

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HIS 254

Credits: 3

Course Title: History of Asian Civilizations II

Course Description:

Surveys the civilizations of Asia (China, Japan, Korea, India, and Southeast Asia – Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam) from the sixteenth century to the present. Part II of II. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:

This course can be used to satisfy the social/behavioral science requirements of most AA and AS degrees offered by the College or any certificate programs that require a course in the Social Sciences. This course offers students an opportunity to explore East Asian history, thus filling a gap in the Reynolds curriculum.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Identify and describe the most significant cultural, economic, political, military, religious, social, intellectual, or institutional developments in the regions and periods covered by the course;
- b. Identify and describe the chronological context of such developments;
- c. Identify and describe the values of other peoples and explain how they differ from the student's own values in an objective manner;
- d. Explain how the history in their textbook is assembled from the selected arguments and interpretations of its authors and express the limitations inherent in its account;
- e. Identify and select from the materials offered in this course the relevant information needed to support their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
- f. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
- g. Construct and present historical arguments based the available evidence in good written academic form;
- h. Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; and
- i. Compare and contrast historical concepts to the present day.

Major Topics to be Included:

- a. Primary source analysis and interpretation
- b. European-Asian contact, imperialism, and colonization
- c. Tokugawa, Shogunate, and Meiji Restoration
- d. Growth of nationalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries
- e. The Second World War
- f. The Cold War in Asia
 1. Communist control in China
 2. Korean War
- g. End of the Cold War and decolonization
- h. Modern Asian development

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