¶ 0.1

HIST 120 B: History of East Asia — Lecture 0: Course Overview

Communication Hub

Questions & Feedback Always Welcome



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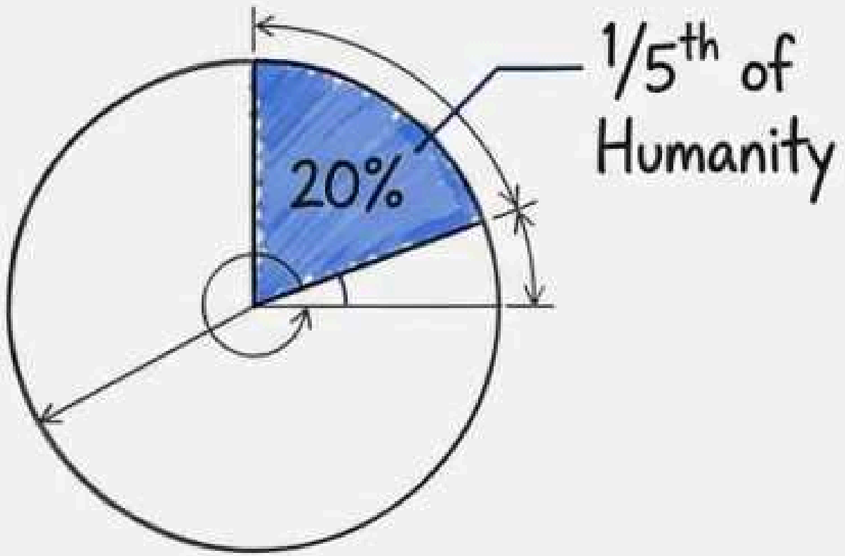
¶ 0.2

Anderson Academy = 4 Year Library

HIST 120 **B** = **B**rief

Total Duration = Overview + $\sum$ Lectures (1 to 6) $\approx$ 1 Hour

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Home to some of the oldest continuous civilisations on earth.

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Mongolia

Korea

Japan

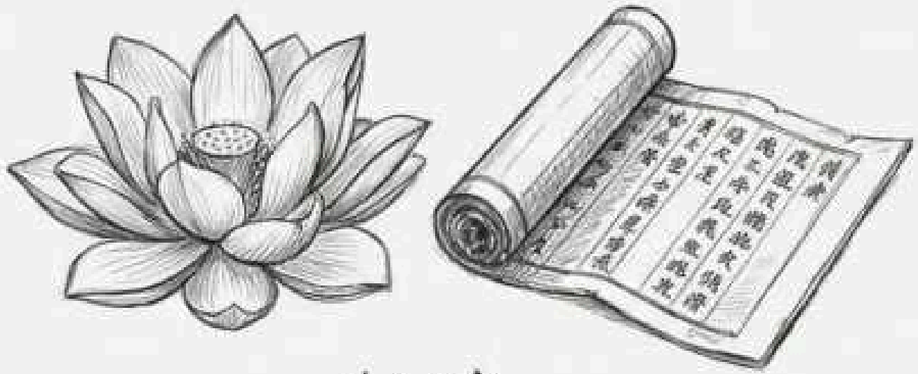
China

Taiwan

Vietnam

Glances at peripheries shaped by Chinese culture.

$$S = \begin{cases} \text{Characters (Writing)}, \\ \text{Confucianism (Family/Gov)}, \\ \text{Buddhism (via India)} \end{cases}$$



Unique Developments: Language

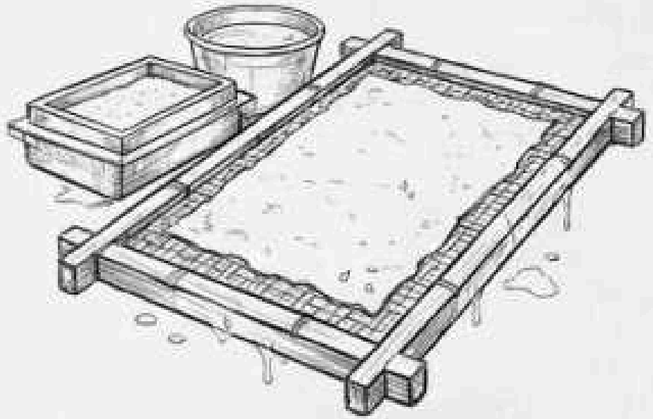
Politics.

Identity.

Why Study East Asian History?

