

Course Outline: RETHINKING GENDER IN EAST ASIAN HISTORY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/HIST 4765.6.0

Course Description

History 4765 examines changes in social and family structures and gender roles in premodern and modern China, Korea and Japan. It focuses mainly on women: their places in the family and in society, their relationships with one another and men and the evolution of ideas about gender and sexuality throughout East Asia's complicated past. This seminar in no way attempts to cover the histories of China, Korea and Japan in depth. Rather, it takes points of social, political and ideological transition and examines their relations to social and familial change as well as with evolving gender roles. Its approach is interdisciplinary and inter-regional.

Student evaluation is based on English composition, research and bibliography skills and class participation. Since there are no lectures or exams, discussion is the heart of the course, and you will be expected to prepare for and attend each seminar and participate actively. All written work will be evaluated on the content, the research AND the quality of the writing. All written work will be evaluated on the content and the quality of the writing. ***Please submit one-sided, double-spaced, printed copies of your assignments in seminar on their due dates unless otherwise specified. All assignments must include citations (footnotes, endnotes, or rolling, parenthetical notes) with page numbers of the content to which your analysis/prose refers.*** As a rule, late work will not be accepted except in cases of DOCUMENTED medical illness or family emergency.

Course Delivery

SEMINAR

Course Materials

Articles and the following books. All readings are available on eClass:

Birge, Bettine. *Women, Property, and Confucian Reaction in Sung and Yüan China, 960-1368*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Stanley, Amy. *Selling Women: Prostitution, Markets, and the Household in Early Modern Japan*. Oakland, California: University of California Press, 2012.

Lim, Sungyun, *Rules of the House*. Oakland, California: University of California Press, 2019 (on Colonial Korea)

Schmid, Andre, *North Korea's Mundane Revolution: Socialist Living and the Rise of Kim Il Sung, 1953-1965*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2024.

Frühstück, S., & Walthall, A. (2011). *Recreating Japanese men*. University of California Press. (Chapters by Yuki, Gill, Napier, and Condry).

LeBlanc, R. M. (2009). *The Art of the Gut: Manhood, Power, and Ethics in Japanese Politics* (1st ed., pp. xix–xix). University of California Press. (Introduction and Conclusion).

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Tentative Deadlines

1. Short Review 1 of Cohen or Robbins (500 words maximum) (5%) Due Week 2 of Fall Term
2. Review 2 of Birge (2000 words maximum) (20%) (Please see sample long book review on eClass and pp. 5-6 of this syllabus for ideas and guidelines) Due Week 9-10 of Fall Term
3. Review 3 of Stanley (2000 words maximum) (20%) (Please see sample long book review on eClass and pp. 5-6 of this syllabus for ideas and guidelines) Due Week 2 of Winter Term
4. Outline and Bibliography of Final Research Paper (10%) (Word limit of outline only 500 words) Due Week 6 of Winter Term
6. Historiographic Review (5000 words maximum) (30%) (Topic approved and refined in Outlines 1 and 2) Due Week 12 of Winter Term
7. Seminar Participation (15%)