

History 3995: Foreign Relations of China since 1949

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History, UConn

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Lectures: 2 lectures per week
6 discussions

This course studies developments in China's foreign relations after 1949, with reference to historical influences, ideological premises, and practical political, strategic, and economic considerations. Special attention is given to the domestic influence on China's foreign relations, the evolution of the impact of China's foreign policy on international politics and vice versa, and the assessment of major foreign policymakers.

This course will analyze current and past historiography and will introduce students to several historical stages of China's foreign policy. By the end of this course, successful students will increase their understanding of China's contradictory foreign policy as a result of conflicting domestic policies. The students will learn about the role of Chinese ambassadors, leaders and communist ideology in shaping China's relations with major global powers during and after the Cold War. Critical thinking and writing skills will be strengthened through reading primary documents, written assignments and research for a term paper. This course does not require previous knowledge of Chinese history or politics.

Required texts:

1) Liu Xiaohong, *Chinese Ambassadors: The Rise of Diplomatic Professionalism Since 1949* (The University of Hong Kong Press, 2001).

2) Selected Readings Packet: Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, and Deng Xiaoping on Chinese foreign policy.

Distribution of Grades:

Book Review – 10%

Paper proposal – 20%

Term Paper – 30%

Final Exam– 20 %

Participation – 20%

- The class will have several in-class **discussions** based on primary documents.
 - Attendance is required.
 - This course has final exam, and **three writing assignments** (a book review, a term paper proposal, and the term paper) and a final **exam based on lectures**.
- 1) Book review: Liu Xiaohong, *Chinese Ambassadors* (5 pages, double spaced)
 - 2) Term paper proposal (3 pages double-spaced). Each student will choose one aspect of Chinese foreign policy (leadership, event, or China's relations with a certain country) and will write a brief plan of the term paper, which will include the topic, potential arguments, chronology and available sources. You will have to defend your proposal and answer questions during the tutorial immediately preceding the submission date. This exercise will prepare you for writing a successful term paper.
 - 3) Term Paper (10 pages double-spaced, including bibliography). This paper will answer one of three broad questions about the history of China's foreign policy.

Lectures:

Week 1: Pre-1949 sources of PRC foreign policy.
China's territory and borders

Week 2: The establishment of the PRC in 1949 and its position in the world.
Mao Zedong and his analysis of China's foreign relations

Week 3: Korean War
Sino-Soviet Friendship in the 1950s

Week 4: **Discussion 1:** Mao Zedong, *On Diplomacy*

Week 5: Zhou Enlai and China's foreign policy
China and the developing world in the 1950s

Week 6: **Discussion 2:** Each student will defend her/his proposal before submitting it
Term paper proposal is due!

Week 7: Radicalization of China's domestic and foreign policies
Great Leap Forward

Week 8: Sino-Soviet Split
Discussion 3

Week 9: China-India border clashes.
China's Cultural Revolution and isolationism

Week 10: Nixon's 1972 visit and normalization of China-US relations

Documentary on Nixon's visit to China

Week 9: Deng Xiaoping and China's shift in foreign policy

Discussion 4: Deng on foreign relations

Week 10: **Discussion 5:** Liu Xiaohong *Chinese Ambassadors*

Book review is due!

China's alliances and rivals in Asia

Week 11: Sino-Vietnamese conflict

Sino-Japanese trade and frictions

Week 11: The end of the Cold War and China's foreign policy

Discussion 6

Week 12: Hong Kong's road to 1997.

Tiananmen Square (1989)

Week 13: The principles of China's current foreign policy.

1990s: New leadership and new priorities

Suggested Books for Final Paper:

I. China's Foreign Policy Since 1949– general:

- Andrew J. Nathan and Robert S. Ross, *The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress: China's Search for Security* (1997).
- Yong Deng and Fei-Ling Wang, *China Rising: Power and Motivation in Chinese Foreign Policy* (2005).
- Daniel L. Byman, Roger Cliff, *China's Arms Sales: Motivations and Implications* (1999).
- Sujian Guo and Shiping Hua eds., *New Dimensions of Chinese Foreign Policy* (2007).
- Robert G. Sutter, *Chinese Foreign Relations: Power and Policy since the Cold War* (2008).
- Alastair Iain Johnston and Robert S. Ross ed., *New Directions in the Study of China's Foreign Policy* (2006).
- Kuo-kang Shao, *Zhou Enlai and the Foundations of Chinese Foreign Policy* (1996).
- Suisheng Zhao ed., *Chinese Foreign Policy: Pragmatism and Strategic Behavior* (2004).
- Judith F. Kornberg, John R. Faust, *China in World Politics: Policies, Processes, Prospects* (2005).
- Ma Jisen, *The Cultural Revolution in the Foreign Ministry of China* (2004)
- Henry Kissinger, *On China* (2011).
- Chian Wang, *The Republic of China's Foreign Policy, 1949-1988: Factors Affecting Change in Foreign Policy Behavior* (1995).
- Guoli Liu, ed., *Chinese Foreign Policy in Transition* (2004).

- Deepak Bhattasali, Shantong Li, and Will Martin eds., *China and the WTO: Accession, Policy Reform, and Poverty Reduction Strategies* (2004).

II. China and Individual Countries/Regions:

- Yufan Hao and Lin Su, *China's Foreign Policy Making: Societal Force and Chinese American Policy* (2005).
- Elizabeth Wishneck, *Mending Fences: The Evolution of Moscow's China Policy From Brezhnev to Yeltsin* (2001).
- Leo Suryadinata, *China and the ASEAN States: The Ethnic Chinese Dimension* (2005).
- Kokubun Ryosei and Wang Jisi, *The Rise of China and a Changing East Asian Order* (2004).
- Niklas Swanström, *Foreign Devils, Dictatorship, or Institutional control: China's Foreign Policy Towards Southeast Asia* (2001).
- Rabindra Sen, *China and ASEAN : Diplomacy During the Cold War and After* (2002).
- Francine R. Frankel and Harry Harding, ed., *The India-China Relationship: What the United States Needs to Know* (2004).
- Xuanli Liao, *Chinese Foreign Policy Think Tanks and China's Policy Towards Japan* (2006).
- Gerrit Gong and Victor Teo, *Reconceptualising the Divide: Identity, Memory and Nationalism in Sino-Japanese Relations* (2010).
- Mohamed Bin Huwaidin, *China's Relations with Arabia and the Gulf, 1949-1999* (2002).
- Ian Taylor, *China and Africa: Engagement and Compromise* (2006).
- Gaston Fornes, Alan Butt-Philip, *The China-Latin America axis: Emerging Markets and the Future of Globalization* (2011).