# History of Shanghai in the Modern Era

**Department:** Fudan International Summer Session

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>History of Shanghai in the Modern Era</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Credit Hours</td>
<td>36+3 tutorial hours (one credit hour is 45 minutes)</td>
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## Course Objectives

After you finish the course, you are supposed to:

- Achieve a comprehensive understanding of Shanghai’s history of the past 150 years;
- Investigate in detail popular myths about Shanghai that are still commonly held as true locally and/or abroad, and discuss why these myths live on;
- Present twice on topics of personal interest that are within the guidelines of each presentation topic assignment;
- Focus on specific foreign populations present in pre-1949 Shanghai --- their stories, their socioeconomic situation, and their local culture;
- Discuss the major themes and paradigms in the studies of modern Shanghai history and the prevalent theories on Shanghai’s future development and offer your own theories.

## Course Description

This course focuses on the emergence of Shanghai as one of the largest and most dynamic cities in modern China through an exploration of the city’s economic structure and development, as well as local politics, taking into account the influence of factors like population diversity, Western influence, and Shanghai’s unique historical situation. Important geographical factors like early trade links and the role of treaty ports and foreign influence in the history of Shanghai will all be analyzed. This serves as an underpinning for discussion and analysis.

## Course Requirements:

Course readings, averaging 80 pages per session, should be completed before class. Students must attend all classes and are expected to participate actively in all class discussions.

Students will hand in 4 notes to ensure that they are completing the course readings and keeping up with all materials. Students will be required to summarize the weekly readings in clear format and will be graded accordingly.
Students will also produce 2 individual presentations. Individual presentations serve to focus each class on the most salient features of each lesson, to foster closer analysis and to promote discussion. Each individual presentation is assigned one class in advance and is prepared on a unique topic that is related to the materials to be covered in the subsequent class session. Students may need to refer to other resources and do research after class. Individual presentations are five minutes in length and are followed by Q&A. The two individual presentations will be graded according to quality of preparation and presentation.

Students choose their central topics for final paper from the presentations and major questions discussed under each topic. Format: 12 point font (Times New Roman), one-inch margins, double-spaced text. For citation, please follow the Author/Date System from the 14th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style. Length: 5 pages minimum (Reference list not to be counted), no maximum.

Teaching Methods:
Lecture, presentation

Instructor's Academic Background:

Dr. Sun Qing obtained her PhD and Master Degree from Department of History, Fudan University. She worked in the Chinese Civilization Centre, City University of Hong Kong as Senior Research Associate (2007-2008) and was the youngest project member in the research project of “A Quantitative Study of the Formation of Certain Modern Chinese Political Concepts”. She has finished two reports based on this research in two journals The Renaissance and Modern Review, and published a book Western Politics (xi zheng) in Late Qing Period China and Its Indigenous Response.

Email: sunqing@fudan.edu.cn

Course Schedule

Module 1: The Treaty-port Era (1842-1911)
Topic 1: Shanghai (and China): Its Culture, History and Regime: Introduction to Course
[Wasserstrom, Intro, Ch. 1; Schoppa, Intro & Timeline, pp.11-13, 206-207]

Topic 2: Was Shanghai a Fishing Village before 1843? Shanghai before the Foreign Impact, Society in Imperial China, Paradigms in Chinese Urban History
[Johnson, Shanghai, pp.1-175]-- student presentations on chapters of Johnson’s book: #1 layout of old walled city and how it reflects the traditional Chinese cosmology and state-society relations; #2 major types of Chinese social organizations and their contributions to local autonomy.
Topic 3: Foreign Privileges in Shanghai, Then and Now: Treaty-port System and the Emergence of a Modern Metropolis.
What is the significance of the Opium War in the history of modern China and Shanghai?
How did the city grow during the 19th century?
What were the concession areas?
How was Shanghai different from other Chinese cities? From other colonial cities?
[Schoppa, Prologue; Wasserstrom, Chs. 2&3] -- student presentations on chapters of Wasserstrom’s book: #3 the Opium War and the Treaty-port System; #4 the layout of the concession areas; #5 how the concessions were run.

Module 2: Metropolitan Shanghai (1912-1937)
Topic 4: Western Knowledge and Urban Culture: The Publishing Business and Cultural Production in Shanghai
Why Shanghai is the key to modern knowledge diffusion and modern Chinese revolution?
[Schoppa, Chs. 1, 3; Yue, Shanghai and the Edges of Empires, Chs. 1, 2]

Topic 5: How and Why Shanghai was so Attractive and Exciting?
1920s - The Golden Age of Shanghai. How did commercialization and consumerism change the life in Shanghai? What does Shanghai Modernity mean?
[Schoppa, Ch. 4; Yeh, Shanghai Splendor, Chs. 1-2&4; Wasserstrom, Ch. 4]—student presentations on chapters of Yeh’s book: #6 traditional concept of commerce and social role of the merchant class; #7 emergence of modern entrepreneurship.

Module 3: Wartime Shanghai (1937-1952)
Topic 6: In the Shadow of the Rising Sun: Shanghai and the Gendered experience of War
How are questions of gender an issue in the study of China? What other issues are brought to light by discussing gender-related questions? [Schoppa, Ch. 7; Huang, Women, War, Domesticity, Ch. 1]

Topic 7: KMT and CCP Shanghai around 1949
The civil war that changed the course of modern Chinese history, Workers’ strikes: the revolutionary legacy of Shanghai revisited [Schoppa, Ch. 8; Perry, Shanghai on Strike Intro & Chs. 1-3; Wasserstrom, Ch. 5] student presentations on chapters of Perry’s book: #9 gilds and traditional mode of protest; #10 how the CCP mobilized the workers

Topic 8: Shanghai: Its Fate in China’s Modernizations
How is present-day Shanghai a return to previous eras? How is it different? Is Shanghai the key to China’s modernization? How did different groups in the city participate in cosmopolitan culture? Who was left out? ss [Lu, Beyond the Neon Lights, Intro, Ch. 2-6; Wasserstrom, ‘New Approaches to Old Shanghai’]

Module 4: Communist Shanghai (1952-2010)
Topic 9: Revolutionary Movements: The Communist Regime Transformation and Its Difficulties
1950-60 The Struggle for Socialist Transformation
What does it mean to describe China’s economy as “socialism with Chinese characteristics”? [Wasserstrom, Ch. 6; Schoppa, Chs.9-11]

Topic 10: Open and Reform: Pudong-Future Cosmopolitan Shanghai
What are the important sectors of the Chinese economy? Of Shanghai’s economy? Is the economic growth of China/Shanghai sustainable? Why or why not? Intellectual debates on China Model [Vogel, Ch. 24; Wasserstrom, Ch. 7]

Topic 11: The Re-globalization of Shanghai: Images of Shanghai in a Global Public Globalization
Glocalization? What is a global city? How might Shanghai be considered a global city? How do we see globalization playing out in Shanghai today? [Wasserstrom, Conclusion; “Is Global Shanghai ‘Good to Think’?”; Lu, conclusion; Yeh, Epilogue]

Final Paper
Note: Every student is required to read the background readings and papers before going to class. Papers listed in “Materials” will be available in the e-learning system under the column of “Resources”.

The design of class discussion or exercise, practice, experience and so on:
Lectures and Presentations.

Grading & Evaluation:
Class Performance: 10%
Notes: 20%, 10% each
Presentations: 30%, 15% each
Final paper: 40%
Passing grade: 60, below 60 = fail
There will be no make-up exam.

Teaching Materials & References:
Primary Texts

Supplementary Texts


Notes: The syllabus will be subject to changes.