

CCSS 2002 Global China

2020-21, Spring Term.

On Zoom until further notice

Tue 8:30 – 10:15am-ELB_LT2

Wed 12:30 – 1:15pm-YIA_LT8

Lecturer : Dr Séverine Arsène [severine.arsene@sciencespo.fr]

Teaching Assistant: Liu Fengwei

Course Description

The whole world is fixated on contemporary China's global presence with its economic prowess. This English-taught seminar examines, in a multi-disciplinary approach, China's global connections not only at present but also in history. This course highlights China's multifaceted yet often unexplored engagement with the rest of the world over the past few centuries. It surveys the economic, technological, political, and sociocultural aspects of modern China's engagements in the globalizing process. This course helps students contextualize and critically analyze China's recent rise.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the semester, students should:

- be familiar with major historical events in China's global engagements
- be familiar with the key concepts and theories for understanding globalization
- be able to read and understand interdisciplinary academic publications on global affairs in the past and at present
- develop both oral and written skills to present coherent and succinct analysis in English

Learning activities

Each week is composed of one 90 min tutorial, and on the next day, one 45 min lecture.

- During tutorial, *students will teach the instructor* about the course contents, through activities like presentations and collective mind-mapping, based on the readings and on prepared questions.

Much time will also be dedicated to discussing work methods.

- During lecture, the instructor will put the learnings from the tutorial in context and summarize what students should remember on the week's topic.

This course uses Blackboard as a main platform to share readings, class contents and other planning documents. Students experiencing difficulties to access Blackboard should get in touch for alternative options.

Assessment scheme

- Essay (1500 words): 30%

Each student will **pick a subject among the topics** proposed in the schedule below and inform the instructor by email **on or before session 5**.

It is possible to propose a subject that is not in the list, upon agreement with the instructor.

Several students can choose the same subject, but this is an individual assessment, it is not permitted to write the essay together. Strong similarities between essays will lead both students to lose points.

Specific instructions and recommendations will be posted after the start of the semester.

Include word count at the end of the essay.

10% of the grade will be deducted for each day of late submission.

Essays should be submitted **with signed VeriGuide receipt**. Links for submission will be provided on Blackboard.

- Oral presentation (individual or in groups depending on final enrollment): 20%

Each student will **pick a subject among the topics** proposed in the schedule.

Specific instructions and recommendations will be posted after the start of the semester.

- Pop-up questions: 30%

Open questions in class will test the acquisition of facts and concepts.

There will be 6 pop-up questions, about one every other class, but not completely regularly and not announced in advance.

One question will be displayed each time, and students will have about 20 min to submit short answers.

- Participation and mind-mapping: 20%

At every session, the instructor will provide some **questions to prepare for the next session**. Students need to prepare elements to answer these questions, such as ideas from the readings, links to news articles, illustrations, interesting charts or figures or just personal reflections.

On the Sunday evening before each class session, students are required to post findings **to a collective mind map** online (Padlet).

These questions will be discussed in class.

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at

<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

If you are unsure about what plagiarism is, or more generally how to comply with standards of academic honesty, you should check the resources at the link above.

You are encouraged to review your note-taking and writing methods, notably by looking at tips provided by various universities (tips [here](#), tips and exercises [here](#), more detailed tips [here](#), and a video [here](#)).

Course schedule

PDF versions of all readings and assignments are available to registered students on Blackboard.

Readings are optional but strongly encouraged. They can and should be used to answer the weekly questions (participation) and to complete the mind map.

Spring term 11 January 2021 (Mon) – 24 April 2021 (Sat)
E-add/drop on CUSIS 18 January 2021 (Mon) – 24 January 2021 (Sun)
Special add/drop at department 25 January 2021 (Mon) – 29 January 2021 (Fri)

Week 1: Introduction: China and the World 12-13 January

Goals of the course and evaluation
First contact with course contents
Guidelines on sources of information

No reading required

Session 2: Understanding Globalization 19-20 January

Brook, Timothy. 2008. Intro. The view from Delft. And Chap. 3 A dish of fruit. *Vermeer's Hat: The Seventeenth Century and the Dawn of the Global World*. New York, Bloomsbury Press.

