MPhil in International Relations and Politics, 2019-20
China and International Security

Course Organiser: Dr Kun-Chin Lin

Time and Location: Wed 11-1pm, Room 119 (Alison Richard Building)

Course Outline

This course focuses on the geopolitical and multilateral governance challenges arising from the People's Republic of China's material, aspirational, and strategic claims over global politics in the 21st Century. It evaluates mainstream theories of international relations and international political economy theories, including power transition, economic integration, and regime-building theories developed in the Western historical context, through juxtaposition to critical perspectives from Asian epistemic communities. Strongly referential to current events, the seminar topics include traditional and non-traditional security issues.

Teaching

The course will consist of 14 two-hour seminars. Students are expected to have done sufficient readings in advance of each seminar, in order to participate actively in the seminar discussions, including taking leadership of at least one critical discussion of the readings and contributing to group presentations. Students without a basic familiarity of international relations theories should ask the instructor for advise on background readings. Students with a specific interest in topics not covered in the course should speak to him for additional literature and an opportunity to present in seminar.

Assessment

Students are expected to write three essays as part of a three hour examination in March 2020 that explores a question of relevance to the core themes and topics of the course. The examination is worth 100% of the final grade.

Practice essay

Students must write one practice essay for this course. The essay should be approximately 2,000 words. Essay questions will be circulated early in Michaelmas term. The deadline for the essay is stated in the MPhil course handbook.

Readings

Students are not expected to read all the items on the reading list. Prior to each seminar, students will be given advise on select themes and readings to focus on in preparation for individual or group contributions to seminar discussion. As
long as students remain engaged with the literature presented each week, they are encouraged to propose independent research into specialized topics such as cyber security, industrial espionage, human security and migration, non-proliferation, and space and deep-sea capabilities, etc. to share in the seminar.

The SPS library will have most of the specified readings; others will be available at the UL. Some books are also available in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Library and the Department of History library on the Sidgwick site. Many articles can be accessed electronically through the course website on Moodle. It is also possible to get online access to articles by obtaining a password from the University Library (see www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources).

While there is no requirement for prior knowledge of PRC, students may find helpful the following books that provide overviews of historical and contemporary issues in Chinese foreign relations:

Shaun Breslin, ed., *Handbook of China’s International Relations*.

Kerry Brown, *The Future of UK-China Relations: The Search for a New Model*.

G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno, eds. *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific*.


David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, eds. *International Relations of Asia*.


Robert Sutter, *Chinese Foreign Relations*.


**Seminar 1: IR Theories on Rising China and Global Power Transition**

Amitav Acharya, “‘Theorising the International Relations of Asia: necessity or indulgence?’ Some reflections,” The Pacific Review 30(6), 2017: 816-825.


Peter Katzenstein, “China’s Rise: Return, Rupture or Recombination?” in Peter Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraishi, eds., Beyond Japan, the Dynamics of East Asian Regionalism (Cornell University 2006).


For the Chinese perspective and non-Western theoretical tradition, see:


Y. Zhang and T-C. Chang ed., Constructing a Chinese School of International Relations: Ongoing Debates and Sociological Realities (Routledge 2016)


**Seminar 2: Traditional Order and Encounter with the West**

Amitav Acharya, Constructing a security community in Southeast Asia: ASEAN and the problem of regional order (Routledge 2014), Chapter 2.


David Kang, China Rising: Peace, Power, and Order in East Asia (Columbia 2007).


Yan Xuetong, Ancient Chinese Thought: Modern Chinese Power (Princeton 2011)


Suisheng Zhao, Power Competition in East Asia: From the Old Chinese World Order to Post-Cold War Regional Multipolarity (St. Martin’s Press 1998).

Seminar 3: Chinese Insecurity during the Cold War – Realism vs. Ideology

Anne-Marie Brady, Making the Foreign Serve China: Managing Foreigners in the People’s Republic (Rowman & Littlefield 2003), Chapters 2-5.


Chen Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War (University of North Carolina Press 2001).


John Garver, Foreign Relations of the People’s Republic of China (Prentice Hall 1993), Chapters 2-4.


James Mann, About Face: A History of America’s Curious Relationship with China, from Nixon to Clinton (Vintage, 2000)


Zhihua Shen and Danhui Li, After Leaning to One Side: China and Its Allies in the Cold War. (Woodrow Wilson Center Press 2011).


Suisheng Zhao, ”The Origins of the Bipolar Cold War Competition“, ”The Deterioration of the Bipolar System“, and “The Dynamics of the Strategic Triangle” in Power Competition in East Asia: From the Old Chinese World Order to Post-Cold War Regional Multipolarity (St. Martin’s Press 1998).


