

**UMBC UGC New Course Request: Hist 384: Viewing History through Maps: East Asia in Native and European Cartography**

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Proposed Effective Date: Spring, 2020

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**COURSE INFORMATION:**

Course Number(s)	Hist 384
Formal Title	Viewing History through Maps: East Asia in Native and European Cartography
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Viewing History through Maps
Recommended Course Preparation	HIST 103
Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	No
# of Credits Must adhere to the <a href="#">UMBC Credit Hour Policy</a>	3
Repeatable for additional credit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	3 <small>This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

**PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION** (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences.):

This course examines how knowledge of East Asia was created, reshaped, and imposed through maps by both native and European cartographers. As a source of knowledge and a format of power, maps provide and distort information of a certain space. Map-making combines science, art, and politics. The course pays special attention to the period from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, when Asian and European cartographies encountered each other and stimulated an early globalization of geographic imagination.

**RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:**

First, this course provides a new perspective (geographical representation) and new materials (maps) to understand the history of communication between East Asia and Europe from the early modern to the modern period. Students must utilize visual primary materials (rather than conventional textual materials only) to investigate how East Asia was conceived and represented by both the natives and outsiders. Second, with the retirement of several faculty in recent years, the History Department no longer has a historian of science and is offering limited classes in the history of science. Therefore, a new course on the development and the global expansion of modern cartography will add new options in this area. Third, although a history course, this topic will attract students from Asian Studies and Geography & Environmental System, hence encourages a cross-disciplinary conversation.

## ATTACH COURSE SYLLABUS (mandatory):

### HIST 384: Viewing History through Maps: East Asia in Native and European Cartography

Schedule: TBD

Location: TBD

Instructor: Nianshen Song ([nianshen@umbc.edu](mailto:nianshen@umbc.edu), Fine Arts 520)

Office Hours: TBD or by appointment

#### Course Description:

As a source of knowledge and a format of power, maps provide—and at the same time distort—information of a certain space. Map-making is a performance of science, art, as well as politics. This course examines how geographic knowledge of East Asia was created, reshaped, and imposed through maps by both native and European cartographers. Although some contents cover earlier history of cartography, the course mainly focuses on the time range from the sixteenth century to the nineteenth century. I introduce the developments of cartography in the European and East Asian traditions but pay special attention to how East Asia was understood, imagined, and interpreted by map makers after the “Great Discovery”. The unprecedented exchanges of knowledge across the Eurasian continent stimulated the formation of modern globalization, a condition in which we are still living. This course critically examines some of the dominant assumptions about “globalization” and “modern.” For example, is modern knowledge a one-way diffusion from Europe to Asia? Or, does technology always—and necessarily—develop towards more “scientific,” “progressive,” and “objective”?

This course is NOT merely a history of map. Rather, we use maps as a media and source to study history. In other words, we investigate “time” that was embedded in the representations of “space.” More importantly, we examine how power—imperial, colonial, capitalist, and imperialist—manifested itself on maps. Although maps on East Asia is the main subject of our study, students are encouraged to extend their investigation beyond East Asia.

#### Academic objectives:

- ✧ Understand the basic “crafts” of map-making. How do maps talk? How do they inform and cheat? What are the limitations of maps?
- ✧ Understand the general history of cartography in both European and Asian contexts.
- ✧ Engage in the discussions about geography, maps, and power.
- ✧ Get profound comprehension of the history of early globalization.
- ✧ Critical thinking about visual representation of space.
- ✧ Write cohesively; Make strong, clear arguments.
- ✧ Using both textual and visual materials as primary sources.

#### Requirements:

- ✧ Reading and Discussion: As a mid to high-level class, this course combines lecture and seminar. Students are requested to **finish the readings (both textual and visual materials) before** each class, and bring their questions, observations, and critical thoughts to classroom. They are expected to exchange their thoughts on the readings and effectively engage in in-class discussions. Therefore, **attendance is mandatory**, and engagement to conversation is critical to students’ final evaluation.
- ✧ Assignments: To help the students to comprehend the reading materials, they will be given a **certain number of assignments**. They must complete all the assignments on time. Detailed instruction will be given when the assignments are notified by the instructor.
- ✧ Map presentation: each student should do at least **two short presentations** (10 minutes

maximum) **on pre-20<sup>th</sup> century historical maps of their choice**. The maps are not necessarily about East Asia. But the presenters must clearly demonstrate the historical context, technique, and political agenda of the maps.

