China (Part 1): Political and Intellectual Foundations: From the Sage Kings to Confucius and the Legalists

Unit 1: The Big Picture

Introduction: Time, Space and Identity
Section 1: Time
Section 2: Space
Section 3: Identity
Section 4: China’s History Mapped

Unit 2: Origin Stories

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction: Origin Stories
Section 2: How We Tell Our Stories: Artifacts vs. Texts
Section 3: Culture Heroes and Sage Kings
Section 4: What Archaeology Tells Us
Section 5: The History of the Two Stories
Section 6: Interview with Professor Rowan Flad

Unit 3: Legitimation of Power in Antiquity

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction to Legitimation of Power in Antiquity
Section 2: The Shang System and Its Sources
Section 3: Bronzes: Shang
Section 4: Oracle Bones
Section 5: The Zhou System and Its Sources
Section 6: Zhou Bronzes (Optional)
Section 7: Conclusion – Zhou Moves East
Unit 4: Discussing One Interpretation of the Nature of Chinese Civilization

Section 1: Discussing One Interpretation of the Nature of Chinese Civilization

Section 2: Professors Bol and Kirby discuss “Early Civilization in China: Reflections on How It Became Chinese”

Unit 5: Confucius and Confucianism

Historical Overview

Section 1: The Many Faces of Confucianism
Section 2: Confucius of The Analects
Section 3: Reading the Analects
Section 4: Confucius’ Successors
Section 5: The Confucian Path
Section 6: Professor Puett on Zhuangzi (Optional)

Unit 6: Competing Schools and Warring States

Section 1: The Hundred Schools of Thought
Section 2: Strategies for Doing Good
Section 3: Strategies for Survival
Section 4: Strategies for Gaining Control
Section 5: Conclusion
Section 6: Professor Puett on Zhuangzi (Optional)
Section 7: Professor Puett on Zhuangzi in Relation to Confucius (Optional)
Section 8: Professor Puett on Laozi (Optional)

Part 1: Conclusion

China (Part 2): The Creation and End of Centralized Empire

Part 2: Introduction

Introduction to Part 2: The Creation and End of a Unified Empire

Unit 7: Forging a Unified Empire: Qin

Historical Overview

Section 1: Forging a Unified Empire
Section 2: Qin Finds the Path to Power
Section 3: New Ways of Mobilizing the Population
Section 4: Qin Unity and the First Emperor
Section 5: A New Imperial Ideology -- Cosmic Resonance
Section 6: Lesson from the Qin Terracotta Warriors
Section 7: Epilogue: The Fall of Qin

Unit 8: Making Empire Last: Western Han
  Section 1: Introduction to Making Empire Last: Western Han
  Section 2: Court Politics
  Section 3: Institutional Tensions: Tension #1: Centralism vs. Regionalism
  Section 4: Institutional Tensions: Tension #2 Feudalism vs. Bureaucracy
  Section 5: Institutional Tensions: Tension #3 Heredity vs. Merit
  Section 6: Institutional Tensions: Tension #4 Civil vs. Military
  Section 7: Institutional Tensions: Tension #5 Inner Court vs. Outer Court
  Section 8: Issue: How to Constrain Imperial Power?
  Section 9: History as an Answer
  Section 10: Confucian Classics as an Answer
  Section 11: Portents as an Answer
  Section 12: Conclusion

Unit 9: State and Society in Western and Eastern Han
  Historical Overview
  Section 1: State and Society in Western and Eastern Han
  Section 2: What is State? What is Society?
  Section 3: Four Options for State-Society Relations
  Section 4: Discussion: Salt and Iron Debate
  Section 5: The State's Retreat - Harbinger of the Aristocratic Age
  Section 6: Epilogue: Reflections on China's First Great Empire

Unit 10: Self-Realization in the Medieval World
  Historical Overview
  Section 1: Introduction: Four Strands of Aristocratic Culture
  Section 2: The Learning of Mystery
  Section 3: Daoist Religion
  Section 4: Alchemy
Section 5: Literature
Optional: Interview with Professor Kuriyama

**Unit 11: Buddhism**

Historical Overview
Section 1: Buddhism in China: Universal Religion and Foreign Teaching
Section 2: Introduction to Buddhism: The Three Treasures
Section 3: Mahayana Buddhism and the Lotus Sutra
Section 4: The Transformation of Buddhism in China during the 4th and 5th Centuries: Fotudeng
Section 5: The Transformation of Buddhism in China during the 4th and 5th Centuries: Dao'an
Section 6: The Transformation of Buddhism in China during the 4th and 5th Centuries: Huiyuan
Section 7: Some Reasons for Buddhism's Success
Section 8: Lingyin Temple
Section 9: Buddhist Art at Sackler Museum

