# History of Taiwan

**Instructor:**
Shichi Mike LAN, Associate Professor of History

**Objectives:**
This course will provide students an overview of Taiwan’s historical development, with an emphasis on the 17-20th centuries. The content of this course aims to enable students to understand contemporary political and social affairs concerning Taiwan in its historical context.

**Course Description:**
Since the late 17th century, Taiwan has experienced transformation from being an island frontier of the Qing Dynasty, a Japanese colony, a Chinese territory, and to a country with a full-fledged democracy today. Notably, Taiwan has been closely intertwined with China, though sometimes at odds. This lecture/discussion course will focus on the history of Taiwan, from the 17th to the mid-20th centuries and explore, in particular, the intertwined relationship between Taiwan and external forces from a historical perspective. This course will examine key events that had shaped and/or are still shaping cross-(Taiwan) strait relations.

**Course Outline:** each class consists of 3 hours (unless otherwise specified)

**Week 1:**
*Course Overview; Review of Syllabus; Population and Geography*

**Week 2: Pre-modern history of Taiwan**
Reading: J. Bruce Jacobs, “A History of Pre-Invasion Taiwan” (2016)

**Week 3: Arrival of the Europeans**
Reading: Tonio Andrade, *How Taiwan Became Chinese*—Introduction, Chapters 1-3
**Week 4: Competition among Maritime Powers**
Reading: Tonio Andrade, *How Taiwan Became Chinese*—Chapters 4-7

**Week 5: The “Chinese” Factor**
Reading: Tonio Andrade, *How Taiwan Became Chinese*—Chapters 8-11, Conclusion

**Week 6: Under the Chinese Rule (and “Perception”)**
Reading: Emma Jinhua Teng, *Taiwan’s Imagined Geography*—Introduction, Chapters 1-3

**Week 7: Classifying the Taiwanese**
Reading: Emma Jinhua Teng, *Taiwan’s Imagined Geography*—Chapters 4-6

**Week 8: Making Taiwan “Chinese”**
Reading: Emma Jinhua Teng, *Taiwan’s Imagined Geography*—Chapters 7-9, Conclusion

**Week 9: Mid-term review**

**Week 10: Arrival of the Japanese**

**Week 11: Social Change under the Japanese Rule**
Reading: Evan Dawley, *Becoming Taiwanese*—Chapters 3-5

**Week 12:**

**Cultural Change under the Japanese Rule**
Reading: Liao Ping---Hui and David Der---Wei Wang, eds., *Taiwan under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895---1945*—Chapters 5-8
Week 13:

Art and Literature under the Japanese Rule
Reading: Liao Ping---Hui and David Der---Wei Wang, eds., Taiwan under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895---1945—Chapters 9-12

Week 14:

Colonial Legacy
Reading: Liao Ping---Hui and David Der---Wei Wang, eds., Taiwan under Japanese Colonial Rule, 1895---1945—Chapters 13-15, 17

Amae, Yoshihisa, “Pro-colonial or Postcolonial?” (2011)

Week 15:

Postwar Changes under the ROC Rule
Reading: Evan Dawley, Becoming Taiwanese—Chapters 6-7, Conclusion

Week 16-17:

Presentation

Requirements and Grades
This course will consist of lectures, discussion, and students’ presentation; active participation in class is expected. Students are expected to finish all required readings before class. Participation will be taken into consideration in determining students’ term grades.

Each student needs to submit: 2 “Exploratory papers” due on Week 8 and 15
Each student needs to submit: 1 “Research Project” (5000 words minimum) on Week 18

The term grade consists of the following:
Class participation and exploratory papers = 50%
Research Project (including Presentation) = 50%
**Recommended Readings:**