- ✧ Two short research essays. By the end of February and March, each student must submit a short research essay (1,500 words in main text). There are two options for the topic: 1) a research on a single historical map, or 2) a historical study using maps as primary source. Either way, your essays must have a clear argument, based on solid evidences, and with clear logic and organization. The rubric will be posted on Blackboard.
- ✧ By the end of the semester, all students must submit a long research paper in lieu with the final exam (3,000 words minimum in main text). The requirement is the same with the short essays.

### **Grading:**

Presentation: 20%

Assignments: 20%

Short essays: 20%

Final research essay: 40%

### **Reading Materials:**

Our reading include both textual and visual materials. The books listed below are requested to purchase:

Jerry Brotton, *A History of World in 12 Maps*, (Penguin Books, 2014).

Natasha Reichle, eds., *China at the Center: Ricci and Verbiest World Maps* (Asian Art Museum, 2016)

Timothy Brook, *Mr. Selden's Map of China: Decoding the Secrets of a Vanished Cartographer*, (Bloomsbury Press, 2013)

Other reading materials, including selected book chapters, articles, and maps will be scanned and uploaded to Blackboard.

### **Schedule of Class (subject to changes)**

#### **Introduction and Background**

01/28: Introduction of the class

#### **I: What is Map, What is Asia**

01/30: Knowing the crafts of cartographers

Mark Monmonier, "Elements of the Map," in *How to Lie with Maps* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018), pp. 5-26.

J. B. Harley, "Maps, Knowledge, and Power," in *The New Nature of Maps: Essays in the History of Cartography*, (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins U Press, 2001), pp.51-81.

02/04: "Asia": as entity and as discourse

Charles Holcombe, "Introduction," in *A History of East Asia: From the Origins of Civilization to the Twenty-First Century*, first edition (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011).  
Edward Said, "Introduction," in *Orientalism* (Vintage Book, 1979).

Map Reading: Contemporary World Map; Martellus Map; Peters Projection, etc.

## **II: Development of Cartography in Europe**

### 02/06: The Cartographic Revolution

Jordan Branch, "The Cartographic Revolution," in *The Cartographic State*, (Cambridge University Press, 2015), pp.36-67.

### 02/11: "Projection, Projection, Projection"

Jerry Brotton, "Toleration: Gerard Mercator, World Map, 1596," in *A History of World in 12 Maps*, Penguin Books, 2014, pp. 218-59.

Map Reading: Ptolemy's *Geography*, Hereford *Mappamundi*, Mercator's *World Map*

## **III: Development of Cartography in East Asia**

### 02/13: Maps in Traditional China

Cordell Yee, "Reinterpreting Traditional Chinese Geographical Maps," in Harley and Woodward, eds., *The History of Cartography*, Vol.2, Book 2. (University of Chicago Press, 1985)

Cordell Yee, "Chinese Maps in Political Culture"

### 02/18: Maps in Traditional Korea

Gari Ledyard, selected sections from "Cartography in Korea," pp. 235-98.

### 02/20: Maps in Traditional Japan

Kazutaka Unno, selected sections from "Cartography in Japan," pp. 346-76.

### 02/25: The Kangnido: A Pinnacle of Traditional East Asian Cartography

Jerry Brotton, "Empire: Kangnido World Map, 1402," in *A History of World in 12 Maps*, Penguin Books, 2014, pp. 114-45.

