

HIS 354: Traditional China

Jonathan Skaff

Paper Assignment 2

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

Due: Monday, April 12, 11:30 pm

- F2F & remote students: Electronic copy submitted to the D2L Assignment folder (MS Word doc or docx format).
- F2F students: Optional hard copy due in class on Wed. April 14 with the grading sheet on page 2 attached. Hard copies will have priority in grading.

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, society, the economy, and government. Based on this comparison, your paper should offer a thesis about 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. **NO INTERNET SITES ARE ALLOWED UNLESS LEHMAN LIBRARY PROVIDES DATABASE LINKS.**

Citations: The paper should include citations and a bibliography. 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. **Quotations** or **ideas** that you take from your sources should be acknowledged with properly formatted citations and bibliography. Failure to acknowledge the source of a quote or an idea is **plagiarism**. **Flagrant cases of plagiarism may result in a grade of “F” for the class.**

Evaluation: 80% of the grade will be based on content. 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%).

Grades of A will be awarded to papers that provide: 1) a thesis that is persuasively defended with evidence drawn from the book, 2) solid understanding of early imperial China derived from lectures and readings, 3) sharp analysis and argumentation, and 4) well-crafted writing that transmits ideas clearly.

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