Paper Assignment 1

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

Due: Wed., Oct. 1
   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: Compare how Li Feng and Valerie Hansen approach the early history of China through the Western Zhou dynasty (1045-771 BCE). In evaluating their approaches consider the 1) historical and archaeological sources that they find to be helpful, and 2) their interpretations of history, particularly the benefits and drawbacks of Li Feng’s choice to begin Chinese history in the Neolithic period, and Hansen’s decision to begin with the Shang Dynasty. Develop a thesis arguing which author’s approach is more effective for understanding Chinese history through the Western Zhou. Support your ideas with evidence from the books. Cite your sources in MLA or Chicago A or B format.

Evaluation: 80% of the grade will be based on content. Grades of A will be awarded to papers that persuasively defend your thesis based on evidence from the two books. Library research is not necessary, but allowable. Internet research and sources are not allowed.

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)

I. Content (80%)

Understanding of approach of Hansen: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor

Understanding of approach of Li Feng: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor

Defense of thesis with evidence from books: ___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