CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY

17.408 (G)
Spring 2011

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Office: E40-471
Location: E51-061
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Time: Mondays, 1-3pm
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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 write theses 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/sp11/17.408/

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 may be assigned to give short presentations on assigned readings or to serve as “resident expert” for that week’s readings.

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, May 13, 2011.

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](http://web.mit.edu/writing/Citation/plagiarism.html)) and MIT’s rules regarding academic honesty ([web.mit.edu/policies/10.0.html](http://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](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

**7 FEBRUARY**

**Introduction**

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


**14 FEBRUARY**

**The Korean War**

*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): 125-189


**22 FEBRUARY**

*(Monday Schedule of Classes)*

**Culture and Strategy**


**28 FEBRUARY**

**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
7 MARCH

Rivalry


14 MARCH

Territorial Disputes


21 MARCH

Spring break!

28 MARCH

Individuals and Ideas


4 APRIL

Military Doctrine and Deterrence


11 APRIL

Nationalism


18 APRIL

Patriots Day!

25 APRIL

**Rising Power and Grand Strategy**

*Avery Goldstein, Rising to the Challenge: China’s Grand Strategy and International Security* (Stanford: Stanford UP)

*Yong Deng, China’s Struggle for Status: The Realignment of International Relations* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008)

2 MAY

**International Political Economy**

*Scott Kastner, Political Conflict and Economic Interdependence Across the Taiwan Strait and Beyond* (Stanford: Stanford UP, 2009)


9 MAY

**International Institutions**