**Part 2: Conclusion**

**China (Part 3): Cosmopolitan Tang: Aristocratic Culture**

**Part 3: Introduction**

Introduction to Part 3: Cosmopolitan Tang: Aristocratic Culture

**Unit 12: The Unified Empire: Cosmopolitan Tang**

Historical Overview
Section 1: A Great Tang, A Troubled Tang, A Cosmopolitan Tang
Section 2: The Social-Political Order
Section 3: The Cultural Order
Section 4: The Economic Order
Section 5: The Military Order
Section 6: Tang as a Luxury Market
Section 7: Tang as a World Power
Section 8: Tang as a Model
Section 9: 3D Tang Artifacts from the Arthur M. Sackler Museum

**Unit 13: Poetry**

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction
Section 2: Structure
Section 3: Structure (2)
Section 4: Structure (3)
Section 5: Interview with Professor Owen
Section 6: Poetry Discussion with Professor Owen and Students

**Unit 14: Calligraphy**

Historical Overview
Section 1: An Introduction to Calligraphy by Professor Bai Qianshen
Section 2: A Demonstration on the Tools for Writing
Section 3: A Demonstration of Different Scripts
Section 4: Toward a Historical Understanding of Calligraphy - The Construction and Deconstruction of Tradition
Section 5: Professor Alister Inglis Demonstrates Slender Gold Script

**Unit 15: Yingying’s Story**

Historical Overview
Section 1: An Introduction to Yingying's Story
Section 2: Yingying's Story Guided Reading (1)
Section 3: Yingying's Story Guided Reading (2)
Section 4: Yingying's Story Guided Reading (3)
Section 5: Yingying's Story Guided Reading (4)
Section 6: Yingying's Story Guided Reading (5)

**Part 3: Conclusion**

**China (Part 4): Literati China: Examinations and Neo-Confucianism**

**Part 4: Introduction**

Introduction to Part 4: Literati China: Examinations and Neo-Confucianism

**Unit 16: From Early to Later Imperial China**

Historical Overview
Section 1: Periodization and the Tang-Song Transition
Section 2: Changed Foreign Relations, Changed China
Section 3: Changes at Home: The Reconfiguration of Domestic Power and Wealth in Song China
Section 4: Commerce and Urbanization
Section 5: A Shifting Social and Political Elite
Section 6: A Tang-Song Transition: The An Lushan Rebellion
Section 7: Late Tang: Changes at Home and Abroad

Unit 17: Transforming Society Through Government
Section 1: Re-evaluating Government's Role in a Changing World
Section 2: A Changing China: A Changing World: Song in 1050 CE
Section 3: Wang Anshi
Section 4: Sima Guang
Section 5: Su Shi
Section 6: Final Thoughts on the New Laws Era and the Legacy of Reform

Unit 18: The Neo-Confucianism Movement
Section 1: Introduction to Neo-Confucianism: Context and Claims
Section 2: Core Neo-Confucian Philosophical Ideas
Section 3: Zhou Dunyi’s Explanation of the Diagram of the Great Ultimate
Section 4: Close Readings
Section 5: Zhu Xi
Section 6: Neo-Confucianism as a Social Movement
Section 7: The Transformation of Neo-Confucianism in the Ming

Unit 19: Exams and Elites: China’s Unity
Section 1: Introduction: On the Unity of Later Imperial China
Section 2: Institutional-Intellectual Explanation: Shared Values and the Examination System
Section 3: An Alternative Explanation
Section 4: Resolving the Contradiction
Section 5: Literati and the Spread of Neo-Confucianism

Part 4: Conclusion

China (Part 5): From a Global Empire under the Mongols to a Global Economy under the Ming Dynasty

Part 5: Introduction
Introduction to Part 5: From a Global Empire under the Mongols to a Global Economy under the Ming Dynasty
Unit 20: The World Empire of the Mongols

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction to the Northern Border
Section 2: Stolen Beginnings and Early Setbacks
Section 3: After Chinggis Khan
Section 4: The Mongol’s Multi-Ethnic Empire
Section 5: Conclusion: Encountering the Mongol Empire, Then and Now

Unit 21: Social Policy and the Founding of the Ming

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction
Section 2: Three views of the Ming Founding
Section 3: Social Policy

Unit 22: Admiral Zheng He Sails the Seas

Section 1: Admiral Zheng He Sails the Seas

Unit 23: Silver and Social Change in Late Ming

Section 1: Introduction
Section 2: The Silver Trade in Ming
Section 3: Globalization
Section 4: Social Changes and Political Changes
Section 5: Conclusion

Unit 24: Cultural Change in Late Ming

Section 1: Cultural Change in the Late Ming
Section 2: A New Literature
Section 3: Expansion of Education
Section 4: Philosophy and Ethics
Section 5: New Religion
Section 6: Women's Roles
Section 7: Conclusion

Part 5: Conclusion

Unit 25: The Scholars

Historical Overview
Section 1: Introduction to an 18th Century Novel: The Scholars

Section 2: The Rise of the Novel and The Scholars

Section 3: The Rise of the Meritocracy

Section 4: Ming and Qing Civil Exam

Section 5: The Scholars - Zhou Jin's Story

Section 6: The Scholars – Concubine Zhao’s Story

Section 5: The Scholars – Wang Mian’s Story

Section 6: Prosperous Suzhou Scroll Annotation Activity

Section 7: Conclusion