CIEE Nanjing, China

Course title: History of U.S.-China Relations
Course code: EAST 3003 CNAN
Programs offering course: Summer Chinese Studies, Intensive Chinese Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

This course studies the relations between the United States and China from the 19th century until the end of the 20th century. By examining the most important political, economic, cultural and military interactions between these two nations, it offers a comprehensive review of how the complex U.S.-China relations constantly changed throughout history and how history shaped their current relations that may influence the future of the world. For this goal, we will use scholarly books, articles, memoirs, declassified documents and visual materials. We will also have several field trips to some important historical places in Nanjing that are specifically related to our course of study.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Understand how the US-China relations have developed throughout history.
- Comprehend how the key issues in contemporary US-China relations are shaped by history.
- Improve the ability to evaluate various scholastic opinions on the US-China relations based on evidence.
- Gain experience and improve skills in generalizing, explaining, and interpreting specific problems in the US-China relations.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

Lectures with PowerPoint; small and large group discussions; analysis of documents, photographs and documentaries; fieldtrips with accompanying assignments; student presentations; essay writings.

Course Instructor

Woyu Liu obtained his PhD in Modern East Asian History from the University of Iowa in 2012. He has taught at both public and private universities and colleges in the United States, and currently is an Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese History at Nanjing University. He is also teaching Contemporary Chinese History at Johns Hopkins-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies. His research interests are the socialist agrarian reforms and individual-state relationship in modern China.

Assessment and Final Grade
1. Presentation 10%
2. Midterm Exam 30%
3. Reading Journal 15%
4. Final Essay 30%
5. Class Participation 15%
TOTAL 100%

**Course Requirements**

**Presentation**

**Midterm Exam**

A closed-book midterm exam will be held in class. It may include short answers and essay questions, and your answer will be graded with the CIEE Grade Scale.

**Reading Journal**

In order to help you collect your thoughts on discussion topics, you need to write a concise (200-250 words) journal about the readings assigned by the instructor each week.

**Final Essay**

You will write one essay in this course, and the topic will be given by the instructor within the first three weeks. You should finish the final essay by the due date. A finished essay should be 10-15 pages long, double spaced. It is expected to have an introduction with a strong thesis statement, a clear organizational structure with crisp topic sentences, a lucid conclusion, and proper source citations.

**Class Participation**

You are expected to be an active learner in this course, along with the Instructor and your fellow classmates. Informed discussion is an important instructional method in this class and you are expected to have completed the course readings by the first class meetings of the week to be fully prepared for both lecture and discussions. Your participation grade will include your active engagement in class discussions, constructive peer feedback on Student Presentations, preparation of any discussion questions, and active engagement in all in-class exercises and field trips.

**Academic Integrity**

You may only submit your own work for credit, and must use social science or historical citation methods when utilizing the research, data, language or ideas of others. Failure to cite the work of others is considered plagiarism and will result in failure of the assignment and may result in the failure of the course.

**Late Assignments**

Late work will lose three points per weekday (M-F) late unless the student has an excused absence or prior arrangements have been made for an extension. Extensions are given strictly at the instructor’s discretion.

**Classroom Decorum**
Students are expected to treat one another and the instructor courteously, listen attentively, and maintain a respectful attitude even toward views with which they disagree. Please turn off the ringer on your cell phones. No texting or email is permitted during class.

**Attendance**

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**
Class: The First Contact

Cohen, *America's Response to China*, prologue

**Week 3**
Class: The Emergence of a Republican China

Cohen, *America's Response to China*, chap. 2

Chris Buckley and Keith Bradsher, “China Moves to Let Xi to Stay in Power by Abolishing Term Limit”

**Writing assignment**

**Week 4**
Class: Cultural Exchanges and the Racial Problems

Brook Larmer, “The Parachute Generation”

**Week 5**
Class: The US and Sino-Japanese Conflicts

Cohen, *America's Response to China*, chaps. 3 & 4


**Week 6**
Class: The Pacific War

Cohen, *America’s Response to China*, chap. 5

China Daily, “Another side to ‘Flying Tigers’ Story.”

Documentary: Why we fight

Field trip: Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall

**Week 7**
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>The US and Chinese Civil War</td>
<td>Cohen, <em>America's Response to China</em>, chap. 6</td>
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<td>John Leighton Stuart, Fifty Years in China</td>
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<td>The Associated Press, “Xi’s Tough Talk on Taiwan Backfires.”</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>Americans in Chinese Revolution</td>
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<td>Documentary: China Hands: Li Dunbai</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mao's China in the Cold War</td>
<td>Cohen, <em>America's Response to China</em>, chap. 7</td>
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<td>Robert D. Kaplan, “A New Cold War Has Begun.”</td>
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<td>Stephen M. Walt, “I Know the Cold War. This is No Cold War.”</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
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<td>The Road to Normalization</td>
<td>Cohen, <em>America's Response to China</em>, chap. 8</td>
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<td>D. Shambaugh. “Containment or Engagement of China? Calculating Beijing’s Responses”</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>The US and a Re-opened China (Human rights, Xinjiang and Tibet)</td>
<td>Cohen, <em>America’s Response to China</em>, chap. 9</td>
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<td>Human Rights Watch World Report 2019: China and the US</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Collaborations and Conflicts</td>
<td>Cohen, <em>America’s Response to China</em>, chap. 10</td>
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Student presentations

**Final essay due 5PM**

**Course Materials**

**Readings**

- The Associated Press, “Xi’s Tough Talk on Taiwan Backfires.”
- Babones, Salvatore. “American Tianxia: The United States as the New ‘Middle Kingdom’”
- Buckley, Chris and Bradsher, Keith. “China Moves to Let Xi to Stay in Power by Abolishing Term Limit”
- China Daily, “Another side to ‘Flying Tigers’ Story”
- Kessler, Peter () Oracle Bones.
- Kaplan, D. Robert. “A New Cold War Has Begun”
- Osons, Evan () Age of Ambition.
- Pomfret, John (), Chinese Lessons.
- Rob SchmitzStreet of Eternal Happiness.
- Walt, Stephen M. “I Knew the Cold War. This is No Cold War.”
- Wu, Ningkun, A Single Tear.
- Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2016 China (includes Tibet, Hong Kong, and Macau)
- Progress in China’s Human Rights in 2016
- Human Rights Record of the United States in 2016
- More to be announced