Course Title : SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY OF

SOUTH CHINA

Course Code : HST353

Recommended Study Year : 1, 2, 3

No. of Credits/Term : 3

Mode of Tuition : Sectional approach

Class Contact Hours : 3 hours per week

Category in Major Prog. : Elective

Prerequisite(s) : None

Co-requisite(s) : None

Exemption Requirement(s) : N/A

Brief Course Description : This course examines the social and economic

forces that shape the historical development of South China, and the lives of various social groups, including peasants, workers, merchants,

and women.

Aims : This course introduces students to the ways of

studying history from below by examining the interplay between the socio-economic environment and common people's perspectives

and practices.

Learning Outcomes : The students will be able to

(1) analyze current Chinese social and economic issues with a historical

perspective.

(2) explain the significance of common people's perspectives and practices in understanding the past as well as the

present.

(3) acquire discussion and writing skills.

Indicative Content : I. Population: growth and migration

II. Marketing systems and macroregions

- III. Social organization: family and lineage
- IV. Merchants, capitalism, and the commercial development
- V. Peasants, agrarian economy, and the socio-political changes in 20th century China
- VI. Women, economy, and society
- VII. Cities and urban culture in the Republican period
- VIII. State, economy, and society in 20th century China

Teaching Method : This course is taught partly as lectures, partly as seminars with assigned readings and

discussions.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

- (1) article reviews: to evaluate students' writing skills and the ability to analyze the interplay between the socio-economic environment and human agency.
- (2) intensive class discussion and presentation: to assess students' ability to analyze current Chinese social and economic issues with a historical perspective.
- (3) examination: to evaluate students' comprehension of competing interpretations of major issues in the social and economic development of Chinese history.

Assessment : Continuous Assessment 65%

Examination 35%

Required Readings: Selected Readings from the following:

Brown, Rajeswary A., Chinese Business Enterprise in Asia, London: Routledge, 1995.

Chen, Han-seng, Landlord and Peasant in China: A Study of the Agrarian Crisis in South China, Westport, Conn.: Hyperion Press, 1973.

Cheong, Weng Eang, *The Hong Merchants of Canton: Chinese Merchants in Sino-Western Trade*, London: Curzon Press, 1997.

Chung, Stephanie Po-yin, *Chinese Business Groups in Hong Kong and Political Change in South China, 1900-25*, Basingstoke: Macmillan Press, 1998.

- Eastman, Lloyd, Family, Fields and Ancestors: Constancy and Change in China's Social and Economic History, 1550-1949, New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.
- Eng, Robert Yeok-yin, *Imperialism and the Chinese Economy: The Canton and Shanghai Silk Industry*, 1861-1932, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978.
- Faure, David and Siu, Helen F., *Down to Earth: The Territorial Bond in South China*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1995.
- Honig, Emily, Sisters and Strangers: Women in the Shanghai Cotton Mills, 1919-1949, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1986.
- Lee, Leo Ou-fan, *Shanghai Modern: The Flowering of a New Urban Culture in China,* 1930-1945, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.
- Lin, Alfred H.Y., *The Rural Economy of Guangdong, 1870-1937: A Study of the Agrarian Crisis and its Origins in Southernmost China*, New York: St. Martin's Press, 1997.
- Marks, Robert Brian, *Tigers, Rice, Silk, and Silt: Environment and Economy in Late Imperial South China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- Rawski, Thomas G. and Li, Lillian M., *Chinese History in Economic Perspective*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992.
- Rawski, Evelyn S., *Agricultural Change and the Peasant Economy of South China*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1972.
- So, Alvin Y., *The South China Silk District: Local Historical Transformation and World-System Theory*, Albany: State University of New York Press, 1986.
- Stockard, Janice E., Daughters of the Canton Delta: Marriage Patterns and Economic Strategies in South China, 1860-1930, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1989.
- Wang, Gungwu, *The Nanhai Trade: The Early History of Chinese Trade in the South China Sea*, Singapore: Times Academic Press, 1998.
- Wong Chor Yee, *Proto-industrialization and the Silk Industry of the Canton Delta, 1662-1934*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1995.
- Woon, Yuen-fong, Social Organization in South China, 1911-1949: The Case of the Kuan Lineage of Kai-ping County, Ann Arbor: Center for Chinese Studies, University of Michigan, 1984.
- Zhang, Baohui, *Communal Organizations and Agrarian Revolutions in South China*, Austin: University of Texas at Austin, 1994.