

**HIS 354: Traditional China**  
Jonathan Skaff

## **Paper Assignment 2**

**Length:** 4 to 8 pages, double-spaced in 12-point font

**Due: Wednesday, October 24**

Hard copy due in class with the grading sheet on the reverse attached.

Electronic Copy due to D2L Dropbox (Use Microsoft DOC or DOCX, WordPerfect, PostScript, PDF, HTML, RTF or Plain text format.)

**Topic:** Write an essay in which you evaluate the power and status of women in early imperial China. Your essay should explain the idealized roles of women according to elite patrilineal (Confucian) thought and rituals. Compare these ideals with the pragmatic (customary) roles of Han Dynasty females in family life, the economy, and the Han Dynasty government. Based on this comparison, your paper should offer a thesis explaining the power and status of women in the early imperial period.

Your main source should be Bret Hinsch, *Women in Early Imperial China*. You also may make reference to other class readings, lectures and discussions. Research in library books and databases is not necessary, but allowable. Internet research and sources are not allowed.

**Citations:** The paper should include citations and a bibliography with references to all books and class lectures cited. History majors should use Chicago A (Turabian notes-bibliography) or Chicago B (Turabian author-date) format. Students who are not history majors have the option of using MLA.

**Evaluation:** 80% of the grade will be based on content. Grades of A will be awarded to papers that persuasively defend a thesis based on evidence from the book.

The other 20% will be based upon grammar and word usage (4%), spelling, capitalization and punctuation (4%), organization (4%), readability (4%), and bibliography and citations in MLA or Chicago A or B format (4%).

## Grading sheet (attach to paper)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

### I. Content (80%)

Understanding of patrilineal female roles: \_\_\_\_\_Excellent \_\_\_Good \_\_\_Fair \_\_\_Poor

Understanding of pragmatic female roles: \_\_\_\_\_Excellent \_\_\_Good \_\_\_Fair \_\_\_Poor

Thesis is clear and defended with persuasive evidence: \_\_\_\_\_Excellent \_\_\_Good \_\_\_Fair \_\_\_Poor

A=72-80, B=64-71, C=56-63, D=48-55, F=47 or lower \_\_\_\_\_

### II. Writing mechanics (20%)

A=4, B=3.5, C=3, D=2.5, F=2 or lower

Grammar and word usage (4%) \_\_\_\_\_

Spelling, capitalization, and punctuation (4%) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (4%) \_\_\_\_\_

Readability (4%) \_\_\_\_\_

Citations and bibliography (Chicago A or B, or MLA, 4%) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

### Correction Symbols Used in Grading Paper:

agr	wrong agreement (noun-verb or noun-noun)
awk	awkward sentence
cit	citation needed
frag	sentence fragment (usually a sentence that lacks a verb)
org	organization problems
redun	redundant (using different words to say the same thing more than once)
rep	repetitious use of the same word
run-on	run-on sentence
sp	wrong spelling
trans	poor transition (between sentences or paragraphs)
tn	wrong verb tense
unc	unclear phrase, sentence, or paragraph
wf	wrong grammatical form of word
ww	wrong word usage
¶	new paragraph needed