

**China in the World**

In 1839, China reckoned itself the most powerful – indeed the only – civilization in the world. Yet that very year, the mighty Qing dynasty was humbled by the “barbarians” when the British humiliated them in the First Opium War. Why was the Chinese court so wrong about its place in the world? Why did the British, who only 26 years earlier had been willing to deal with the Chinese as equals, now decide to become conquerors?

110 years later, as Mao Zedong and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) were declaring the 1949 establishment of the People’s Republic in Beijing, American commentators were mourning the “loss” of China. This attitude, and the CCP’s intransigence, led to nearly a quarter century of silence and mistrust. What was the motivation of both sides, and what were the consequences of these attitudes?

And in 2008, Beijing memorably hosted the summer Olympics, spending more time, effort and money to do so than any other country in the modern history of the games. What does this say about China today, and what might it mean for the future?

This course will examine China’s place in the world through the eyes of Chinese looking out and foreigners looking in. By tracing attitudes and beliefs historically, we can begin to come to terms with China’s changing national trajectory and perhaps make more sense of China’s contemporary move to (re)claim its historical mantle.

- Part I: Imperial China (Weeks 1-4)
  - Introduction (Week 1)
    - Session 1 – Overview of the class, logistics
  - Imperial China
    - Week 1, Session 2 – Context

- Jonathan Spence, "Western Perceptions of China from the Late Sixteenth Century to the Present," in Ropp, Paul S., ed. *Heritage of China: Contemporary Perspectives on Chinese Civilization* (U. Cal. / Berkeley, 1990).
- Hansen, Valerie. *The Open Empire: A History of China to 1600* (Norton, 2000), 3-14.
- Jonathan D. Spence, *The Search for Modern China*. (New York: W.W. Norton, 1999), selections.
- Week 2, Session 1 – Chinese on China
  - Confucius, *The Analects*. Trans. by D.C. Lau. (London: Penguin Classics, 1979), selections
  - Kangxi and Jonathan D. Spence, *Emperor of China; Self Portrait of K'ang Hsi*. (New York,: Vintage Books, 1975), selections.
- Week 2, Session 2 – Looking out
  - Lin Zexu's Letter of Advice to Queen Victoria, available online
- Week 3, Session 1 – Looking in
  - Marco Polo, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, selections
  - T. and G. Underwood (Firm) and William Clowes, *A Delicate Inquiry into the Embassies to China, and a Legitimate Conclusion from the Premises*. (London: Printed for Thomas and George Underwood, 32, Fleet-Street, and J.M. Richardson, Cornhill, 1818)., selections
- Week 3, Session 2 – Looking in, continued
  - Karl Wittfogel, *Oriental Despotism: A Comparative Study of Total Power*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1970), selections.
  - Susanne Rudolph, "Presidential Address: State Formation in Asia – Prolegomenon to a Comparative Study," *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 46, No. 4 (Nov., 1987), pp 741-746, selections

- The Burlingame Treaty and the United States Exclusion act, in *Documentary Collection*, 163-166
- Week 4, Session 1 – End of the Empire
  - Jonathan D. Spence, *The Search for Modern China*. (New York: W.W. Norton, 1999), selections.
  - Lucien Bianco, *The Origins of the Chinese Revolution*. (Stanford: Stanford Univ. Press, 1971), selections.
- Week 4, Session 2 – The Chinese Response
  - Chinese anti-foreignism, *Documentary Collection*, 166-7
  - Wu Tingfang on China's progress, *Documentary Collection*, 190-194
  - Alison Kaufman, *One Nation Among Many: Foreign Models in the Constitutional Thought of Liang Qichao*, (PhD Dissertation, UC Berkeley, 2007), selections.
- Part II: Republican and Maoist China (Weeks 5-)
  - Republican China
    - Week 5, Session 1 – Chinese respond to the collapse
      - Lu Xun, *The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China: The Complete Fiction of Lu Xun*. Trans. by Julia Lovell. (London: Penguin Classics, 2010).
    - Week 5, Session 2 – Western response to the collapse
      - John Fox, *Following the Sun Flag: A Vain Pursuit Through Manchuria*. (New York: Scribner's, 1905), selections, available on google books.
    - Week 6, Session 1 – Republican failure and Communist rise
      - Edgar Snow, *Red Star over China*. (New York,: Random House, 1938).
      - Lucien Bianco, *The Origins of the Chinese Revolution*. (Stanford: Stanford Univ. Press, 1971), selections.
  - Maoist China
    - Week 6, Session 2 –The Communists Win

