



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

ASIA_V 456 - History and Culture of Taiwan

Weiting Guo

This course explores major social, economic, political, and cultural changes and continuities in Taiwan from the seventeenth century to the present. Due to time constraints, some areas will be explored in more detail than others, and specific emphasis will be placed on the post-World War II period where a “great transition” took place as Taiwan was transformed into a democratic polity. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a critical approach to history and a broad knowledge base concerning Taiwanese history and culture. It is also intended to stimulate further interest in studying Taiwan society, particularly the evolution of its democracy, as well as its place in today’s global world. After completing this course, students are expected not only to have acquired the knowledge and understanding of the unique historical path from which Taiwan developed into an economically prosperous and a politically democratic society, and how their economic and political development

Mode of Delivery: Online

Sample Readings

Taiwan: A New History, edited by Murray A. Rubinstein, Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe, 1999, 2007.

Statecraft and Political Economy on the Taiwan Frontier, 1600–1800, by John R. Shepherd, Stanford University Press, 1993.

Cold War Island: Quemoy on the Front Line, by Michael Szonyi, Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Assignments

Attendance|10

Participation and Class Discussion|10

Group Creative Playwriting Project|20

Quiz|15

Midterm Examination|20

Final Examination|25