CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY

17.407 (U)
Spring 2012
2-136
T/R 9:00-11:30am

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Office Hours: By Appointment
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Description

This undergraduate lecture course provides a comprehensive introduction to Chinese foreign policy. In particular, this course will investigate the sources of conflict and cooperation in China’s behavior, assessing competing explanations for key events and policies. Readings will be drawn from political science, history, and international relations theory.

Materials

Two books are available for purchase from the bookstore:

Chen Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001)

James Mann, About Face: A History of America’s Curious Relationship with China (New York: Alfred Knopf, 1998)

All other readings are available on Stellar: https://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/17/sp12/17.407/index.html.

• Denotes recommended but not required readings, including recent books

Requirements

There will be a two-hour final exam during the exam period. The exam will draw equally on material from the readings and lectures. Students will also be required to write two essays on questions that will be assigned during the course. Each essay will be around 1,500 to 2,000 words in length. Attendance is mandatory – active participation is encouraged and welcomed.

Grades will be determined as follows: quizzes (15%), essay I (20%), essay II (20%), final (35%) and participation (10%)

Key Dates

- 1 March Quiz I
- 15 March Essay I
- 5 April Quiz II
- 8 May Quiz III
- 10 May Essay II
Course Information and Policies

Use of cellular phones and computers. Cell phones should be turned off for the duration of the class (not on “vibrate” or “silent” mode). If you are expecting an important call or text message, do not come to class. If you need to send a text message, do not come to class. Computers of any type, including tablets, may be used only for taking notes – not for surfing the web, updating your status on Facebook, reading your Twitter feed, or any other purpose that is not related to the course.

Stay Current. Stay abreast of current developments through the Asia sections of the Washington Post, New York Times, and the BBC. For the latest developments in China, see Pacific Forum: Comparative Connections, China Leadership Monitor, and China Brief. Major news outlets in China have English editions, including the People’s Daily (人民日报), Liberation Army Daily (解放军报), and Xinhua (新华通讯社), the central news agency. Also, scan the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Council web sites.

Disabilities. If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact me immediately so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Extensions. Make-up exams or extensions will not be granted except in case of emergency and in all cases require a note from the Dean or your doctor. Late work will be penalized by one third of a grade for each day that the assignment is late (e.g., a B to B-). The key dates for assignments in this course are outlined above.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is “a piece of writing that has been copied from someone else and is presented as being your own work.” This includes ideas as well as specific phrases, sentences or paragraphs. Do not misrepresent your own work. See Avoiding Plagiarism from MIT’s Writing Center (web.mit.edu/writing/Citation/plagiarism.html) and MIT’s rules regarding academic honesty (web.mit.edu/policies/10.0.html).

Writing. The Writing and Communication Center (12-132) offers you free professional advice from published writers about oral presentations and about all types of academic, creative, and professional writing. To schedule an appointment, go to http://web.mit.edu/writing and click on the yellow sunburst.
**SCHEDULE**

**7 February**

**INTRODUCTION**


**9 February**

**HISTORICAL LEGACIES**


**14 February**

**SOURCES OF FOREIGN POLICY**


16 and 23 February

1949-1969: ALLIANCE WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS COLLAPSE


Chen Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War, pp. 38-84, 163-205 (Chs. 2, 3, and 7)


28 February


Chen Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War, pp. 238-276

James Mann, About Face, pp. 13-114

• Michael Ng Quinn, “The Effects of Bipolarity on Chinese Foreign Policy,” Survey, Vol. 26, No. 2 (1982), 116-130

1 March

*** Quiz I ***

1982-1989: QUEST FOR INDEPENDENCE

James Mann, About Face, pp. 115-155


Documents

Deng Xiaoping, “Peace And Development Are The Two Outstanding Issues In The World Today,” March 4, 1985

Deng Xiaoping, “Speech At An Enlarged Meeting Of The Military Commission Of The Central
Committee Of The Communist Party Of China,” June 4, 1985


### 6 March

**TERRITORIAL DISPUTES**


### 8 and 13 March

**CHINA’S GRAND STRATEGY**


Evan S. Medeiros, *China’s International Behavior: Activism, Opportunism, and Diversification* (Santa Monica, CA: RAND, 2009), pp. 7-92


15 March

MAKING FOREIGN POLICY: STRUCTURE AND PROCESSS


• Alice L. Miller, “The Politburo Standing Committee under Hu Jintao,” China Leadership Monitor, No. 35 (2011)

20 March

MAKING FOREIGN POLICY: NATIONALISM AND DOMESTIC POLITICS


Susan Shirk, China: Fragile Superpower (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 79-104 (Ch. 4: “The Echo Chamber of Nationalism: Media and the Internet”)


22 March

INTEGRATION INTO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY


3 April

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS


Evan S. Medeiro, China’s International Behavior: Activism, Opportunism and Diversification (Santa Monica, CA: RAND, 2009), pp. 169-192


5 April

*** Quiz 2 ***

MILITARY MODERNIZATION


Aaron L. Friedberg and Robert S. Ross, “Here be Dragons: Is China a Military Threat?” National Interest (September-October 2009), pp. 19-34

Documents


10 April

UNITED STATES


Robert G. Sutter, Chinese Foreign Relations: Power and Policy since the Cold War (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2008), pp. 155-186 (Ch. 6: “Relations with the United States”)


12 April

TAIWAN

James Mann, About Face, pp. 315-338


Documents

2005 Anti-Secession Law

Four-Point Guidelines on Cross-Straits Relations Set Forth by President Hu

Hu Jintao’s Report at the 17th Party Congress, “X. Carrying Forward the Practice of "One Country, Two Systems" and Advancing the Great Cause of Peaceful National Reunification”


19 April

REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND MULTILATERALISM


Thomas G. Moore, “Racing to Integrate, or Cooperating to Compete?: Liberal and Realist Interpretations of China’s New Multilateralism,” in Guoguang W. and Helen Landsdowne, eds., China Turns to Multilateralism: Foreign Policy and Regional Security (London: Routledge, 2007), pp. 35-50


24 April

JAPAN


26 April

KOREAN PENINSULA


International Crisis Group, Shades of Red: China’s Debate over North Korea, (International Crisis Group, 2009)


1 May

SOUTHEAST ASIA


Donald K. Emmerson, “China’s ‘Frown Diplomacy’ in Southeast Asia,” Asia Times, October 5, 2010

Documents

ASEAN-CHINA DIALOGUE RELATIONS

• Denny Roy, “Southeast Asia and China: Balancing or Bandwagoning?,” Contemporary Southeast Asia, Vol. 27, No. 2 (August 2005), pp. 305-322
3 May

*** Quiz 3 ***

SOUTH ASIA


8 May

MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA, AND LATIN AMERICA


Eric Farnsworth, “The New Mercantilism: China’s Emerging Role in the Americas,” Current History (February 2011)


10 May

*** Essay II Due ***

CLIMATE CHANGE


• Ida Bjorkum, *China in the International Politics of Climate Change: A Foreign Policy Analysis*, (Lysaker, Norway: The Fridtjof Nansen Institute, 2005)

15 May

**MARITIME DISPUTES**


17 May

**ASSERTIVENESS?**


Daniel Blumenthal, “What Happened to China’s Peaceful Rise?,” *Foreign Policy*, October 21, 2010


Documents

Dai Bingguo, “Adhere to the Path of Peaceful Development,” Dec. 6, 2010