

MODERN CHINESE HISTORY (SECOND EDITION)

BY DAVID KENLEY – KEY ISSUES IN ASIAN STUDIES BOOK SERIES

SUGGESTED COURSES:

- **History**
- **Politics**
- **International Relations**

KEY CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS:

- Cosmopolitanism
- Chinese Exceptionalism
- Rise of Communism
- Revolution
- Great Man Theory
- War and Violence
- Communist Revolution



Paperback (\$17.00):
9780924304903

E-Book (\$16.99):
9780924304996

108 pages

For desk and examination copies, visit:
<https://cup.columbia.edu/for-instructors>

Purchase copies at:
www.asianstudies.org/store/kenley

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Which 20-year period in modern Chinese history best represents a cosmopolitan world view? Which best represents a Chinese exceptionalism world view? Explain.
2. Which is more important in Chinese history, the Taiping Rebellion, the 1911 Revolution, the 1949 Revolution, or the Cultural Revolution? What other revolutionary periods deserve attention? Explain.
3. What key factors led to the rise of communism in China? Consider both the period before and after 1949. What caused the collapse of the Qing?
4. What caused the collapse of the Republican regime? What lessons from these two failed states can be applied to contemporary governments?
5. What contemporary problems is China facing in the 21st century? What lessons from Chinese history can and should be applied in addressing these problems?

EXTERNAL LINKS & RESOURCES:

- <https://www.nctasia.org/>
- <https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/>
- <http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/>
- <https://guides.library.duke.edu/k-12resourcesonEA>
- <https://asia.si.edu/education/>
- <https://asiasociety.org/education>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. ESTABLISHING THE QING
2. CROSS-CULTURAL CONFLICTS DURING THE QING
3. SOCIETY DURING THE QING
4. THE COLLAPSE OF THE QING
5. THE REPUBLICAN ERA
6. TOTAL WAR
7. THE TURBULENT 1950S AND 1960S
8. THE POST-MAO ERA

“If, like me, you have been waiting for a stripped down and accessible introduction to China’s modern transformations, which hits all the main points in a small numbers of pages, your wait is over. This will be a very attractive volume for all teachers who want to make sure their students get an up to date introduction to the basics, yet also are determined to reserve lots of space on the syllabus for primary sources.”

– JEFFREY WASSERSTROM, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

“Two outstanding features of this work are its emphasis on cross-cultural contacts and the attention it pays to men and women from various walks of life, not merely the well-known figures from the military and government. With its generous assortment of illustrations and numerous helpful references, Modern Chinese History is an ideal text for introductory courses that also include a judicious selection of primary sources.”

–VICTOR H. MAIR, University of Pennsylvania

**EXPLORE THE WHOLE RANGE
OF AAS PUBLICATIONS AT:**

