

Political Science 295: Special Topics
U.S. - Chinese Relations
Spring 2016

TR 10:20AM-11:30AM

PPHAC 235

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Course goals

U.S.-China relations are the most important bilateral relations in today's world. This course is designed to make sense of the dynamics of the relationship, examining its evolution and on-going development. Starting with an overview of the history of U.S.-China relations, the first part of the course examines the making of foreign policy and the interactions of the two countries, including economic, security, and diplomatic relations, as well as the dialogue on human rights, Taiwan, and other key issues. To understand the bilateral relationship better, we focus on cultural and value differences between the two countries that lead to misperceptions and suspicions, as well as the similarities between the two, comparing the "American Dream" and "American Exceptionalism" with the Chinese versions. In the second part, we examine U.S.-China relations in regional and global contexts referring to different theoretical perspectives, and discuss the impacts of U.S.-China relations on the Asia-Pacific and the future global order.

Along the way we will address such questions as: How the value differences between the two countries have caused mutual suspicion and distrust? What efforts have been made by diplomats, politicians, and academics to facilitate mutual respect and cooperation? How is the relationship changing as China rises? Could the two countries collaborate and construct new world order? Or will China become an enemy? We explore these questions examining academic materials with a variety of perspectives, as well as primary source publications (translated), newspaper/magazine articles, documentary films, and books intended for popular audiences. Considerable attention is given to current events and development of the relationship.

Course requirements and grading

You are required to write and keep weekly "current-events journal," beginning in Week 3. Since U.S.-China relations are developing day by day, to keep up with current events is important. You are asked to find one journalistic article/account related to each week's topic and to critically analyze the article incorporating class readings and discussions. The journal is due twice in the semester: the first part is due on the last class before the spring break, and the second part is due on the last day of the class. The details of the assignment is discussed in class.

You are also required to write a 6-8 page term paper due at the end of the semester. You are asked to submit a research topic statement (1-2 pages) for your paper earlier. There will also be a final exam consisting of short essay questions. Class participation grade (15%) includes

attendance, positive contributions to class discussions, and homework and quizzes occasionally assigned. Final course grade is calculated as follows:

Class attendance and participation 15%
Current-events journal 25%
Research topic statement 5%
Research paper 25%
Final exam 30%

Required text:

- David Shambaugh, *Tangled Titans: The United States and China*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-1442219700 (paperback)

The book is available for purchase in the bookstore. Additional readings are posted in Blackboard or available on line.

(Optional)

If you think you do not have the basic knowledge of China and Chinese politics, Sujian Guo's book provides the basics of Chinese politics and political system, and Zhiqun Zhu's book gives you an excellent overview of China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.

- Sujian Guo, *Chinese Politics and Government: Power, Ideology, and Organization*, Routledge, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0415551397
- Zhiqun Zhu, *Global Studies: China* (14th edition), McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, 2011. ISBN-13: 978-0078026195

Class rules:

1. Please turn off your cell phones when you enter the classroom.
2. Please don't be late for class. If you are late for attendance call at the beginning of class, you do not get a credit for the attendance of that class.
3. Leaving classroom during class sessions is discouraged except for medical and other emergencies. Please stay in classroom for 70 minutes.
4. You are expected to read all assigned readings before each class and to submit assignments on time.

Academic honesty:

All Students should be aware of their obligations under the Academic Honesty Policy published in the Moravian College Student Handbook. Please see:

<http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic/academic2.html>.

Student with disabilities:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact the Academic Support Center located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodation cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READINGS*

*Subject to revision and update during the semester.

Week 1, Jan. 19, 21

1. Introduction and warming up

-Titans, Ch. 1

Part One: Historical and Cultural Backgrounds

Week 2, Jan. 26, 28

2. History of U.S.-China relations

-Titans, Ch. 2.

Week 3, Feb. 2, 4

3. Differences and similarities: *American Dream, China Dream*

-William A. Callahan, "The American Dream and Chinese Exceptionalism," in *China Dreams: 20 Visions of the Future* (in Blackboard)

****Current-events journal assignment begins***

Part Two: Making of Foreign Policy and Bilateral Relations

Week 4, Feb. 9, 11

4. US foreign policy making

-Titans, Chs. 5 and 7.

