COURSE INFORMATION
TITLE: PEOPLES OF ASIA
COURSE NUMBER: 300X (INDIGENOUS AND GLOBAL)
TIME: TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, 11:10-12:30PM

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
NAME: NATHAN DOMITROVICH
OFFICE LOCATION: EMMA LOMMASSON 284
PHONE: 243-2851
OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

REQUIRED READING MATERIALS
PRIMARY TEXT:
-LU, HANCHOU “STREET CRIERS: A CULTURAL HISTORY OF CHINESE BEGGARS”
* FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE AND POCKETBOOK, ALL ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS WILL BE POSTED ON MOODLE

COURSE DESCRIPTION
THIS COURSE FOCUSES ON THE CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND LINGUISTIC PRACTICES OF THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND THAILAND. BY CONCENTRATING ON THESE DIVERSE AND COMPLEX NATIONAL GROUPS, THIS COURSE WILL EXAMINE HOW THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THESE TWO COUNTRIES CONCEPTUALIZE, PERCIEVE, AND LIVE THEIR EVERYDAY LIVES. THROUGH THE SHARING OF FIRSTHAND ACCOUNTS, AND MULTIMEDIA DOCUMENTATION COLLECTED WHILE LIVING IN CHINA AND THAILAND, THE INSTRUCTOR WILL ATTEMPT TO DEMYSTIFY THE PEOPLES OF ASIA WHILE ALSO EXPOSING STUDENTS TO THE RICHNESS, COMPLEXITY AND DIVERSITY THAT EXISTS IN GREATER ASIA.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. EXPOSE STUDENT TO ETHNOGRAPHIC WRITINGS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MEDIA ON THE CULTURES AND ECONOMIES OF HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY CHINA AND THAILAND.
2. INSTILL IN STUDENT AN APPRECIATION FOR, AND GREATER INTELLECTUAL CURIOUSITY ABOUT THE EVERYDAY LIVES AND EXPERIENCES OF PEOPLE LIVING IN CHINA AND THAILAND.
3. DEVELOP IN STUDENT A GREATER APPRECIATION FOR THE COMPLEX SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND ENORMOUS CULTURAL, LINGUISTIC, AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY THAT EXISTS IN BOTH COUNTRIES, WITH THE AIM OF DEMYSTIFYING STEREOTYPES OF THESE TWO NATIONAL GROUPS (CHINESE AND THAI) AS BEING HOMOGENOUS AND STATIC, UNIFIED ENTITIES.
4. EXPOSE STUDENT TO THE GEOGRAPHY, LANDSCAPES, FLORA AND FAUNA THAT INFLUENCE THE LIVELIHOODS, MOBILITY, PREFERENCES AND SHARED EXPERIENCES OF THE PEOPLE WHO INHABIT VARIOUS REGIONS OF CHINA AND THAILAND.
5. STUDENT WILL BE PROVIDED WITH RESOURCES AND GUIDANCE BY INSTRUCTOR TO ASSIST STUDENT WITH WRITING QUALITY RESEARCH PAPERS AND CONDUCTING THOROUGH REVIEWS OF LITERATURE (PREPARATION FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL)

GRADING
ATTENDANCE = 30%
QUIZZES (4) = 20%
MIDTERM PAPER = 20%
FINAL PAPER = 30%

ATTENDANCE - STUDENT IS ALLOWED TWO UNEXCUSED ABSENCES IN COURSE FOR ENTIRE SEMESTER. FOR ANY ADDITIONAL ABSENCE FROM COURSE, UNLESS THERE IS A LEGITIMATE REASON (ILLNESS, DEATH IN THE FAMILY, JURY DUTY ET AL), STUDENT WILL LOSE 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS FROM THEIR FINAL GRADE WITH EACH ADDITIONAL ABSENCE ACCRUED. FOR EXAMPLE, IF A STUDENT’S FINAL GRADE IN THE COURSE IS A %90(A-) AND THEY HAVE THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A B (%85) AS THEIR FINAL GRADE.

MIDTERM AND FINAL PAPERS - NO INTERNET SOURCES ALLOWED. PLEASE USE ARTICLES AND BOOKS WRITTEN FROM LEGITIMATE, SCHOLARLY SOURCES. INSTRUCTOR WILL PROVIDE STUDENT WITH A GUIDE OF RESOURCES FOR SEARCHING FOR PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES, BOOKS AND OTHER MULTIMEDIA DATABASES.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WITH DIAGNOSED DISABILITIES THROUGH DISABILITY STUDENT SERVICES ON CAMPUS. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT A STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY INFORM THE INSTRUCTOR OF HIS/HER DISABILITY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS, IN ORDER FOR THE INSTRUCTOR TO MAKE A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION, AS TO ENSURE THE STUDENT WILL MAXIMIZE THEIR POTENTIAL IN THE ACADEMIC SETTING.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE, ACADEMIC HONESTY/INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM
ALL STUDENTS MUST PRACTICE ACADEMIC HONESTY. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT IS SUBJECT TO AN ACADEMIC PENTALTY BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR AND/OR A DISCIPLINARY SANCTION BY THE UNIVERSITY. ALL STUDENTS NEED TO FAMILARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE. THE CODE IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ONLINE AT: WWW.UMT.EDU/VPSA/STUDENT_CONDUCT.PHP

SCHEDULE
WEEK 1 (8/25-8/29)
INTRODUCTION TO COURSE, COURSE EXPECTATIONS

THE PEOPLES’ REPUBLIC OF CHINA: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION (DEMOGRAPHICS, 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY HISTORICAL OVERVIEW, GEOGRAPHIC AND ETHNIC VARIATION, ECONOMY, RELIGION AND CURRENT POLITICAL SYSTEM)
8/28 Read: DRU GLADNEY’S “CULTURAL NATIONALISMS IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA”

