**Continuities/Patterns in Chinese History**

Unit 2

**1. Ethnocentrism**

Chinese believed their culture superior to others

China as “Middle Kingdom”

**2. Xenophobia**

Fear and distrust of foreigners

**3. Creativity and innovation**

Science and technology/inventions

Art and literature

Infrastructure projects

**4. Importance of family**

Patriarchy

Ancestor worship and veneration

**5. Low status of women**

Social and economic

Submissive

**6. Conflict with nature**

Floods, earthquakes, typhoons, droughts, insect infestations sometimes led to mass starvation

**7. Authoritarian, strong central bureaucratic government (not initially)**

**8. Dynastic cycle**

Revolts against strong, often abusive, central government

**9. Cultural conservatism**

Limited cultural change over 3500 years

**10. Education valued**

Confucian influence

Scholar-gentry

**11. Hard lives of peasants**

Large portion of population