Map Reading: *Yu ji tu*, *Daming Hunyi tu*, *Guangyu tu*, Kangnido map

## **IV: The Jesuits Mapping Projects**

### 02/27: Science in China

Benjamin Elman, *A Cultural History of Modern Science in China, Chapter 1 & 2*, (Harvard University Press, 2008)

**\*\*\*The first short essay is due 02/28\*\*\***

### 03/04: First European Maps in China

John D. Day, "The Search for the Origins of the Chinese Manuscript of Matteo Ricci's Maps," *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 47 (1995), pp. 94-117

Natasha Reichle, eds., *China at the Center: Ricci and Verbiest World Maps* (Asian Art Museum, 2016)

03/06: Encounter: Asian and European Cartographies I

Cordell Yee, "Traditional Chinese Cartography and the Myth of Westernization"

03/11: Encounter: Asian and European Cartographies II

Gari Ledyard, selected sections from "Cartography in Korea," pp. 298-305.

Kazutaka Unno, selected sections from "Cartography in Japan," pp. 376-90.

Map Reading: Matteo Ricci, *Kunyu wanguo quantu*; Martino Martini, *Novus Atlas sinensis*,

### **V: Maps and Early Modern State**

03/13: Territorial State

James R. Akerman, "The Structuring of Political Territory in Early Printed Atlases," *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 47 (1995), pp. 138-154

Jordan Branch, "Mapping the Territorial State," in *The Cartographic State*, (Cambridge University Press, 2015), pp. 68-99.

03/25: Making Boundaries

Peter C. Perdue, "Boundaries, Maps, and Movement: Chinese, Russian, and Mongolian Empires in Early Modern Central Eurasia," *The International History Review*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (1998): 263-286.

03/27: Visualizing Frontiers

Laura Hostetler, *Qing's Colonial Enterprise: Ethnography and Cartography in Early Modern Chia*, Chapter 1 & 2, pp.33-80.

**\*\*\*The second short essay is due 03/31\*\*\***

04/01: Mapping a New Identity

Nianshen Song, "Imagined Territory: Paektusan in late Chosŏn maps and Writings," *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes*, vol. 37, no. 2 (2017): 157-73.

Kazutaka Unno, selected sections from "Cartography in Japan," pp. 394-404.

Map Reading: *The Kangxi Atlas*; Jean Baptiste D'Anville, *Nouvelle Atlas de la Chine*

### **VI: Maps and Capitalism**

04/03: A Monetary Globe

Hamashita Takeshi, "Silver in Regional Economics and World Economy: East Asia in the Sixteenth to Nineteenth Centuries,"

04/08: A World Trimmed by Trade

Leonard Blussé, *Visible Cities: Canton, Nagasaki, and Batavia and the Coming of the Americans*, (Harvard University Press, 2008), Chapter 1 & 2.

04/10: VOC and East Asia

Kazutaka Unno, selected sections from “Cartography in Japan,” pp. 404-43.

04/15: The Golden Age of Dutch Cartography

Jerry Brotton, “Money: Joan Blaeu, *Atlas maior*, 1662,” in *A History of World in 12 Maps*, Penguin Books, 2014, pp. 260-94.

Map Reading: Ortelius’ *Chine*; Hondius’ *China and Japan*; Joan Blaeu’s *Atlas maior*, etc.

## VII: Colonialism in Maps

04/17: Colonialism and Territoriality

Jordan Branch, “New World Mapping and Colonial Reflection,” in *The Cartographic State*, pp.100-19.

J. B. Harley, “Silences and Secrecy: The Hidden Agenda of Cartography in Early Modern Europe,” *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 40 (1988), pp. 57-76.

04/22: A World Divided

Jerry Brotton, “Globalism: Diogo Ribeiro, World Map, 1529,” in *A History of World in 12 Maps*, Penguin Books, 2014, pp. 186-217.

04/24: New Understandings of Trade and Territory

Matthew Edney, “The Ideology and Practices of Mapping and Imperialism,” in *Mapping an Empire: The Geographical Construction of British India, 1765-1843*, University of Chicago Press, 1997, pp. 1-36.

Peter Perdue, “[The First Opium War](#),” MIT Visualizing Cultures.

Map Reading: Diogo Ribeiro, *World Map*; *British Empire in 1866*; *Shiju tu*; *A Humorous Diplomatic Map: Europe and Asia*, etc.

