

ANT4930 (Section 1H68)/ ANG 6930 (Section 2D79)

Ethnicity in China

URL: <http://users.clas.ufl.edu/ckshih/>

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Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Course Description

It is well known that Chinese culture is the one and only major ancient civilization that has continued up to this day. To many, however, little is known that, ever since the legendary times, the Chinese have always been multiethnic. The nomenclature “Chinese” is not the name of any ethnic group. Rather, it is a collective designation of the peoples of China. For millennia, conflicts between the nomads in the north and agriculturalists in the south dominated political life in imperial China. Today, while minority population account for less than 10% of the national population, their homelands claim 60% of the Chinese territory. Ethnic relations, particularly those with the Uyghurs and Tibetans, are concerns to the central government as grave as those to their imperial and republican predecessors. The ethnic aspect of Chinese culture and society is so important that no one who has an interest in China can afford to neglect it.

This seminar explores with a historical perspective such diverse phenomena concerning current anthropology as identity formation, ethnic relations, assimilation, social conflict, nation-building, sociocultural and politicoeconomic change etc. by examining ethnic diversity and ethnic relations in China. Topics to be discussed include the multiethnic history of Chinese peoples, communist and Western theories on nationality and ethnicity, the state and ethnicity, ethnic conflict and political economy, gender and ethnic hierarchy, and some distinct minority cultures in the context of the Chinese nation-state.

Texts

Harrell, Stevan, ed. 1995. *Cultural Encounters on China's Ethnic Frontiers*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Lipman, Jonathan N. 1998. *Familiar Strangers: A History of Muslims in Northwest China*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Rossabi, Morris, ed. 2004. *Governing China's Multiethnic Frontiers*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Shih, Chuan-kang. 2010. *Quest for Harmony: The Moao Traditional Traditions of Sexual Union and Family Life*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Course Reader (See attached bibliography).

Terms

Requirements for this course include 1) a research paper for those who register for ANG 6930 or two term papers for those who register for ANT 4930, 2) reading assignments for each session, 3) active participation in class discussion, and 4) an oral presentation on one of the seminar topics.

For the research paper (for ANG 6930), you can write on any topic of your own interest within the scope of ethnic diversity and ethnic relations, either focusing on China or using China as a comparative reference. As part of the research project, you are required to submit a one-page description of your topic and an annotated bibliography for your paper before you start writing the first draft. The research paper is expected to be written in line with the requirements of a journal article. The style should follow either *American Anthropologist* or *The Journal of Asian Studies*. The length should be somewhere between 25 and 30 double-spaced pages with 12-point Times New Roman font.

For the two term papers (for ANT 4930), the topic of each paper will be posted online three weeks before the paper is due. The papers should be about 12 double-spaced pages each with 12-point Times New Roman font in length. Students who have had research or personal experiences in China are encouraged to incorporate their prior knowledge into the term papers. Those who are inspired to write on similar topics from an altered angle or different topics within the scope of this course may do so with my approval within a week after a topic is posted. It is highly advisable for such students to discuss their ideas with me as early as possible.

Your course grade will be based on the following basis:

- 1) Reading, discussion, and attendance (20%);
- 2) Oral presentation (20%); and
- 3) Research/term paper(s) (60% total).

Disability Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Important Dates

Fri., Sept. 19: Topic description due (ANG 6930).

Fri., Oct. 10: Annotated bibliography due (ANG 6930).

Fri. Oct. 24: First term paper due (ANT 4930).

Fri., Nov. 14: First draft of research paper due (ANG 6930).

Wed, Dec. 10: Final version of research paper due (ANG 6930).
Second term paper due (ANG 4930).

Seminar Schedule

Fri., Aug. 29: Course overview and coordination.

Readings: This syllabus.

Fri., Sept. 05: Labor Day, no class.

Fri., Sept. 12: The Chinese multiethnicity as an imperial legacy.

Readings: Yang 1968, pp. 20-34
Dreyer 1976, chaps. 1-2 (pp. 7-41)
Crossley 1990, pp. 1-30
Cohen 1991, pp. 113-134
Shih 2001, pp. 381-412
Giersch 2006, chaps. 1-3 (pp. 17-96)

Fri., Sept. 19: Plurality and unity: The making of a modern multiethnic China.

Readings: Conner 1984, pp. 67-100
Fei 1988, 74 pages (Read this item first.)
Kim and Dittmer 1993, pp. 237-290
Mackerras 1994, chaps. 2-4 (pp. 21-104)
Harrell 1996, pp. 1-18

Fri., Sept. 26: Western theories about ethnicity.

Readings: Hutchinson and Smith 1996, parts I-IV (pp. 15-188)
Thompson 1989, pp. 49-71
Hutchinson and Smith 1996, parts V-VIII (pp. 189-377)
Naroll 1964, pp. 283-312

Fri., Oct. 03: The communist theoretical framework for the national question.

Readings: Leacock 1972, pp. 7-67
Engels 1972 [1942], chaps. 1-2 (pp. 87-146), & Chap. 9 (pp. 217-237)
Stalin 1972 [1913], pp. 54-84
Stalin 1950 [1929], pp. 8-37
Connor 1984, chap. 1 (pp. 5-27)
Tong 1989, pp. 182-205

Fri., Oct. 10: Ethnicity and ethnic identification in the People's Republic of China.

Readings: Heberer 1989, chap. 3 (pp. 30-39)
Fei 1980, pp. 94-107
Hsieh 1987, pp. 1-37
Harrell 1995, pp. 274-296
Harrell 2001, part 1, pp. 5-78

Fri., Oct. 17: Homecoming, no class.

Fri., Oct. 24: The Moso and the Naxi

Readings: Shih 2010, pp. 1-206
McKhann 1995, pp. 39-62

Fri., Oct. 31: Ethnicity in Southwest China

Readings: Shih 2010, pp. 207-278
Harrell 1995, pp. 63-91
Diamond 1995, 92-116
Hsieh 1995, pp. 301-328

Hansen 2004, pp. 53-83

Fri., Nov. 07: Ethnicity in Xinjiang

Readings: Bovingdon 2004, pp. 117-154
 Bachman 2004, pp. 155-185
 Yee 2003, 431-452
 Abramson 2012, pp. 1069-1091
 Jacobs 2008, pp. 545-591
 Becquelin 2000, pp. 65-90
 Clarke 2003, pp. 207-224

Fri., Nov. 14: The Tibetans

Readings: Wang and Suo 1984, chap. 18 (pp. 149-179)
 Heberer 1989, chap 8 (pp. 118-126)
 Grunfeld 1996, pp. 107-150
 Goldstein et al. 1997, pp. 3-15, 35-47, 100-139, 183-201
 Goldstein 2004, pp. 186-229
 Kapstein 2004, pp. 230-269

Fri., Nov. 21: The Chinese Muslim

Readings: Lipman pp. xivii-xxxv, 24-227

Fri., Nov. 28: Thanksgiving, no class.

Fri., Dec. 05: The Manchus and the Mongols

Readings: Khan 1995, pp. 248-277
 Borchigud 1995, pp. 278-300
 Rigger 1995, pp. 186-214
 Williams 1996, pp. 665-691
 Bulag 2004, pp. 84-116
 Cambell et al. 2002, pp. 101-115
 Bai 2005, pp. 183-201

(The instructor will be at the AAA annual meeting in D.C.)

Wed., Dec. 10: Classes end.

Final version of research paper due to my office by 5:00 p.m.