THE QUEST FOR AN ARCHITECTURE BOTH MODERN AND CHINESE HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS. IN THE EARLY PART OF THE LAST CENTURY A DESIRE FOR THIS KIND OF LANGUAGE OF BUILDING, ONE THAT COULD BOTH REFLECT PROGRESS AND BE PLACE SPECIFIC, WAS A COMMON PUZZLER WORLD OVER. BUT IN CHINA, THE QUEST STARTED EARLY AND CONTINUES TO THIS DAY, RUNNING PARALLEL WITH CHANGING IDEAS OF “CHINA”—THE PLACE AND NATION, CONCEPTS RADICALLY RECONSTRUED AT LEAST FOUR TIMES IN THE COURSE OF THE SAME PERIOD.

This seminar proposes to investigate one such time signature. The course focuses on the large scale experiments in new Chinese “building” run under the gaze of Mao Zedong from the decade preceding the 1949 inauguration of the People’s Republic of China through Mao’s death in 1976. Over this roughly 40-year time span, many sites and fundamental notions of daily life—language, expression, family, education, countryside and city—were redefined and radically tested. The mass campaigns used to inculcate such new conceptions represented often sharply distinct—sometimes opposed—mindsets but through all of them, fundamental Chinese “sites” and the structure of China itself were starkly reimagined.

The first four weeks of the seminar will introduce the traditional organizational structures and habits of thought embedded in the targeted sites. This grounding will be combined with an introduction to the deep resources of Columbia’s research collections. And over the balance of the semester, primary resources from these collections and assigned readings will be used to explore the particular “experiments” in modern China building and the qualities of “new” and other discourses that the campaigns of Mao’s China represented.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

-Class discussion (preparation and participation), weekly “a” or “b” type responses 25% per schedule.
--Individual Work Unit Task Sources Essay (1500 word) 25%
--Work Unit Final Project TBD (preliminary proposal, draft, final presentation and individual text) 50%

PLAGIARISM

Please review the GSAPP website for the School’s posted statement “Plagiarism and Acknowledgement of Sources.” Students are forewarned that any such breaches will be taken very seriously. Any student caught plagiarizing will—at minimum—receive no credit for the course.

SCHEDULE

0. INTRO / GROUND RULES / EVIDENCE 1.23
1. TYPE AND MODULE


1368—1976 TIME LINE
(Ming—Founding of the People’s republic of China—Death of Mao Zedong)

RESPONSE / ASSIGNMENT “A” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM TUESDAY 1.28
--(3) thorough thought questions + responses related to week 1 readings
--(1) source described and well-situated in 500 words (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)

2. HOUSE + ORDER OF THE CITY

George N. Kates, The Years That Were Fat: The Last of Old China (YTWF) (Harper and Brothers,1952), pp. 16-27. (11)


Dong Zhongshu, “The Conduct of Heaven and Earth,” from Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn Annals (Chunqiu Fanlu), in SCT, pp. 295-7. (2)

------------------------, “Establishing the Primal Numen,” in SCT, pp. 298-301. (3)


BACKGROUND Schoppa, RP, 181-240.

RESPONSE / ASSIGNMENT “A” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM MONDAY 2.04
--(3) thorough thought questions + responses related to week 1 readings
--(1) source described and well-situated in 500 words (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)
NOTE: WORK UNIT——“COUNTRYSIDE-RURAL” OR “CITY-URBAN”——SPECIFIC READING PACKETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT END OF CLASS

3. INFLUENCES 2.13

STARR EAST ASIAN LIBRARY / KRESS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: LECTURE, COLLECTIONS REVIEW, INTRODUCTION TO STARR AND ONLINE SOURCES WANG CHENGZHI


Selections From:
Luo Guanzhong, Romance of the Three Kingdoms (san guo zhi yeni), (Tuttle, 2002)

Water Margin (Shui hu Chuan)


BACKGROUND Schoppa, RP, 241-304.

