

## CHINA IN THE WORLD

POL 4910 [CRN# 27165] / POL 5910 [CRN# 27166]

Spring 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Louis Furmanski

Office: LA 102G

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Class Location: **LAR 140**

Class Times: **6:00 – 8:45 M(e)**

Office Hours: 1/2 hour before, & after class.



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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Napoleon Bonaparte was reported as having said that China is a “*sleeping giant*” and “*when she awakes she will move the world.*” It should be beyond dispute that **China is asleep no longer**, and that she is energetically seeking to establish a place in the world commensurate with her growing power and influence. What that place is, and how others in the global community will react to China’s reemergence as a global actor, will be THE central political challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

This course will examine the challenges facing China on both its domestic and foreign fronts. It will begin with an analysis of China’s domestic political environment. It is an especially relevant time to do so given the just completed (Oct. 2017) 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress. It was at this every-five-year meeting that Xi Jinping, was reappointed to another five year term as the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party. More importantly, his thoughts on governing China were elevated to a position of Constitutional Dogma. This course will first examine what this development means for the future of politics in China.

What follows will be an analysis of China’s foreign political and economic relations. Among the critical issues that will be examined are: 1) China’s foreign economic policy initiatives (AIIB & One Belt, One Road); 2) China’s assertive moves into the South China; 3) China’s challenge to U.S. prominence in the Western Pacific region; and 4) China’s relations with its neighbors, in particular North Korea.

To summarize, our attention this semester will be on these topics:

- **The importance of China’s political culture & history to understanding China’s current posture towards the global community and its “proper” role/place in it.**
- **The structure and functioning of important domestic political institutions.**
- **The role of the Chinese Communist Party in understanding China’s domestic economic and political policies.**
- **The critical issues confronting China’s understanding of its national security.**
- **The continuity and changes in Chinese foreign policy objectives.**

Your goal as a serious student of China should be to:

1. **Become knowledgeable of the values and beliefs that have influenced and shaped China's domestic and foreign policy.**
2. **Be able to identify and analyze the principal governmental and non-governmental actors that influence China's domestic and foreign policy.**
3. **Develop a well-reasoned conceptual framework so that you are prepared to analyze the issues facing China, and the world, in the present and the future.**

***The ultimate objective of this course is to assist you in developing informed and thoughtful judgments concerning China's emerging presence in the world.***

**Course Format:** This course aims to promote INFORMED DIALOGUE, meaning the exchange of information, ideas, questions, and **informed opinions** over the assigned topics/materials. This approach emphasizes the importance of student participation and **active learning** as a means to improve one's skills, knowledge, and, ultimately, understanding. I will often begin by asking questions about the assigned readings for that day, and expect a lively and informed exchange in return.

This class is organized around the required readings. **I expect every student to come to class prepared.** Every student should be able to summarize and analyze each assigned reading and place it in perspective relative to the rest of the course material. Students also will be expected to offer comments or questions which contribute to class discussions on a regular basis.

**Please note the following:**

1. Web access to class material (*supplemental readings, the course syllabus, lecture notes, etc.*), will be thru **D2L!**  
Be sure to **check your @uco.edu e-mail address on a regular basis for class updates.**
2. **Electronic device policy:** To encourage informed discussion, and to promote an active learning environment, **ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE MUTTED OR TURNED OFF DURING CLASS!** [DOCUMENTED DISABILITY EXEMPT]

**Undergraduate Grading**

- Attendance & Participation - **10%**
- Midterm Exam - **30%**
- Policy Memo [*Instructions to be posted on D2L*] - **30%**
- FINAL EXAM [**Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**] - **30%**

**Graduate Grading**

Your grade will be determined on the following basis:

- Attendance & Participation - **10%**
- Midterm Exam - **20%**
- Policy Memo [*Instructions to be posted on D2L*] - **20%**
- Critical Review Essay [*Instructions to be posted on D2L*] - **30%**
- FINAL EXAM [**Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**] - **20%**

**Grades are assigned on an A[4] to F[0] scale, and factored by the percentage weight of each grading component.**

## Reading Material

**All students** will be held accountable for the following material:

- Sebastian Heilmann (ed.) [2016] **China's Political System**, Rowman & Littlefield. [ISBN: 978-1-4422-7735-9] List Price: \$39.00

eTextbook   
\$11.99

Available from AMAZON

- **Chapter Updates** available at: <http://merics.org/en/polsys>
- **Merics China Updates Newsletter**: <http://merics.org/en/newsletter>
- Kerry Brown (2017) **China's World: What does China Want?** IB Tauris. [ISBN: 978-1-78453-809-5] List Price: \$28.00

The above can be purchased at many online booksellers at less than the list price!