- Jonathan D. Spence, *The Search for Modern China*. (New York: W.W. Norton, 1999), selections.
- Zhisui Li and Anne F. Thurston, *The Private Life of Chairman Mao : The Memoirs of Mao's Personal Physician*. (New York: Random House, 1994)., selections
- Week 7, Session 1 – The Communists Win, continued
  - Lynne Joiner, *Honorable Survivor: Mao's China, McCarthy's America and the Persecution of John S. Service*. (Naval Institute Press, 2009). selections.
- Week 7, Session 2 – The Cultural Revolution, from inside
  - Gao Yuan, *Born Red: A Chronicle of the Cultural Revolution*. (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 1987), selections
- Week 8, Session 1 – The Cultural Revolution, from outside
  - Joan Robinson, “The Cultural Revolution in China,” *International Affairs*, Vol. 44, No. 2 (Apr., 1968), pp. 214-227.
  - Lowell Dittmer, *Liu Shaoqi and the Chinese Cultural Revolution*. (Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 1998)., selections.
- Part III: The Reform Era
  - Early reforms and challenges
    - Week 8, Session 2 – The reforms begin
      - Thomas Rawski. "Reforming China's Economy: What Have We Learned?" *The China Journal*, no. 41 (1999): 139-56.
      - Wing Thye Woo. "The Real Reasons for China's Growth." *The China Journal*, no. 41 (1999): 115-37.
    - Week 9, Session 1 – 1989, from inside
      - Zhao Ziyang, *Prisoner of the State*. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2009), selections
      - *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* (1995, film), watch excerpts in class.

- Week 9, Session 2 – 1989, from abroad
  - Joseph W. Esherick, and Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom. "Acting out Democracy: Political Theater in Modern China." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 49, no. 4 (1990): 835-65.
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- Contemporary China
  - Week 10, Session 1 – China's resilient authoritarianism
    - Andrew J. Nathan, "China's Changing of the Guard: Authoritarian Resilience." *Journal of Democracy*. Vol. 14, No. 1, (Jan.,2003), 1-17.
    - Rachel Stern and Jonathan Hassid, "Magnifying Repression: Uncertainty, Self-Censorship, and Control Parables in China," manuscript.
  - Week 10, Session 2 – Threat or opportunity?
    - David Kang, "Getting Asia Wrong: The Need for New Analytical Frameworks." *International Security* 27, no. 4 (2003): 57-85, selections
    - David Shambaugh, "China Engages Asia: Reshaping the Regional Order," *International Security*, Vol. 29, No. 3, pp 64-99, selections
  - Week 11, Session 1 – Threat or opportunity, continued
    - Robert G. Sutter, "China's Rise: Implications for U.S. Leadership in Asia," *Policy Studies* 21., pp 1-3, 17-21, 59-65
    - Patrick Tyler, *A Great Wall : Six Presidents and China : An Investigative History*. (New York: PublicAffairs, 1999)., excerpts
    - *Red Corner* (film, 1997) – watch in class, excerpts.
  - Week 11, Session 2 – Looking out
    - Zheng Bijian, "China's 'Peaceful Rise' to Great-Power Status," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 84, No. 5 (Sep.-Oct., 2005), pp. 18-24.

- Doug Guthrie, *Dragon in a Three-Piece Suit: The Emergence of Capitalism in China*. (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1999)., selections
- Looking Forward
  - Week 12, Session 1 – Challenges
    - Kenneth Lieberthal, "Preventing a War over Taiwan." *Foreign Affairs*. Vol. 4, No. 2, (March/April,2005), 53-63.
    - Avery Goldstein, *Rising to the Challenge: China's Grand Strategy and International Security*. (Stanford University Press, 2005), selections.
  - Week 12, Session 2 – More challenges
    - David Zweig and Bi Jianhai, "China's Global Hunt for Energy," *Foreign Affairs*, (Sept. 2005).
- Wrapping up
  - Week 13, Session 1 – Looking back
    - David Shambaugh, "Anti-Americanism in China," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 497, Anti-Americanism: Origins and Context (May, 1988), pp. 142-156.
    - *Hero [Yingxiong]* (film, 2002) – watch in class.
  - Week 13, Session 2 – Finish film and summary of course.