**Seminar 4: Sino-Russian Relations – Marriage of Convenience or Cold War 2.0?**


Paul J. Bolt and Sharyl N. Cross, China, Russia, and Twenty-First Century Global Geopolitics (Oxford UP 2018).


Commentaries at theasiadialogue.com
Seminar 5: Sino-American Relations against the “End of History”


Aaron Friedberg, A Contest for Supremacy: China, America, and the Struggle for Mastery in Asia (W.W. Norton 2011).


Seminar 6: Regional and Global Financial Crises – the Real Pivot to Asia


Andrew Sheng, From Asian to Global Financial Crisis (CUP 2009), Chapter 11.


Gregory Chow, China as a Leader of the World Economy (World Scientific 2011), chap 13


Barry Eichengreen and Masahiro Kawai, ed., Renminbi Internationalization (Brookings Institute 2014).


Simon Evenett, “The WTO after TPP, How Worried Should Asian Governments Be?" Asian Survey, Vol. 56 No. 6, November/December 2016; (pp. 1101-1122)


Nicholas R. Lardy and Arvind Subramanian, Sustaining China’s Economic Growth after the Global Financial Crisis (PIIE, 2011).


Seminar 7: The Belt and Road Initiative – toward a Grand Strategy?


Aaron L. Friedberg, “’Going Out’: China's Pursuit of Natural Resources and Implications for the PRC’s Grand Strategy”, NBR Analysis 17(3), September 2006.

Francois Godement, “One Belt, One Road, China's Great Leap Outward”, China Analysis, ECFR June 2015.


Hassan Karrar, The New Silk Road Diplomacy: China’s Central Asian Foreign Policy since the Cold War (U Washington 2010).


Ben Simpfendorfer, The New Silk Road: How a Rising Arab World is Turning Away from the West and Rediscovering China (Palgrave 2009).


BRI updates: IFIs have regular project-based reports. Also see:

The Diplomat: http://thediplomat.com/tag/silk-road-economic-belt/
MERICS Belt and Road Tracker: https://www.merics.org/en/bri-tracker

**Seminar 8: Economic Statecraft in Third World Countries – False Debate of Neocolonialism?**


R. Evan Ellis, China in Latin America: TheWhats & Wherefores (Lynne Rienner Publishers 2009).


Eric Helleiner and Jonathan Kirshner, ed., The Great Wall of Money: Power and Politics in China’s International Monetary Relations (Cornell 2014), Chapters 1, 2, 7, 8.


Ian Taylor, China’s New Role in Africa (Lynne Rienner Publishers 2009).


Seminar 9: Economic Competition and the Revenge of Etatism


Suisheng Zhao, “The China Model: can it replace the Western model of modernization?” Journal of Contemporary China 19/65 (Jun 2010): 419–436

The China Model debate in Journal of Contemporary China Volume 26, Issue 1, Jan 2017

Case Study of the US-PRC trade-war 2018-2019:


China’s advantages in a protracted trade war (Op-ed article), Global Times, July 15, 2018, http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1110911.shtml

**Seminar 10: Resource Security – Positive Sum Approaches to Addressing Vulnerabilities**


Aaron L. Friedberg, “’Going Out’: China’s Pursuit of Natural Resources and Implications for the PRC’s Grand Strategy”, NBR Analysis 17(3), September 2006.


Seminar 11: Maritime Disputes and Historical Parallels

Leszek Buszynski and Christopher Roberts, ed., The South China Sea Maritime Dispute: Political, Legal and Regional Perspectives (Routledge 2014).


CSIS Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative: https://amti.csis.org/


Liselotte Odgaard, Maritime Security between China and Southeast Asia: Conflict and Cooperation in the Making of Regional Order (Routledge 2017).


Seminar 12: Peacekeeping – Responsible Stakeholding or Military Preparedness?


Seminar 13: Climate Change – the Last Hope of Liberal-Institutionalism?


Seminar 14: Great Powers and Global Security in the 21st Century


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


Kai He, China’s Crisis Behavior: Political Survival and Foreign Policy after the Cold War. CUP 2016.


David Kang, China Rising: Peace, Power, and Order in East Asia (Columbia 2007).


David Shambaugh, Charting China’s Future: Domestic and International Challenges (Routledge 2011).

Orville Schell and John Delury, Wealth and Power: China’s Long March to the Twenty-First Century (Little, Brown 2013).


A. Tellis, A. Marble and T. Tanner, Asia’s Rising Power and America’s Continued Purpose (NBER 2010).


Han Shih Toh, Is China an Empire (World Scientific 2017), Chap 1.


Yan Xuetong, “From Keeping a Low Profile to Striving for Achievement,” The Chinese Journal of International Politics 7:2 (Summer 2014).