Week 5, Feb. 16, 18

5. Chinese foreign policy making

-Titans, Ch.6

Week 6, Feb. 23, 25

6. Bilateral relations 1: Commercial and economic relationship

-Titans, Ch. 8.

Week 7, March 1, 3

7. Bilateral relations 2: Issue of human rights, Taiwan and Tibet

-Titans, Ch. 12

- "China media criticize Dalai Lama-Obama meeting," BBC, Feb. 6, 2015

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-31159993>

- "Obama, Dalai Lama meet despite China's appeal," CNN, Feb. 21, 2014

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/02/20/world/asia/china-us-dalai-lama/>

****Current-events journal first part due on March 3***

Enjoy spring break!

Week 8, March 15, 17

8. Bilateral relations 3: Military-security (and cyber) relationship

-Titans, Ch. 10

**Research topic statement assigned*

Part Three: Regional and Global Contexts

Week 9, March 22, 24

9. Regional context 1: Obama's "Pivot to Asia"

- Jeffrey A. Bader, *Obama and China's Rise*, Ch. 1 (in Blackboard)

**Research topic statement due on March 22*

Week 10, March 29, 31

10. Regional context 2: Regional security and challenges

-Titans, Ch. 11-12

Week 11, April 5, 7

11. Global context: China's rise and global order

-Titans, Ch. 3 (Ikenberry)

-John J. Mearsheimer. "Can China Rise Peacefully?" Excerpted from *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics. The National Interest*. October 25, 2014. Available at:

<http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/can-china-rise-peacefully-10204>

Week 12, April 12, 14

12. Contest for supremacy on global level?

-Titans, Ch. 4

Week 13, April 19, 21

13. Cooperation for global governance?

-Titans, Ch. 14

**Current-events journal second part due on April 21*

Week 14, April 26, 28

14. Future visions

-Titans, Chs. 15-16

-Henry A. Kissinger, "The Future of U.S.-Chinese Relations: Conflict Is a Choice, Not a Necessity." *Foreign Affairs*. March/April 2012. (in Blackboard)

**Research paper due in class April 28*

Final Exam: Friday, May 6 at 8AM

Academic and On-line Resources

(Academic journals)

Asian Survey
The China Journal
The China Quarterly
Journal of Contemporary China
China Information
Foreign Affairs

(Media)

People's Daily English edition: <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn>
Global Times <http://www.globaltimes.cn/>
The China Daily: <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/en/home/>
Beijing Review: <http://www.bjreview.com.cn/>
South China Morning Post (Hong Kong): <http://www.scmp.com>
Inside China: <http://www.insidechina.com/>
Asian Wall Street Journal <http://asia.wsj.com/home-page>

(Government)

PRC

Chinese Embassy to the US: <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/>
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/
Chinese Communist Party: <http://english.cpc.people.com.cn/>
ChinaInfo (in Chinese): www.chinainfo.gov.cn
National Bureau of Statistics of China <http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/>

U.S.

U.S. Embassy in Beijing <http://beijing.usembassy-china.org.cn/>
U.S. State Department China <http://www.state.gov/p/eap/ci/ch/>
U.S. Trade Representative China <http://www.ustr.gov/countries-regions/china-mongolia-taiwan>
US-China Economic and Security Review Commission: <http://www.uscc.gov>
China: A Country Study, U.S. Library of Congress <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cntoc.html>
The World Fact Book, CIA <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

(Academic, research institutions, think tanks)

Brookings Institute http://www.brook.edu/fp/cnaps/center_hp.htm
China Leadership Monitor: <http://www.hoover.org/publications/china-leadership-monitor>
Chinese Military Power www.comw.org/cmp
Council on Foreign Relations www.cfr.org
Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific <http://www.cscap.org/>
National Committee on U.S.-China Relations <http://www.ncuscr.org/>
Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Pacific Forum
<http://csis.org/program/pacific-forum-csis>
Human Rights in China <http://www.hrichina.org/en>
RAND Corporation <http://www.rand.org/>
USC US-China Institute: <http://www.china.usc.edu/>

(Business)

American Chamber of Commerce in China <http://www.amchamchina.org/>
U.S.-China Business Council: <https://www.uschina.org/>