



**Bharati College**  
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<b>Name of Teacher</b>	Dr Jaspal Singh	<b>Department</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>Course</b>	B.A. (H) History	<b>Semester</b>	Semester V Section -B
<b>Paper</b>	History of Modern China 1840-1950	<b>Academic Year</b>	2022-2023

### Learning Objectives

The course studies the transformation of China from an imperial power into a modern nation taking its place among a constellation of world powers. This transition has been studied in the context of the impact of a specific form of western imperialism on China and the country's numerous internal fissures and contradictions. This paper seeks to focus on a range of responses to the tumultuous changes taking place: various strands of reform (from liberal to authoritarian), popular movements, and revolutionary struggles. It facilitates an understanding of the multiple trajectories of China's political and cultural transition from a late imperial state, to a flawed Republic, to the Communist Revolution led by Mao Tse Tung. The paper shall expose students to historiographical debates pertaining to each of these themes, keeping in mind historical and contemporary concerns centred on such issues.

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of China's engagement with the challenges posed by imperialism, and the trajectories of transition from feudalism to a bourgeois/ capitalist modernity.
- To locate these historical transitions in light of other contemporaneous trajectories into a global modernity, especially that of Japan.
- Analyse significant historiographical shifts in Chinese history, especially with reference to the discourses of nationalism, imperialism, and communism.
- Investigate the political, economic, social and cultural disruptions caused by the breakdown of the centuries old Chinese institutions and ideas, and the recasting of tradition to meet modernist challenges.
- Comprehend the genesis and unique trajectories of the Chinese Communist Revolution
- Locate the rise of China and Japan in the spheres of Asian and world politics respectively.

# Lesson Plan

Week No.	Theme/Curriculum	Any Additional Information
2 Weeks	I China and the Great Divergence	
2 Weeks	II. Imperialism and China during the 19th Century (2 Week) [a] Canton (Guangzhou) system; Opium wars and their consequences [b] Secret Societies and popular movements: Taiping movement; Boxer movement [c] Reform movements: Self-Strengthening movement; 1898 Reform movement.	
3 Weeks	III. The emergence of Nationalism in China (3 Week) [a] The Revolution of 1911: Sun Yat-sen (Sun Zhong Shan) and his ideology [b] Warlordism [c] May Fourth Movement of 1919	
3 Weeks	IV. Nationalism and Communism (3 Weeks) [a] 1921 -1927: Formation of the CCP; reorganization of the KMT/ GMD (Nationalist Party); the First United Front [b] 1928-1949: Kiangsi (Jiangxi) period: Evolution of Maoist strategy; the Yenan (Yan'an) Way -- Policies; Peasant Nationalism; Communist Victory	
3 Weeks	From Revolution to Great Leap Forward (3 Weeks) [a] Building Socialism	
3 Weeks	[b] China in the World: Third World; Relations with Socialist countries; On Alignment [c]Great Leap Forward: Debates (3 Weeks)	


**References:**

Essential Readings:

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- Bianco, L. Origins of the Chinese Revolution 1915-1949. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1967.
- Jean Chesneaux, J. et al. China from the Opium Wars to the 1911 Revolution. New York: Random House, 1976.71
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- Chow Tse-tung. The May Fourth Movement. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1960, Fourth Printing 1974.
- Fairbank, J.K., and Goldman M. China: A New History. Cambridge, Massachusetts; London, England: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1992, 1998.
- Gray, J. Rebellions and Revolutions: China from 1800s to the 1980s. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.
- Hsu, I. C.Y. The Rise of Modern China. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press, 1970, 1985.

- Meisner, Maurice. Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic. 3rd edn., New York: The Free Press, 1999.
- Pomeranz, Kenneth. The Great Divergence: China, Europe and the Making of the Modern World. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000.
- Spence, J. D. The Search for Modern China. New York, London: W.W. Norton & Co, 1999, 1990.
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- Vinacke, H. M. A History of the Far East in Modern Times. London: Ruskin House, George Allen & Unwin Ltd., 1960. (Hindi Translation also available) Chapters on Traditional China and Finance Imperialism.
- Wong, R. Bin. China Transformed: Historical change and the Limits of European Expansion. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1997.
- Wright, M. C. China in Revolution: The First Phase 1900-1913. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968.
- a) Wright M. C., 'The Rising Tide of Change'
- b) Marie Claire Bergere, 'The Role of the Bourgeoisie'
- c) Harold Z. S., 'The Enigma of Sun Yat-sen'72
- d) Chuzo Ichiko 'Role of Gentry: A Hypothesis'
- Zarrow, P. China in War and Revolution 1895-1949. London & New York: Routledge, 2005.

#### SUGGESTED READINGS

- Cameron, M.E. The Reform Movement in China 1898-1912. New York: Octagon Books, 1963.
- Chesneaux, J., ed. Popular Movements and Secret Societies in China 1840- 1950. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1972.
- Cohen, P.A. History in Three Keys: The Boxer as Event, Experience and Myth. New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.
- Harrison, H. Inventing the Nation: China. London: Arnold, 2001.
- Johnson, C. A. Peasant Nationalism and Communist Power: The Emergence of Revolutionary China, 1937-1945. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1962.
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- Purcell, V. The Boxer Uprising: A Background Study. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1963.
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- Selden, M. The Yen-an Way in Revolutionary China. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971.
- Sheridan, J. E. China in Disintegration: The Republican Era in Chinese History 1912- 1949. New York: Free Press, 1975.
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- Waller, D. Kiangsi Soviets Republic: Mao and the National Congress of 1931 and 1934.

Berkeley: University of California Press, 1973.

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- Zarrow, P. After Empire: The Conceptual Transformation of the Chinese State, 1885- 1924.Stanford: Stanford University Press,2012. (Chapter I).

### Additional Resources

1.

**Online Resources (If Any)**

**Assignment and Class Test Schedule for Semester**

Two Class Test 5+5= 10  
Two Assignments 5+ 5= 10