**Graduate Students:**

- Additional graduate student material is indicated on the syllabus by this color shading! These readings should be reviewed, and contributions to class discussion drawn from them.

Assigned readings are intended to convey critical information; to introduce you to relevant theoretical arguments; and to raise issues for class discussion. **I expect that you will have read the assigned readings prior to class coverage of the material.** Lectures will supplement and extend these aims, and are intended to assist you in acquiring an interpretative synthesis.

Also, beginning January 22, all students will be expected to share with the class an internet sourced item that reflects that week's general topic. A listing of internet sources on China can be found on the document **SupChina Sources 2017**, which can be found on the CONTENT tab of this course's D2L site. These contributions will count towards your Attendance and Participations grade. A one paragraph description of your selection, along with its web link, is to be turned in.

Be sure to check your **UCO EMAIL PRIOR TO 5:00pm** on the day the class meets. Should the class need to be cancelled for reasons of inclement weather or Instructor unavailability, an email to your UCO account will be posted at or before 5:00pm!

## Class Schedule

Date	Topic
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### PART I: China's Domestic Political Setting

January 8

Week 1

#### **How to Approach Analyzing Chinese Politics**

##### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilmann: Chapter 1

##### **Suggested**

- Robert D. Blackwill and Kurt M. Campbell, **Xi Jinping on the Global Stage**, Council of Foreign Relations-Council Special Report No. 74, February 2016.

[https://www.cfr.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2016/02/CSR74\\_Blackwill\\_Campbell\\_Xi\\_Jinping.pdf](https://www.cfr.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2016/02/CSR74_Blackwill_Campbell_Xi_Jinping.pdf)

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**January 15**

Week 2

**NO CLASS – MLK Holiday**

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**January 22**

Week 3

## **Governing China – The CCP & Its State Institutions**

### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilman: Chapters 2 & 3
  - Merics: China's Core Executive
    - <https://www.merics.org/en/merics-analysis/papers-on-china/chinas-core-executive-leadership-styles-structures-and-processes-under-xi-jinping/>
  - Merics: Hardening the Party Line
    - [https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/170822\\_Merics\\_China-Monitor\\_41\\_English\\_Web.pdf](https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/170822_Merics_China-Monitor_41_English_Web.pdf)
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**January 29**

Week 4

## **Governing China's Economy**

### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilman: Chapter 4
  - Tom Mitchell, Renminbi in Retreat..., Financial Times, 1/26/2017 [D2L]
  - Merics: Financial Instability in China
    - [https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/171017\\_Merics\\_ChinaMonitor\\_42.pdf](https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/171017_Merics_ChinaMonitor_42.pdf)
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**February 5**

Week 5

## **Governing China's Society**

### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilman: Chapter 5
  - Merics: Centralized Leadership
    - [https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/170816\\_Merics\\_China\\_Monitor\\_40\\_English\\_Web.pdf](https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/China-Monitor/170816_Merics_China_Monitor_40_English_Web.pdf)
  - David Shambaugh and Willy Lam on the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress and China under Xi Jinping (Merics Experts #46, October 19, 2017
    - <https://www.merics.org/en/media-contact/podcast/>
  - James Char, China's New Military Leaders: Civil-Military Relations in Xi Jinping Era
    - <http://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/rsis/co17204-chinas-new-military-leaders-civil-military-relations-in-xi-jinping-era/#.WlO6LExFzIU>
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**February 12**

Week 6

## **Policy Issues of Note**

### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilman: Chapter 6
    - <https://www.merics.org/en/merics-analysis/> - Select one item from this site for discussion
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**February 19**

Week 7

## **Future Challenges of Governance**

### **Reading Assignment**

- Heilman: Chapter 7
  - Merics: Ideas and Ideologies Competing for China's Political Future
    - [https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/MPOC/MPoC\\_5\\_Ideo/Merics\\_Papers\\_on\\_China\\_No\\_5\\_Ideologies\\_Oct2017.pdf](https://www.merics.org/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/MPOC/MPoC_5_Ideo/Merics_Papers_on_China_No_5_Ideologies_Oct2017.pdf)
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**MIDTERM EXAM TO BE ADMINISTERED ON THIS DATE!**

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## PART II: China's Foreign Political and Economic Relations

February 26

Week 8

### Continuity and Change in Chinese Foreign Policy

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 1
- Varrall – Chinese worldviews and China's foreign policy
  - [https://www.lowyinstitute.org/sites/default/files/chinese-worldviews-chinas-foreign-policy\\_0.pdf](https://www.lowyinstitute.org/sites/default/files/chinese-worldviews-chinas-foreign-policy_0.pdf)

