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School of Diplomacy and International
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Summer 2007

China's Rise: Opportunities and Challenges

Yanzhong Huang

Zheng Wang Dr.

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Summer 2007

DIPL 2113: China's Rise: Opportunities and Challenges

Instructors: Professor Yanzhong Huang
Professor Zheng Wang
Office: McQuaid First Floor
Office hours: Tuesday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM (or by appointment)
Telephone: 973- 275-2815/ 973-275-2003
E-mail: huangyan@shu.edu
wangzhen@shu.edu

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

China's remarkable growth, now in its third decade, has lifted millions out of poverty, transformed the world economy, and restored pride to a people who just a few decades ago were entrenched in backwardness and dogmatism. But that rise has also raised thorny questions about the country's future. Can China sustain its growth? Or will internal contradictions, such as a growing gap between rich and poor, cause it to stumble? How will democracy fare in an authoritarian state that has embraced the free market but still crushes political dissent? Most of all, what does China's growing economic muscle portend for its future on the world stage? In the United States, China's rise has caused deep anxiety not only about the costs for American jobs and industry but also about the political and strategic consequences. Will its rise be peaceful or violent? Will it produce more cooperation with the United States—or confrontation?

This course seeks to address these questions through lectures, assigned readings, movies, on-site visits, presentations and reports. By exploring the country's culture, history, politics, and foreign relations, students will gain a better and more complete understanding of the challenges and opportunities brought by the rise of China. Equally important, the course intends to nurture students' interest in studying China while at the same time expanding their "choice-set" in their future careers.

The course culminates in a 10-day field trip to China in May 2007. It involves onsite visits, as well as interactions and interviews with diplomats, government officials, business leaders, students and ordinary Chinese.

II. COURSE MATERIALS

General Readings:

C. Fred Bergsten, and Bates Gill, et al, *China: The Balance Sheet: What the World Needs to Know Now about the Emerging Superpower*, The Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Institute for International Economics, 2006.

Michael Elliott, "The Chinese Century," *Time*, January 11, 2006

Peter Hays Gries, "Chinese Nationalism: Challenging the State?" *Current History*, September 2005.

Elizabeth Economy, "China's Environmental Challenge." *Current History*, September 2005.

Barry Sautman, "Tibet: Myths and realities," *Current History*, September 2001, pp. 278-283.

David Zweig and Bi Jianhai, "China's Global Hunt for Energy," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2005

Zheng Bijian, "China's 'Peaceful Rise' to Great-Power Status," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2005.

John Mearsheimer, "China's Unpeaceful Rise," *Current History*, April 2006.

Suggested Readings:

David M. Lampton, *Same Bed, Different Dreams: Managing U.S.-China Relations, 1989-2000* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2001).

Ha Jin, *Waiting* (New York: Vintage, 2000)

Jung Chang, *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China* (London: Simon and Schuster, 1991)

Information and Sites

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 the following websites:

The Statistics of China (University of Michigan)
<http://www.umich.edu/~iinet/chinadata/stat/>

Library of Congress Country Study - China
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cntoc.html>

Xinhua News Agency
<http://www.chinaview.cn/>

CIA World Factbook: China
<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ch.html>

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

DIPL 2113 is a three credit course with the following evaluation of student performance:

1. Pre-departure (25%)

The grade for this pre-departure portion of the course is based on mandatory attendance of all the scheduled sessions (see information below) and completion of assigned readings. Each student should submit one book review (approximately 500-600 words) on *China: The Balance Sheet*. Ability to incorporate other assigned readings will be a plus.

2. Two weeks study abroad experience (50%)

There will be two components evaluated as part of the trip:

- Journal (20%). Each student will be required to keep a brief daily journal recording observations about the trip. These observations may be comparative (how the country is the same or different from the U.S.) and include comments on day-to-day life, companies, anecdotes, language, geography, stores, etc. The journal can also include descriptive comments about what you see or do and analyses of how and why aspects of life in this country are different from the U.S. An edited electronic version of the journal should be submitted two weeks after returning to the United States.
- Participation (30%). Each student is expected to attend each and every planned event; be on or ahead of schedule for all events; participate in all work activities; and be actively engaged in asking questions of lecturers and speakers.

Due to the nature of this course, students are expected to show diplomatic professionalism during the trip, including diplomatic attire, arriving on time, being courteous, and respect for fellow participants.

3. Post-trip report (25%)

The written report should be about 2,000 words. Detailed information about the project will be notified later. This paper is due two weeks after the end of the study trip.

Grading scale

A \geq 94% A- \geq 90% B+ \geq 87% B \geq 83% B- \geq 80% C+ \geq 77%
C \geq 73% C- \geq 70% D+ \geq 67% D \geq 63% D- \geq 60% F \leq 59%

IV. SCHEDULE OF THE MEETINGS PRIOR TO THE TRIP

**Meeting 1: February 3, 2007, 1:00-4:30 (Room TBA) Introduction and Overview
China's domestic politics (Prof. Huang)
China's foreign policy (Prof. Wang)
Video watching: China Rises**

**Meeting 2: March 2007 (Time and Location TBA) Guest Lecture by Dr. Bates Gill
Freeman Chair in China Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)**

Meeting 3: April 2007 (TBA) Logistics of the trip

V. SCHEDULE OF THE EVENTS/MEETINGS DURING THE TRIP (TBA)

VI. SUBMISSION OF FINAL PROJECT REPORT