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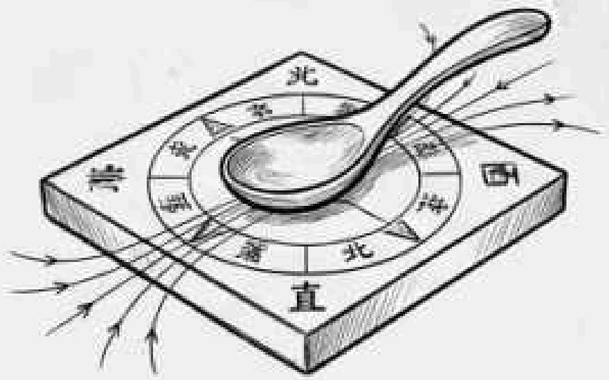
Historical Weight



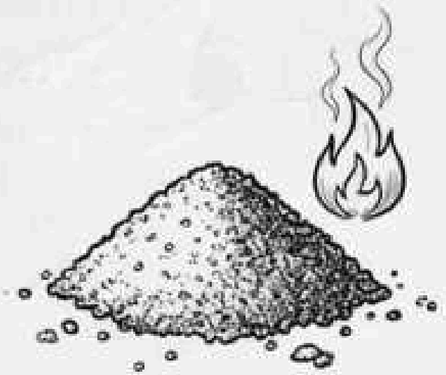
Paper (2nd c. BC)



Printing (8th c. AD)



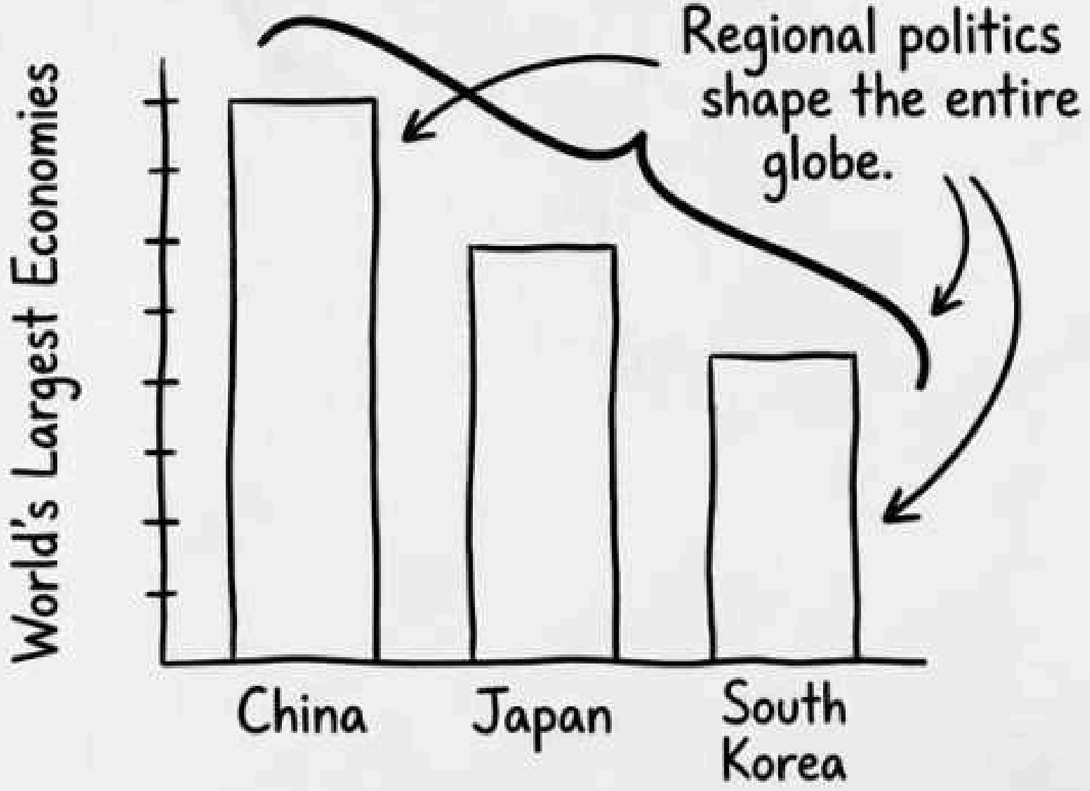
Compass (11th c. AD)



Gunpowder (9th c. AD)

Modern Weight

Japan: First non-Western country to industrialize.



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Lecture 1: Early China

First dynasties

→ Qin Unification

→ Long Han dynasty



Lecture 2: Imperial China at its Height

Tang, Song, Ming, Qing

Lecture 3: Korea & Japan

Before modern times

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Lecture 4: Encounter with the West (19th Century)

Opium Wars
→ Japan's Meiji Restoration



Lecture 5: War & Revolution

1900 to 1949

Lecture 6: East Asia Since 1945

Communist China,
Japan's economic miracle,
Divided Korean peninsula,
Region's rise +
Summary

Three Core Frameworks

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CONTINUITY:
Chinese civilisation kept its writing, classics, and idea of a unified empire for >2,000 years.

EXCHANGE:
Movement of ideas, goods, and religions across the region and along the Silk Roads.



