

Social Movements in Modern China

Di Wang

Fall 2003

Class: 9-11 a.m.

Office hours: Wednesday, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

This course focuses on social movements and collective action in modern China with perspectives of history and political science. The course will explore theoretical and empirical issues concerning the history of social movements in China: their causes, organizational and behavioral repertoires, and impacts on various social groups and the state. In doing so, it will combine the methods and approaches associated with the disciplines of history and political science; *i.e.*, it will apply theories rooted in general issues and in cases from other times and places to close study of the Chinese case in the context of its own past.

During the course, we will read, contemplate, and discuss some of the best new scholarship on social movements in China. We will also focus on students' research papers. Each of you will choose a topic to research, prepare a bibliography and research proposal with outline, and produce a finished paper of 10 to 15 pages that has gone through drafting and revisions. Sessions will be devoted to dealing with questions of research methods and strategies and the use of library and other resources. At the end of the course students will present drafts to the class. For those sessions, you will read fellow students' work, to be circulated in advance, and come to class prepared to contribute to a discussion that will help all of us learn about the subject matter of the papers while also providing suggestions to each author about ways to develop the research paper in progress.

Effective learning requires a strategy of active study, thinking and interchange. To encourage reflective reading, you are also invited to comment there on what others in the class have written. You may also use the forum to raise questions on which you would like help from me or from fellow students. You should also find out what everyone else in the class is thinking. All this preparatory work should help make our discussions more productive. You are also expected to participate regularly in class discussions - an activity that our preparation outside of class on the computer forum is intended to make more inviting.

I will evaluate your work in the course according to the following weightings:

Participation in class 50%

Research paper 50%

Books:

Esherick, Joseph, *The Origins of the Boxer Uprising* (Chinese translation)

Perry, Elizabeth, *Shanghai on Strike: The Politics of Chinese Labor* (Chinese translation)

Perry, Elizabeth and Li Xun, *Proletarian Power: Shanghai in the Cultural Revolution*

Prazniak, Roxann, *Of Camel Kings and Other Things: Rural Rebels against Modernity in Late Imperial China* (Chinese translation)

Tarrow, Sidney, *Power in Movement: Social Movements, Collective Action, and Politics*
Wasserstrom, Jeffrey, *Student Protests in Twentieth-Century China: The View from Shanghai*
(Chinese translation)

Schedule of Classes, Topics and Assignments

Oct. 6: Introduction

Oct. 8: Theoretical Approaches to Social Movements
Tarrow, *Power in Movement*

Oct. 10: The Rebellion and Popular Culture
Esherick, *The Origins of the Boxer Uprising*

Oct. 13: Rural Rebel
Prazniak, *Of Camel Kings and Other Things*

Brief statement on paper topics due.

October 15
Library research session. Class meets in the library.

Oct. 17: Workers' Movements
Perry, *Shanghai on Strike*
Paper outlines and bibliographies due

Oct. 20: Student Movements
Wasserstrom, *Student Protests in Twentieth-Century China*

Oct. 22: Cultural Revolution and after
Perry and Li, *Proletarian Power*

Oct. 24: Presentation of drafts

Oct. 27: Conclusion
Research papers due