |
|----|------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | China in the Seventeenth Century               |
| 2  | The West arrives: initial contact with Europe  |
| 3  | Europe's impact on China and Japan             |
| 4  | Tokugawa Japan                                 |
| 5  | China's Nineteenth Century Crises              |
| 6  | China and the "New order of things," 1901-1925 |
| 7  | The "Opening of Japan"                         |
| 8  | China and Japan: "The Road to War"             |
| 9  | World War Two                                  |
| 10 | Post World War II China                        |
| 11 | Post World War II Japan                        |
| 12 | Korea and Vietnam since 1945                   |

## Notes to Instructors

None