Week 2 (9/1-9/5)
Peoples on the Periphery: Tracing the Ethnohistory of the Uyghurs in China’s Northwest

Powerpoint: Removed from Contested Territory: Migrant Uyghurs in China

9/2 Read: Gladney’s “Ethnogenesis or Ethnogenocide?”
9/4 Read: Millward’s “A Uyghur Muslim in Qianlong’s Court: The Meaning of the Fragrant Concubine”

Week 3 (9/8-9/12)
Culture on Poverty vs. Culture of Poverty in Historical and Contemporary China

Open Discussion on Lu Reading
Images of Street Culture in Guizhou Province
Quiz 1 (Due on Moodle 9/11 at 5PM)

9/9 Read: Lu (Preface)/Pgs. 1-33

Week 4 (9/15-9/19)
Street Culture, Indigenous Economies and Performance in Guizhou Province/
Case Study of Two Urban Management Campaigns- San Chuang Yi Ban and Wen Ming Cheng Shi

Powerpoint: Change and Continuity in Modern China: Street Culture in Guiyang

Open Discussion on Lu Reading

9/16 Read: Lu, Pgs. 54-107
Optional Reading: Fernandez-Stembridge and Madsen’s “Beggars in the Socialist Market Economy”

Week 5 (9/22-9/26)
Persistence and Similarity: Beggging Methods in the Times of Empire and Republic/
Capitalizing on Mainstream Societies Vulnerability to Social Outcasts

Discussion on Reading with Supplementary Slides

9/23 Read: Lu, Pgs. 133-177
9/24 Read: Lu, Pgs. 196-206
WEEK 6 (9/29-10/3)
GLOBALIZATION, THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMPETITION OVER RESOURCES AND LAND IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA

OPEN DISCUSSION ON ASSIGNED READINGS
POWERPOINT: THE OLD CITY OF KASGHAR/ URBAN RENEWAL OR DEMOLITION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE?

QUIZ 2 DUE ON MOODLE 9/2 AT 5PM


WEEK 7 (10/6-10/10)
FESTIVALS IN CHINA: CHUN JIE, ZHONG QIU JIE, GUI JIE, QING MING JIE AND DONG WU JIE

SLIDES: FESTIVALS IN CHINA AS EXPERIENCED BY PARTICIPANTS

NO READING! (WORK ON MIDTERM PAPER)

WEEK 8 (10/13-10/17)
THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION (DEMOGRAPHICS, GEOGRAPHY, ECONOMY, RELIGIONS AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS (THE SANGHA), THE MONARCHY, AND CURRENT POLITICAL SYSTEM)

10/16 MIDTERM PAPER DUE (7-10 PAGES DOUBLE SPACED, 15 SOURCES MINIMUM, 12 PT FONTS)

WEEK 9 (10/20-10/24)
POPULAR BUDDHISM IN THAILAND: THE THERAVADA TRADITION AS CONCEPUTALIZED AND PRACTICED

SLIDES: RITUALS, PRACTICES AND CUSTOMS OF MONKS AND THE LAITY IN THAILAND

QUIZ 3 DUE ON MOODLE 10/23 BY 5PM

10/23 READ: DONALD SWEARER’S “THE BUDDHIST WORLD OF SOUTHEAST ASIA”, PGS. 1-70

WEEK 10 (10/27-10/31)
BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN THAILAND/STUPA AS COSMIC MOUNTAIN, CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE, AND PATHWAY TO LIBERATION
VIDEO: JOURNEY INTO BUDDHISM: DHARMA RIVER

10/28 READ: PIERRE PRICHARD’S “THE THAI MONESTARY”

WEEK 11 (11/6) – NO CLASS 11/4 ELECTION DAY

QUIZ 4 DUE ON MOODLE 11/6 BY 5PM

11/6 READ: CHARLES F. KEYES “THAILAND BUDDHIST KINGDOM AS MODERN NATION-STATE”
OPTIONAL READING: DONALD SWEARER’S “BUDDHISM AS A CIVIL RELIGION: POLITICAL LEGITIMATION AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION”

WEEK 12 (11/13) – NO CLASS 11/11 VETERANS DAY
CREMATION AND THE BELIEF IN GHOSTS AND SPIRITS IN THAILAND: CASE STUDY ON THE 2005 TSUNAMI IN SOUTHERN THAILAND

SLIDES AND OPEN DISCUSSION ON READING

11/13 READ: GEORGE CONDOMINAS “PHIBAN CULTS IN RURAL LAOS”

WEEK 13 (11/17-11/21)
FESTIVALS OF THAILAND: LOY KRATONG, SONGKRAN AND MAKA PUCHA

SLIDES: FESTIVALS IN THAILAND

NO READING (WORK ON FINAL PAPER!)

WEEK 14 (11/24-11/28)
THE RISE OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THE QUEST FOR DEMOCRACY IN CONTEMPORARY THAILAND/
OVERVIEW OF THE 1973 POPULAR UPRISING AND SUBSEQUENT UPRISINGS AND COUPS

VIDEO: THE 1973 THAI POPULAR UPRISING

NO READING ASSIGNMENTS (WORK ON FINAL PAPER)

WEEK 15 (12/1-12/5)
GROUP DISCUSSION ON RESEARCH PAPER TOPICS/ DISCUSSION OF CHALLENGES STUDENTS ARE ENCOUNTERING WITH RESEARCHING AND WRITING FINAL PAPER
12/4 VIDEO: WEDDING IN CHINA, CLASS FAREWELL
FINAL PAPER DUE 12/10 BY 5PM (10-15 PAGES DOUBLE SPACED, 20 SOURCES MINIMUM, 12 PT FONTS)