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Gov 360N (38770)
Taught at Tsinghua University
May 30-June 23

US-CHINA RELATIONS (Spring 2012)

Prerequisites

Six hours of lower-division Government

Description

Few countries will figure more prominently in America's future than China. Already an economic powerhouse, China is rapidly emerging as a great power and potential geopolitical rival to the US. Not surprisingly, China's rapid rise has generated considerable debate in the United States over how to respond. Should Washington seek to "balance" Chinese power or alternatively, look for ways to integrate China more fully into international society?

At the heart of this debate are conflicting judgments about China's intentions and capabilities, as well as America's goals and power. In this respect the present debate is similar to the Cold War debates about how Washington should deal with China. In the early 1950s, Washington sought to contain and isolate China. In the 1970s, the US reversed course and looked for ways to strengthen its ties to the Middle Kingdom. Many of the choices and trade-offs that Washington weighed in the past are in play once again. They are the focus of this course.

This is primarily a course about the sources of American foreign policy toward China. However, time will be set aside to consider how Chinese leaders view the United States, and to explore issues of particular concern to Washington and Beijing today (e.g. Taiwan). In addition, field trips in and around Beijing and to Shanghai are being scheduled to develop a deeper appreciation of the changes afoot in contemporary China: economic, political, and social. Finally, supplementary classes on Chinese history and society and Chinese language are being folded into the curriculum.

Requirements

You are required to do all readings listed on the syllabus, attend all course meetings and participate in all field trips, and write two short essays (five double-spaced pages each) in response to assigned questions. You must submit the essays in class on the assigned due date. The first essay is due June 12. The second essay is due June 21.

Texts

The following books are required: James Fallows, *Postcards From Tomorrow Square* (Vintage 2009); Mark Leonard, *What Does China Think* (Public Affairs 2008); James Mann, *About Face* (Vintage 2000); and Susan Shirk, *The Fragile Superpower* (Oxford 2007). Additional readings are available on-line at www.courses.utexas.edu.

Policies

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

Scholastic dishonesty: University policies regarding scholastic dishonesty are strictly enforced in this class. Plagiarism is grounds for assigning an "F" as a final course grade. All incidents of

plagiarism will be reported to Student Judicial Services. On what constitutes plagiarism and scholastic dishonesty, see <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html>.

Topics and readings

June 1: Introduction and overview

Fallows, *Postcards from Tomorrow Square*, entire

June 4: History of Sino-American relations

Mann, *About Face*, 3-77, 274-368

June 5: China: *Status quo* or revisionist power?

Leonard, *What Does China Think*, entire

June 7: Sino-American relations today I

Lieberthal and Jisi, "US-China Strategic Distrust," 1-50

June 11: Sino-American relations today II

Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower*, 79-104

June 12: China and globalization I

Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower*, 105-39

June 18: China and globalization II

Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower*, 140-211

June 19: China's diversity and its implications

Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower*, 212-69

June 20: China and the developing world

Boone with Doshi, "The China Model in Africa," 47-83

June 21: The future of US-China relations

Art, "The US and the Rise of China: Implications for the Long Haul," 359-91

Daily Schedule*

W 5/30 Students arrive in Beijing, China

Th 5/31 Orientation (afternoon) and welcome dinner (6:00 pm)

F 6/1 Chinese language (335); US-China relations (335)

Sat 6/2 Field trip to Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square

Sun 6/3 Open day

M 6/4 Chinese language (335); US-China relations (335)

T 6/5 Chinese language (335); US-China relations (335)

W 6/6 Field trip to Great Wall (Mutianyu)

Th 6/7 Chinese language (335); US-China relations (335) w/Prof Chu Shulong

F 6/8 Open day

Sat 6/9 Open day

Sun 6/10 Open day

M 6/11 Chinese language (335); US-China relations (353) w/Dr. Wei Di
T 6/12 Chinese history/society (346); US-China relations (353) Lenovo trip (afternoon)
W 6/13 Depart to Shanghai
Th 6/14 Shanghai
F 6/15 Shanghai
Sat 6/16 Shanghai; return to Beijing
Sun 6/17 Open day
M 6/18 Chinese history/society (346); US-China relations (335) Hyundai trip (afternoon)
T 6/19 Chinese history/society (346); US-China relations (335) w/Prof. Guan Kai
W 6/20 Chinese history/society (346); US-China relations (335)
Th 6/21 Chinese history/society (346); US-China relations (335); Farewell dinner (6:00 pm)
F 6/22 Open day
Sat 6/23 Students depart to United States

* All classroom meetings will be held in the mornings between 8:30 and 12:00 noon. Meetings of Chinese language and Chinese history/society will be from 8:30-10:00; US-China relations: 10:15-12:00. Room numbers are in parentheses.