International History

Academic year 2019-2020

Modern China: A Great Transformation

HI119 - Autumn - 6 ECTS

Monday 10h15 - 12h00

Course Description

This course examines modern history of China in a dramatic decline-and-rise cycle, and discusses current Chinese political system, economy and social and cultural identities. It also traces the roots of recent reforms in China that have transformed the country in a fundamental way. The relationships between state and society, between politics and economy and between China and foreign powers will be discussed in detail.

Syllabus

Course Requirement: Two take-home exams and active participation in class discussions. Participation consists of 15% of overall performance.

Office Hours: 09 to 10. Monday-Tuesday

1. Introduction
   a. The Cultural Heritage
   b. The Rise of Modern China
   c. The May Fourth Movement
   d. The Communist Revolutions
   e. The Sino-Japanese War
   f. The Civil War and its Consequences

2. The PRC Political Structure
   a. The Party State
   b. The military State
   c. The civilian state
3. Political Participation
a. articulation of political interest
b. conflict resolution
c. rebellion and protest

4. State and Society
a. the command system
b. the negotiated state
c. social policy
d. environmental policy

5. Economy
a. Planned economy
b. Deng Xiaoping and his reform theory
c. Mixed economy

6. Foreign Policy
a. Theories
b. China and the great powers
c. China and globalization
d. security policy

7. Challenges in the 21st Century
a. Political reforms
b. Deng's legacy
c. Jiang Zeming and political reform
d. Hu Jintao and the Harmonious Society
e. Xi Jinping's China Dream

Basic Requirement

Selected Readings Books:

Cambridge History of China
Daniel Bell, China’s New Confucianism, Princeton University Press, 2008
Jenny Clegg, China’s Global Strategy, NY, Pluto Press 2009
Arif Dirlik, Modernity as history: post-revolutionary China, globalization and the question of modernity
Lyle Goldstein, Meeting China Halfway, Georgetown University Press, 2015
Stephan Halper, The Beijing Consensus, How China’s Authoritarian Model will Dominate the Twentieth-First Century, Basic Books 2010

Immanuel C. Y. Hsu, The rise of modern China, Oxford University Press, 2000
David Kang, China Rising, Columbia University Press, 2009
Teemu Ruskola, Legal Orientalism, China, the United States and Modern Law, Harvard, 2013
*Jonathan D. Spence, The search for modern China, W.W. Norton, 1990
---- Playing Our Game, Why China’s Economic Rise Doesn’t Threaten the West, Oxford University Press, 2010
Xiang, Lanxin, Recasting the Imperial Far East, M.E. Sharpe, Armonk, NY 1995
----Mao’s Generals, Lanham Maryland, 1998
Articles by Lanxin Xiang
----Washington’s Misguided China Policy, Survival, April 2001
----China’s Eurasian Experiment, Survival, June 2004
----Traumatic Legacies in Japan and China—an exchange between Lanxin Xiang and Japanese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Akira Chiba, Survival, June 2005
Survival, June 2005
----Lanxin Xiang on Henry Kissinger’s On China, Survival, August-September 2011
----China and the “Pivot”, Survival, August 2012

Periodicals
Asian Survey Beijing Review
The China Quarterly Foreign Affairs
Journal of Asian Studies
Journal of Contemporary History Journal of Modern Asian Studies International Affairs
Modern Asia Orbis
Survival