## VIII: Writing History of Maps

04/29: Kim Chŏngho and the Legacy of *Taedong Yŏjido*

Gari Ledyard, selected sections from “Cartography in Korea,” pp. 305-344.

05/01: The Story of a ‘strange’ map

Timothy Brook, *Mr. Selden’s Map of China: Decoding the Secrets of a Vanished Cartographer*, (Bloomsbury Press, 2013), Preface, Chapter 1 & 2

05/06: Brook, *Mr. Selden’s Map of China*, Chapter 3 & 4

05/08: Brook, *Mr. Selden’s Map of China*, Chapter 5 & 6

05/13: Brook, *Mr. Selden’s Map of China*, Chapter 7, 8, and Epilogue

Map Reading: *Taedong Yŏjido*; [Selden’s Map of China](#)

**\*\*\*The final essay is due 05/17\*\*\***

## **IN ADDITION, PLEASE NOTE:**

### **Academic Integrity:**

I expect students enrolled in this course to abide by the UMBC Code of Student Conduct for Academic Integrity (<http://www.umbc.edu/sjp/articles/code.html>). If you are unclear about what plagiarism is, take a look at the Indiana University website: Plagiarism: What It Is and How to Recognize and Avoid It (<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>).

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. The full Student Academic Conduct Policy is available in the [UMBC Student Handbook](#) (page. 7), the [Faculty Handbook](#) (Section 14.3), and (for graduate students) on the [Graduate School](#) website.

For more information, see the Provost's website: [http://www.umbc.edu/undergrad\\_ed/ai/](http://www.umbc.edu/undergrad_ed/ai/)

**Please be advised that the penalty for academic dishonesty –including plagiarism and other forms of cheating– in any UMBC History Department course is an “F” for the course. In addition, cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Conduct Committee.**

### **Classroom Decorum:**

The bottom line is: be respectful of your fellow students, the learning process, and me. I will allow students to bring water and snacks, but please do not take your meal to the classroom. In terms of electronic devices, I prefer you not use your laptop to take notes (try pen and paper: they are good for your memory). Other devices, such as cellphones and iPads, are strictly prohibited.

### **Learning Resources:**

- All students are more than welcome to consult me during our office hours.
- **LRC Tutoring:** The Learning Resource Center offers tutoring in most first- and second-level classes. It offers tutoring in three locations: the Math Lab, The Writing Center and the Tutorial Center for appointment tutoring. For more information please check: <http://www.umbc.edu/lrc/tutoring.php>
- **Mental Health Issues:** Diminished mental health can interfere with optimal academic performance. UMBC provides cost-free and confidential mental health services through the Counseling Center to help you manage personal challenges that threaten your personal or academic well-being. For more resources get the Just in Case mental health resources Mobile and Web App. This app can be accessed by clicking: <http://counseling.umbc.edu/justincase>. The UMBC Counseling Center is in the Student Development & Success Center (between Chesapeake and Susquehanna Halls). Phone: 410-455-2472. Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

### Accommodations:

UMBC is committed to eliminating discriminatory obstacles that may disadvantage students based on disability. Student Support Services (SSS) is the UMBC department designated to:

- receive and maintain **confidential** files of disability-related documentation,
- certify eligibility for services,
- determine reasonable accommodations,
- develop with each student plans for the provision of such accommodations, and
- serve as a liaison between faculty members and students regarding disability-related issues.
- If you have a disability and want to request accommodations, contact SSS in the Math/Psych Building, Room 213 or Academic IV-B wing Room 345 (or call 410-455-2459 or 410-455-3250). SSS will require you to provide appropriate documentation of disability and complete a Request for Services form available at <http://sss.umbc.edu> . If you require accommodations for this class, make an appointment to meet with me to discuss your SSS-approved accommodations.
- Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offences subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offences against other protected categories such as race, national origin, sexual orientation, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here:

Voices Against Violence program: <http://umbc.edu/vav> or 410-455-3748

Counseling Center: <http://counseling.umbc.edu> or 410-455-2472

University Health Services: <http://www.umbc.edu/uhs/> or 410-455-2542