MODERN TRANSFORMATION:
In ~100 years, transition from crisis to global power.

A Note on Nomenclature

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Names

Name(East Asian) = Surname(Family) + GivenName

Mao Zedong → Family Name: Mao

Spelling

Peking ⟶ [Pinyin System] ⟶ Beijing

Chronology

East Asian Period [Dynasty] ≅ European Era [Reign]

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Keep Nearby:



>3,000 Years

[Watch Lecture (1x)] → [Take Quiz]

Repeat x6

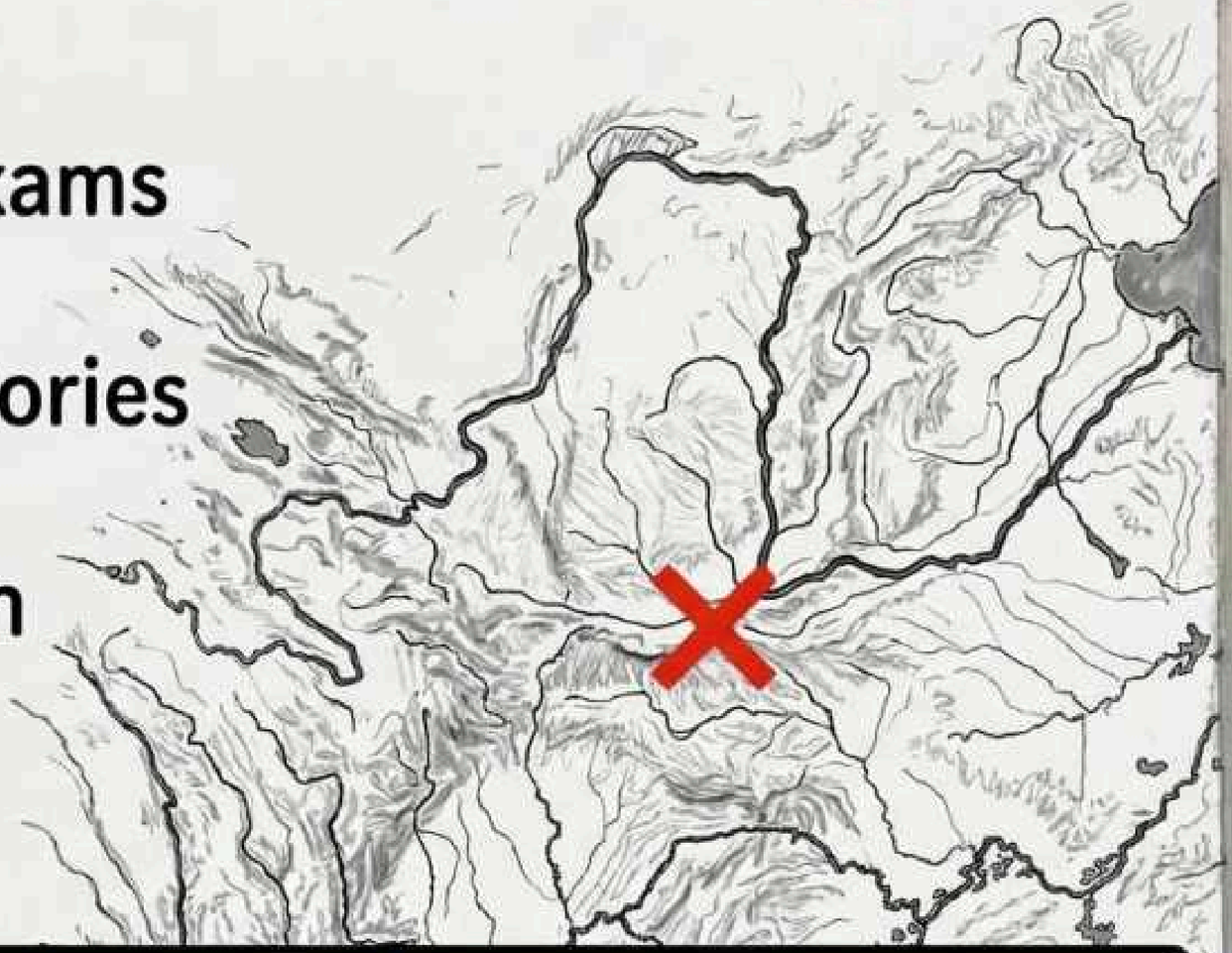
[Complete all 6 Lectures] → [Final Exam]

Deeper Challenge / Essays

[The Tripos Paper]

¶ 0.10

- [ ] Outline Chinese dynasties
- [ ] Explain Confucianism & exams
- [ ] Describe Korea/Japan histories
- [ ] Explain Western disruption
- [ ] Trace modern rise



Let us begin on the Yellow River