MARITIME EAST ASIA.

Prof. Andrew Goble       Department of History.
361 McKenzie        University of Oregon.
Office Hours: TW 1030-1130.
platypus@uoregon.edu      McKenzie 471; M 1400-1650
CRN 27175/27177.

This class will explore a variety of interactions, shaped by the maritime environment of East Asia, between the twelfth and nineteenth centuries.

Whereas it is common to approach East Asian history with the assumption that the focus is the land, and that maritime reaches such as oceans, seas, and straits divide and hinder interaction, this class will explore some more recent approaches to the human history of East Asia by focusing on ubiquitous connections facilitated by the maritime context.

The default perspective for the study of East Asian history has been that national or state entities based on land provide the framework for historical investigation. While this is hardly a mistaken assumption, and reflects the overall pattern of highly constrained diplomatic relations of states bordering the East China Sea, it is a restricted perspective. It has become increasingly apparent that the historical record and rhythms of East Asian history – that is, of the broader macro-culture – have been continuously shaped by interactions of non-state actors for whom the maritime environment was a natural and necessary context. These non-state actors included private individuals, transnational and macro-cultural religious networks, members of trading networks, and groups involved in organized autonomous entrepreneurial activity who were often described as pirates.

It has also become apparent that those involved, while no doubt well aware of their own origins, constituted a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, and cosmopolitan community. Like the maritime environment, and in contrast to a land environment, that community was fluid, made up of many currents, and recognized few permanent boundaries. Change and instability rather than predictable continuity was the norm.

In looking at interactions across the seas that shared the shores of such places as China, the Japanese archipelago, the Korea peninsula, the Philippine archipelago, the Ryūkyū islands, and Taiwan, we will examine movement, circulation, borrowing, appropriation, and influences both welcome and unwelcome, in the context of a broad-based and ever-evolving macro-culture.

EVALUATION.

One 4000 word term paper (5000 words for graduate students) is the main basis of the grade. Attendance and discussion will count for 10% of the grade. Term paper topic shall be chosen in consultation with instructor, and is due by the last class period.

If class size is sufficiently large as to make it possible, each week a portion of the class will be responsible for acting as “discussion leader” for the class, and for covering the readings for that week. This would mean being part of the presentation group two or three times. Otherwise, readings will be apportioned each week.
REQUIRED TEXTS.


OTHER READING.

Monographs and edited collections will be placed on course reserve in the Knight Library.

Individual articles will, as far as possible, be uploaded as PDFs to Canvas. Others will be found in the original journal (which would not be on reserve).

All are expected to have read those readings marked by an asterisk *

Discussion leaders in consultation with instructor are in addition responsible for the remaining material as well.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

01/08  Week 1: Course Introduction, and scheduling of presentations. Video: *Treasure Fleet: The Adventures of Zheng He*.

01/15  Week 2. Martin Luther King Day no class

01/22  Week 3 Broad Theoretical and Historiographical Issues.

01/29  Week 4. Song and Kamakura Macro-cultural elements: Medicine, Mongols, Zen.

02/05  Week 5. Muromachi and Ming: Diplomacy, Trade, Restriction.


02/19  Week 7. Seventeenth Century: Struggle for the East China Sea.

02/26  Week 8. Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries: Interdiction and Restriction.

03/05  Week 9. Writing and Consultation.

03/12  Week 10. Course Wrap-up.

Papers Due.

READINGS.
01/08  Week 1: Course Introduction, and scheduling of presentations.  


01/15  Week 2: No class: Martin Luther King day.

01/22  Week 3. Broad Theoretical and Historiographical Issues.


Prange, Sebastian. “Like Banners on the Sea: Muslim Trade Networks and Islamization in Malabar and Maritime Southeast Asia.” In Feener and Sevea, *Islamic Connections*, pp. 25-47.


01/29 Week 4. Song and Kamakura Macro-cultural elements: Medicine, Mongols Zen.

Goble, Andrew Edmund. Confluences of Medicine in Medieval Japan: Buddhist Healing, Chinese Knowledge, Arabic Formulas, and Wounds of War.


Rossabi, Morris. Khubilai Khan.


Delgado, James P. Khubilai Khan’s Lost Fleet.


Collcutt, Martin. Five Mountains: The Rinzai Zen Monastic Institution in Medieval Japan.


Kodera, Takeshi James. Dōgen’s Formative Years in China.
02/05     Week 5. Muromachi and Ming: Diplomacy, Trade, Friction.


Akamine, Mamoru. The Ryukyu Kingdom: Cornerstone of East Asia, pp. 1-57.


Hazard, Benjamin. “Japanese Marauding in Medieval Korea: The Wakō Impact on Late Koryŏ.”


Swope, Kenneth. A Dragon’s Head and a Serpent’s Tail: Ming China and the First Great East Asian War, 1592-1598.


Boxer, Charles. *Japan’s Christian Century.*

02/19 Week 7. Seventeenth Century: Struggle for the East China Sea.


Andrade, Tonio. *How Taiwan Became Chinese.*


02/26 Week 8. Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries: Interdiction and Restriction.


Akamine, Mamoru. The Ryukyu Kingdom: Cornerstone of East Asia, pp. 58-141.


03/05 Week 9. Writing and Consultation.

03/12 Week 10. Course Wrap-up.

Papers Due.