

New Book Group: *Bullets and Opium: Reflections on China 30 Years After Tiananmen*. January 16 – February 26, 2020. This book group will do close readings of specific chapters of the 2019 book *Bullets and Opium* to offer participants a deeper understanding of the events surrounding the Tiananmen protests, their repercussions, and their place in Chinese history. This semester’s book group will focus on the stories in Part II of the book. [Flyer and application](#).

Film Group: *China’s City Dreams: Urbanization, Demolition, and the Chaos of Reality*. January 15 – March 6, 2020. This course examines key issues in contemporary China through three films, each of which explores China’s explosive urbanization in an unconventional and provocative way. These films explore the consequences of rapid urbanization and help us understand that, for many living in China today, the rise of the city as a beacon of progress is an illusion hiding the chaotic reality that unchecked urbanization has rendered upon people’s lives. [Flyer and application](#).

Online Seminar: *Chinese History through Its Dynasties: Song, Ming, Qing*. January 17 – April 3, 2020. This seminar introduces significant elements of China’s political, social, and cultural history through the examination of China’s dynasties covering the period 960-1911 CE. High school social studies teachers investigate historical themes and analyze exemplary curriculum materials on the Song, Ming, and Qing dynasties. [Flyer and application](#).

New Seminar: *East Asia in the Early Modern World*. January 23 – April 13, 2020. In this seminar, secondary teachers will gain an understanding of the political, economic, and cultural systems of the early modern East Asian world and reconsider narratives of encounters and conflicts with European imperialist powers. The course examines East Asia’s overlooked international relations through primary and secondary sources. [Flyer and application](#).

Northern Virginia and DC Area Teachers: Registration for February-March Workshops Open Now!

Join NCTA for these winter-spring 2020 workshops:

- **Teaching Asia with Art at the Freer|Sackler.** February 29, 2020. This workshop will focus on two special exhibits, one on the woodblock prints of Hokusai, the second looking in detail at a single work, a Korean Buddhist masterpiece. Participants will work with Freer|Sackler curators and staff.
- **Japan, Pop Culture, and the Olympics.** March 7, 2020. This program will engage participants in exploring the messages Japan will send to the world through the 2020 Olympics. Featured speaker will be William Tsutsui, internationally recognized specialist on pop culture in Japan. [Flyer and registration.](#)

**National Opportunities**

**NCTA Webinars.** NCTA at the Five College Center for East Asian Studies is now registering for four webinars:

- **Living and Learning in China,** with Smith College student Bea Hesselbart. January 14, 2020, 7 pm EST. [Registration.](#)
- **Total Immersion: Exploring Tea Culture in East Asia,** with Mindy Landeck, Austin College. February 4, 2020, 7 pm EST. [Registration.](#)
- **Democracy in Taiwan,** with Sara Newland, Smith College. February 19, 2020, 7 pm EST. [Registration.](#)
- **Teaching Taiwan,** with James Lin, University of Washington. March 11, 2020, 7 pm EST. [Registration.](#)

**Study Abroad Opportunity for Teachers: Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Research Program. Application deadline: January 20, 2020.** This program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State provides an opportunity for K-12 educators to conduct research and engage in other professional learning experiences abroad for three to six months. Taiwan is among the available sites. Travel can occur in the fall or spring semesters of the 2020-2021 school year. [Information and application.](#)

**Online Course: Japan and the World: Historical and Cultural Developments (5th Century – Present). January 29 – March 31, 2020.** Primary Source is offering this course exploring Japan through its history, arts, and literature, with emphasis on Japan post-1853. Pedagogical approaches to teaching Japanese history and culture will also be explored. Cost for teachers whose schools do not have a partnership with Primary Source
is $600 plus an additional fee for graduate credit. Information and registration.

NCTA Workshop: Modern/Contemporary East Asian Film Workshop. April 25-26, 2020. Application deadline: March 6, 2020. NCTA at Indiana University presents this 1.5-day workshop introducing middle and high school teachers to a selection of modern/contemporary Chinese, Japanese, and Korean film classics, with special focus on analyzing depictions of family structures in East Asia. Travel support is available. Information and application.


Previously Announced National Opportunities

2020 Keizai Koho Center Study Tour to Japan. June 22-30, 2020 (tentative). Application deadline: January 15, 2020. This study tour for middle and high school educators aims to deepen participants’ understanding of Japan and contribute to international mutual understanding across the Pacific. Participants interact with Japanese students, teachers, scholars, and business leaders and enjoy traditional and contemporary Japanese culture. Information and registration.

2020 Korea Research Trip. June 30 – July 11, 2020. Application deadline: January 15, 2020. World History Digital Education seeks social studies teachers, staff developers, and supervisors to take part in a research trip to South Korea showcasing the challenges, outcomes, and legacies of the Korean War. Participants will also take part in pre-trip webinars, readings, and discussion; following the trip, they will develop a lesson and present it to other educators. Registration.


Columbia NCTA Online Book Groups: Understanding China Through Comics, Graphic Novels, and Drama. January – February 2020. The NCTA national coordinating site at Columbia’s Weatherhead Institute is offering three book groups in January and February, each running at a different time period. Two book groups focus on comics, the third on the graphic novel A Chinese Life. More information is available here.

USS Midway Museum 2020 Summer Institutes. Application deadline: March 8, 2020. The USS Midway Museum in San Diego is hosting two summer institutes in 2020:


For more information, visit the Museum website.

NCTA State and Local Programs
Northern Virginia and DC Area NCTA Workshops. February 29 and March 7, 2020. Join NCTA for these winter-spring 2020 workshops:

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NCTA Texas (Fort Worth) Seminar: **Journey to Asia: A Cultural, Historical, and Political Overview.** January 29 – April 8, 2020. This seminar will emphasize the interconnections among Asian states and the rest of the world while exploring the cult of personality in authoritarian states, globalization and sport in Asia, the sociology of food and drink, and more. The seminar will meet three hours weekly at Texas Christian University. For more information or to register, contact c.currier@tcu.edu.

NCTA New York (Ithaca) Seminar: **China, Korea, Japan.** February 29 – May 16, 2020. Participants in this seminar will meet monthly on Saturdays and take part in six webinars as they learn about East Asia and how to incorporate it into their curriculum. **Information and registration.**

NCTA Pennsylvania (Elizabethtown) Seminar: **Intersections: East Asia Past and Present.** January 30 – April 30, 2020. Participants will meet 10 Thursday evenings at Elizabethtown College for an introduction to the cultures of China, Japan, and Korea, with a special emphasis on what makes East Asia a distinct region. **Flyer and registration.**

NCTA California (Los Angeles) Seminar: **East Asia: Origins to 1800.** March 7 – May 2, 2020. Application deadline: February 23, 2020. This seminar offering in-depth introductions to the history and culture of the region will consist of five Saturday sessions on the University of Southern California campus. **Information and registration.**

**Featured Resource**

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies at George Washington University has provided a summary of events in 2019 that had a major impact on China and Japan (as well as India and Russia). The summary, provided in **Policy Alert #200** and titled **Rising Powers End 2019 on Shaky Ground**, has numerous links to permit readers to further pursue significant developments in 2019.