CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY

17.408 (G)
Fall 2013

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Office: E40-471
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Description

This graduate seminar examines the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of Chinese foreign policy. Discussion will focus on how various topics in Chinese foreign policy are studied, how they could be researched more effectively, and how they can be integrated into the broader field of international relations. The seminar also seeks to prepare students to conduct original research on Chinese foreign policy, comparative foreign policy, and international relations. Readings include books and articles that integrate the study of China's foreign policy with the field of international relations.

Materials

All materials with an asterisk (*) are available for purchase and on reserve.

Other readings are available on the Stellar website: http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/17/fa13/17.408/

Requirements and Grading

The first requirement is active participation in the seminar. A successful seminar requires attendance at every meeting and completion of all readings as well as active and engaged participation. To stimulate discussion, students will be assigned as discussants each week.

The second requirement is a research paper on the topic of your choice. The paper can take several forms. It can apply existing theories to a topic in Chinese foreign policy. It can develop an original explanation for a puzzle or problem in Chinese foreign policy. It can challenge existing arguments contained in the literature. The paper is due at 5pm on Friday, December 20, 2013.

Grades will be determined as follows: class participation (50%) and research paper (50%).

Course Information and Policies

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

Extensions. 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. The Center’s hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; and Sundays, 5:00-9:00 p.m.
SCHEDULE MEETINGS AND READINGS

9 SEPTEMBER

Introduction

Background Reading on the Current State of the Field (not required)


16 SEPTEMBER

The Korean War and Analysis of Chinese Foreign Policy

*Allen Whiting, China Crosses the Yalu: The Decision to Enter the Korean War (Stanford: Stanford UP, 1960)


Chen Jian, China’s Road to the Korean War (New York: Columbia UP, 1994), pp. 125-189


23 SEPTEMBER

Ideology and Alliances


Peter Van Ness, Revolution and Chinese Foreign Policy: Peking’s Support of Wars of National Liberation (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1970): intro; Part 1, section 1; Part II, sections, 4-6; and part III, section 8

**30 SEPTEMBER**

**Territorial Disputes and Use of Force**


**7 OCTOBER**

**Nuclear Weapons**


14 OCTOBER

[No class – Columbus Day Holiday]

21 OCTOBER

Decisionmaking


28 OCTOBER

Nationalism


Dingxin Zhao, "Nationalism and Authoritarianism: Student-Government Conflicts during the 1999 Beijing Student Protests after the Belgrade Embassy Bombing," Asian Perspective Vol. 27, No. 1 (2003), pp. 5-34.


4 NOVEMBER

Foreign Economic Policies


James Reilly, “China’s Unilateral Sanction,” The Washington Quarterly Vol. 35, No. 4 (Fall 2012), pp. 121-133

11 NOVEMBER

[No class – Veterans Day holiday]

18 NOVEMBER

Participation in International Institutions


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
Courtney Richardson, “A Responsible Power? China and the UN Peacekeeping Regime”

Joel Wuthnow, Xin Li, Lingling Qi, “Diverse Multilateralism: Four Strategies in China’s Multilateral
Diplomacy,” *Journal of Chinese Political Science* Vol. 17, No. 3 (September 2012), pp 269-290

**25 NOVEMBER**

[No class, work on research papers]

**2 DECEMBER**

**Military Strategy**

Ryan, David M. Finkelstein and Michael A. McDevitt, eds., *Chinese Warfighting: The PLA

Peng, Guangqian and Yao Youzhi, *The Science of Military Strategy* [Zhanlue Xue], (Academy of
Military Science, 2005), Chs. 1, 3, 9, 10, 20-24

University Press, forthcoming), Chapters 1, 2, and 5

**9 DECEMBER**

**Assertiveness and Prospects**

Routledge, 1999), pp. 1-31

2003), pp. 5-56

2005), pp. 7-45

160-162


36, No. 3 (Winter 2011/12), pp. 41-78