

Fall 2014 Heyman Center Friends/Carl Hovde Colloquium

China and its Civilization: Six Western Perspectives

Tuesdays, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Conrad Schirokauer

Course Description

Both China and the West have long traditions of employing history as a mirror. By studying prominent Western reflections on China we look for insights into the past and present of both and hopefully even into inter-civilizational optics. The colloquium will be led by Conrad Schirokauer, Senior Scholar at the Heyman Center for the Humanities.

September 16: Ronald Latham, *The Travels of Marco Polo* (Wadsworth or any edition, including Kindle)

September 30: *A Jesuit in the Forbidden City: Matteo Ricci 1552-1610* by [R. Po-chia Hsia](#) (Oxford Univ. Press)

October 14: Edward Slingerland, *Trying not to Try* (Random House)

October 28 Kenneth Pomeranz, [*The Great Divergence: China, Europe, and the Making of the Modern World Economy*](#), (Princeton Univ. Press)

November 11: Ian Morris, *Why the West Rules - for Now* (MacMillan, Picador)

December 2: Andre Malraux *Man's Fate (La Condition Humaine)* Any edition

December 9" Makeup if needed.

The colloquium assumes no background in Chinese Studies but those interested might like to consult *A Brief History of Chinese Civilization* (4th ed 2013) by Conrad Schirokauer & Melissa Brown. It is outrageously overpriced but available electronically at \$5.49 a chapter at www.cengagebrain.com/shop/search/9780495913238