RESPONSE / ASSIGNMENT “A” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM TUESDAY 2.11
--(3) thorough thought questions + responses related to week 1 readings
--(1) source described and well-situated in 500 words (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)

4. CHANGE 2.20

RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY: MAY 4TH LITERATURE

Hu Shih, the Development of the Logical Method in Ancient China, Columbia University Phd. 1917 (The oriental Book Company, Shanghai, 1922)

------ “Some Tentative Suggestions For The Reform of Chinese Literature” in Xing Qing Nian (New Youth) April 18, 1918, ((Qun Yi Shu She, Shanghai,1915-26)

Chen Duxiu, “Call To Youth,” in Xing Qing Nian (New Youth) Sept. 15,1915, (Qun Yi Shu She, Shanghai,1915-26)

Lu Xun, “A Madman’s Diary,” in Xing Qing Nian (New Youth) 1918, ((Qun Yi Shu She, Shanghai,1915-26)

BACKGROUND Schoppa, RP, 305-345

RESPONSE / ASSIGNMENT “A” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM TUESDAY 2.18
--(3) thorough thought questions + responses related to week 1 readings
--(1) source described and well-situated in 500 words (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)
5. MAO'S LEXICON / VOCABULARY AND THEMES

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“Be Concerned With The Well-Being of the Masses,” 1934
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“What is Guerrilla Warefare?,” 1937
---------------
“On Contradiction,” 1937
---------------
“Talk at the Yan’an Conference on Art and Literature, 1942
---------------
“On Methods of Leadership, 1943
---------------
“Serve the People,” 1944
---------------
“The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains,” 1945
---------------
“Snow,” 1945
---------------
“The Chinese People Have Stood UP!” 1949
---------------
“Preserve the Style of Plain Living and Hard Struggle,” 1949
---------------
“On the People’s Democratic Dictatorship” 1949
---------------
“On the Question of Agricultural Cooperation” 1955
---------------
“On the Correct Handling of Contradictions” 1957

ASSIGNMENT “B” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM TUESDAY 2.25
--Work Unit—Coordinated Status Report to Group
--(3) sources described and well-situated in 500 words (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)

6. TOOLS AND WORK UNIT THEMES 1

PETER G. ROWE AND SENG KUAN, Architectural Encounters with Essence and Form in Modern China, MIT (2002). pp. 2-136

WORK UNITS 1-3 PRESENT

SOURCES ESSAY DUE AT END OF CLASS

7. TOOLS AND WORK UNIT THEMES 2

WORK UNITS 4-6 PRESENT

ASSIGNMENT “B” SUBMIT TO CANVAS BY 5PM TUESDAY 3.11
--Work Unit—Coordinated Status Report to Group
--(3) sources described and well-situated in 500 words min (include titled jpg of any non-text source, pdf of any text source)

SPRING BREAK 3.18 -- 3.22
8. STRATEGY RESPONSE AND UPDATE 3.27

WORK UNITS 1-3

WORK UNITS 1-3 TO SUBMIT COORDINATED OUTLINE TO CANVAS BY 5PM SUNDAY 3.24
--Respondent Work Units to prepare coordinated response for discussion, written notes to be submitted by end of class 3.27

9. STRATEGY RESPONSE AND UPDATE 4.03

WORK UNITS 4-6

WORK UNITS 4-6 TO SUBMIT COORDINATED OUTLINE TO CANVAS BY 5PM SUNDAY 3.31
--Respondent Work Units to prepare coordinated response for discussion, written notes to be submitted by end of class 4.03

BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON CLASS 10 GUEST WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT END OF CLASS

10. GUEST LECTURE / DISCUSSION 4.10

INDIVIDUAL / WORK UNIT THOUGHT QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY 5PM MONDAY 4.08