Presentation sign-up during class.

Session 3: Silk Roads as Global Exchange 26-27 January

Whitfield, Susan. 1999. "The Horseman's Tale" and "The Princess's Tale" in *Life Along the Silk Road*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 76-112.

More about methods: how to succeed in this class

Session 4: The Canton System 2-3 February

Van Dyke, Paul A. 2005. Introduction & Chapter 2. *The Canton Trade: Life and Enterprise on the China Coast, 1700-1845*. Hong Kong University.

Presentation topics:

- The role of silver in global trade in the 17th-19th centuries
- Compradors today. The case of Li & Fung (or any other case study of your choice)

Session 5: Western advisors in China 9-10 February

Spence, Jonathan. 1980. Chapters to be distributed among students. *To Change China: Western Advisers in China, 1620-1960*. New York: Penguin Books.

Presentation topics:

- "Futurists" in contemporary China.
- Chinese thought-leaders in the world today?

Deadline to choose your essay topic

16-17 February NO CLASS – Lunar New Year holiday

Session 6: Chinese Diasporas 23-24 February

Lim, Jason. 2010. Introduction and chapter 3. *Linking an Asian Transregional Commerce in Tea: Overseas Chinese Merchants in the Fujian-Singapore Trade, 1920-1960*. Leiden; Boston: Brill.

Presentation topics:

- "Daigou" today: buying overseas for China
- Who are Chinese diasporas today?

Session 7: China in Search of Modernity 2-3 March

Liel Leibovitz & Matthew Miller. 2011. Chapters to be distributed among students. *Fortunate sons: the 120 Chinese boys who came to America, went to school, and revolutionized an ancient civilization*.

Presentation topics:

- The May 4th movement and its relationship with Western influences
- The Shanghai Jiaotong University ranking: a Chinese or American model?

Session 8: The Global Impact of Maoism 9-10 March

Liu, Kang. 2015. "Maoism: Revolutionary Globalism for the Third World Revisited." *Comparative Literature Studies* 52 (1): 12–28.

Presentation topics:

- How did Western feminists see the maoist regime?
- China and the non-aligned movement

Session 9: The World Factory 16-17 March

Pun, Ngai, and Jenny Chan. 2012. "Global Capital, the State, and Chinese Workers: The Foxconn Experience." *Modern China* 38 (4):383-410.

Presentation topics:

- Taobao villages: new configurations of capital, platform and labor; local and global
- Deglobalization?

Session 10: China in Global Capitalism

23-24 March

Lee, Ching Kwan. 2017. Introduction and chapter 4. *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa*. Chicago; London: University of Chicago Press.

Presentation topics:

- Chinese SMEs in Africa
- African traders in Canton

30-31 March, 6-7 April NO CLASS – Reading week and Easter break

Session 11: Infrastructure and Technology

13-14 April

Shen, Hong. 2018. "Building a Digital Silk Road? Situating the Internet in China's Belt and Road Initiative." *International Journal of Communication* 12 (0): 19.

Presentation topics:

- Developing telecommunications in China since the 19th century
- The "indigenous innovation" dilemma since the 1980s

Session 12: Soft Power, Sharp Power

20-21 April

Hubbert, Jennifer. 2019. Introduction and chap 4. *China in the World: An Anthropology of Confucius Institutes, Soft Power, and Globalization*. University of Hawaii Press.

Presentation topics:

- Chinese media in the world
- The Tik Tok controversy

Session 13: China's Rise and its Future

27 April

Xu, Jilin. 2018. Chap 6. *Rethinking China's Rise: A Liberal Critique*. Translated by David Ownby. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.

Presentation topic:

- The Thucydides Trap theory and its weaknesses

Discussion and conclusion

28 April no class