March 5

Week 9

### Foreign Policy Decision Making & Xi's "Great China Dream"

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 2
- Bader – How Xi Jinping Sees the World...and Why
  - [https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/xi\\_jinping\\_worldview\\_bader-1.pdf](https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/xi_jinping_worldview_bader-1.pdf)

March 12

Week 10

### China & the US – Does the Thucydides Trap Await?

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 3
- Graham Allison, **The Thucydides Trap: Are the U.S. and China Headed for War?**
  - <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/09/united-states-china-war-thucydides-trap/406756/>
- Jared McKinney, **Putting Thucydides Back into the "Thucydides Trap"**
  - <https://www.chinausfocus.com/foreign-policy/putting-thucydides-back-into-the-thucydides-trap/>

March 19

SPRING BREAK

March 26

Week 11

### China and Asia – Relations in Tension

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 4
- The Economist, **Disorder under heaven**, April 22, 2017 [D2L]
- Christopher Roberts, **The South China Sea**, RSIS Working Paper
  - <http://www.rsis.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/WP307.pdf>

April 2

Week 12

### China in the World Economy

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 5
- TBA

April 9

Week 13

### China's Foreign Economic Policy

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Chapter 6
- Christina Dargnat, **China's Shifting Geo-economic Strategy**, Survival, Vol.58, No.3, June-July 2016, pp. 63-76.

April 16

Week 14

### China's Security Dilemmas

#### Reading Assignment

- TBA

April 23

Week 15

### China – A State in Transition

#### Reading Assignment

- Brown: Conclusion

Final Exam - April 30

The Political Science Department is committed to furthering the academic mission, vision, goals, values, and philosophy of the University community as outlined in its Academic Mission/Vision.

See: <http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/files/aa-forms/StudentInfoSheet.pdf>

This course directly incorporates the following Transformative Learning Goals:

- **Discipline Knowledge** – of the political challenges facing the global community as it strives to deal with critical policies problems facing the international environment.
- **Leadership** – by critically examining the leadership styles of world leaders, and by assessing the challenge of the policy making process.
- **Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities** – by requiring the critical analysis of a current global issue in a research paper, and demonstrating the written ability to integrate course material on essay exams.
- **Service Learning and Civic Engagement Activities** – by acquiring the knowledge to become an informed voter, and the motivation to become an active participant in the political life of the national and global community.
- **Global and Cultural Competencies** – by examining the ways in which the United States interacts with the global community in address common problems, and by examining how others perceive and deal with these challenges.

### **Additional Academic and Syllabus Information**

The Office of Academic Affairs has prepared the [Student Information Sheet](#) [SIS] containing important information on student rights, academic procedures, and other important university information. The on-line version of the SIS can be found at:

<http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/files/aa-forms/StudentInfoSheet.pdf>

You are strongly encouraged to review this information, particularly the following items:

**Academic Integrity Statement**  
**Incomplete Grade**

**ADA Statement**  
**Emergencies during Final Exam Statement**

Should you have any questions about the above, or on any other portion of the Student Information Sheet, please do not hesitate to ask your Instructor for clarification. In addition to the information found on the SIS, I would like to draw your attention to the following:

- 1) **Attendance Policy.** Students who are chronically absent do not do well. Your presence in class should be motivated by your desire to advance your education, and not by the threat of a grading sanction. Attendance will be taken often, and factored into your class involvement grade. Borderline grades will be decided in your favor if you have attended regularly, and participate actively and constructively.
- 2) **Academic Honesty.** Anyone guilty of academic dishonesty (cheating/plagiarism) will FAIL the course, and be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs. If you have ANY doubt as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, check with your instructor!
- 3) Except in emergencies, unless prior arrangement is made with your Instructor, in person (no e-mail or telephone notifications), an opportunity to make-up a missed exam will not be given.
- 4) **Extra Credit Work.** No opportunity for extra credit work is available! NO EXCEPTIONS!
- 5) **Office Hours.** Listed on the syllabus, and posted in the main office of the Political Science Department. If these are not convenient to your schedule, I will be happy to arrange a time that is mutually accommodating.
- 6) **Outside Work.** The Oklahoma Regents' Statement on Course Workload and Homework [OSRHE 11-2-34] states that: "a college student should expect to spend 3 hours, on average, on outside work for each hour spent in class." In other words, if you expect to do well in this or any other class, expect to put in the time! If you have a full time job (30-40 hours), it is not advisable that you carry a full-time academic schedule (15 hours).
- 7) Make copies of all material you turn in, and hold on to all material handed back to you.
- 8) I expect everyone to extend common courtesies to their classmates and Instructor by not engaging in private conversations during class.

**Take responsibility for your own education!**