11. TYPES STRATEGIES REDUX 4.17

12. CRITICISM WITH INVITED GUESTS / RESPONDANTS 4.24

FINAL PROJECT / PUBLICATION TBD

GSAPP FINAL REVIEWS 4/25-5/3
LAST DAY WORK DUE 5/10
GRADES DUE 5/15
SAMPLE COLLECTIONS

CACHE 1  Zhong Guo Ying Zoa Xue She Hui Kan / The Bulletin of the Society for Research in Chinese Architecture, Avery

CACHE 2  International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, RBML (Rare Book and Manuscript Library) INDUSCO, RBML

CACHE 3  American Bureau for Medical Aid to China 1937-79, RBML
The Modern Hospital (Journal), Burke

CACHE 4  Charles W. Stoughton Architectural Drawings (c. 1905-37), Avery

CACHE 5  Talbot Faulkner Hamlin Papers and Architectural Records, Avery

CACHE 6  Arthur Rothstien Photographs Avery
Warren and Whetmore, Drawings and Photographs, Avery

CACHE 7  Klaus Herdeg Papers, Avery
Skidmore, Owings and Merrill Photographs 1945-69, Avery

CACHE 8  Ling Long (Magazine), Starr

CACHE 9  Makino Mamoru Collection on the History of East Asian Film, Starr

CACHE 10  Eugene E. Barnett Papers, Young Mens Christian Association (YMCA) 1905-1970, RBML
David Willard Lyon Papers, YMCA 1870-1949, Burke

CACHE 11  Helen Foster Snow, OHRO (Oral History)
Democracy (Journal), Burke
Indusco?

CACHE... Wellington Koo, Photographs and Memorabilia, 1888-1985, Starr + OHRO

Harrison Sallisbury, RBML

Pare Lorentz, RBML

Xiong Shihui, RBML

Shen I-yun, OHRO

Leslie H. Chen, RBML

Hu Shih, RBML
STARTING POINTS / REFERENCES ON RESERVE:

A reserve collection of “starting point” materials for any and all of these themes is at Avery.

Marie-Claire Bergere, Shanghai: China’s Gateway to Modernity, Stanford, 2009


Yomi Braester, Painting the City Red: Chinese Cinema and the Urban Contract, Duke, 2010


Madeleine Yue Dong, Republican Beijing: The City and Its Histories, University of California, 2003


Leo Ou-fan Lee, Shanghai Modern: The Flowering of a New Urban Culture in China, 1930-1945, Harvard, 1999


Hanchao Lu, Beyond the Neon Lights, University of California, 1999


Susan Naquin, Peking: Temples and City Life, Berkley, 2000

Malcolm Purvis, Tall Storeys: Palmer and Turner, Architects and Engineers—the First 100 Years, Wanchai, Hong Kong, 1985

Peter G. Rowe, Architectural Encounters with Essence and Form in Modern China, MIT, 2002


Charles Alfred Speed Williams, Chinese Symbolism and Art Motifs: A Comprehensive Handbook on Symbolism in Chinese Art Through the Ages, Tuttle, 2006 (or earlier)

Wen-hsin Yeh, Shanghai Splendor: A Cultural History, 1843-1945, University of California, 2008


China Forever: The Shaw Brothers and Diasporic Cinema, Illinois, 2008

Cinema and Urban Culture in Shanghai, 1922-1943, Stanford, 1999

OTHER REFERENCES

FILM

Links to online moving images:
http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/search/collection/mvtnwarfilms/searchterm/China/field/covera/
mode/any/conn/and/order/nosort/ad/asc/cosuppress/1

National archives and Records Administration (NARA):
http://www.archives.gov/research/search/

British pathe:
http://www.britishpathe.com/

Archive.org:
https://archive.org/details/movies

GENERAL

Library of congress:
Primary source materials, research tools, historical exhibits, photographs, maps, publications....

Smithsonian Institution:
Primary sources—wide variety, military, political...

Harvard Yenching Library:
http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/harvard-yenching/

Worldcat

Artstor

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