China is increasingly a topic of national, international, and even household discussion. This class is intended to give you both knowledge and practice at following and participating in this ongoing conversation. No prior coursework on China is assumed, and no knowledge of Chinese is required.

To understand China’s aspirations and evolving place in the world order, the first half of the course begins with a survey of Chinese politics and foreign relations, including China’s “century of national humiliation” from the Opium Wars to the victory of the Communist Party in 1949, the domestic and foreign policies of Mao Zedong, the inauguration of reforms and China’s reentry into the international community under Deng Xiaoping.

The second half of the course will focus on current debates in China’s foreign relations, including the role of public opinion and popular nationalism, military development, growing “assertiveness” in regional disputes over territory and resources, and contentious issues in China’s trade and investment practices, including currency manipulation.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Participation in two class simulations. Roles will be assigned in section. For each simulation, students will prepare a written memo recommending a course of action and reasoning to their respective government delegation. (20% each, 3 pages, 12 pt / double spaced)
   - A crisis scenario between China, Japan, and the United States concerning the territorial dispute in the East China Sea (Memo due Week 5)
   - Mock negotiations between China and ASEAN nations concerning a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (Memo due Week 10)

2. Response paper: analyze three op-eds or policy pieces in conjunction with readings on a topic covered in class. (25%, four pages, 12 pt / double spaced, due Week 8. For graduate students: eight pages, analyzing six op-ed or policy pieces)

3. In-class final exam consisting of multiple-choice, short-answer identifications, and one essay. (25%). The final will take place at 2 pm on Monday, May 4.

4. Participation (10%): Attendance is required for all classes and sections. Students will also have the opportunity to share articles and comments via the classes*v2 forum. Missed classes may be made up via online participation.

READINGS
All course readings are available electronically, either via the Resources folder on classes*v2 or the hyperlinks provided in the electronic version of this syllabus.

**SCHEDULE**

**Class 1: Introduction (Jan. 12)**

The ongoing standoff between China and Japan in the East China Sea:

**Class 2: Contending Perspectives and Levels of Analysis (Jan. 14)**

**Class 3 & 4: Historical Background, Opium Wars to 1949 (Jan. 16 & 21)**
**Note: class meets on Friday, Jan. 16 in observance of MLK day**

**Class 5 & 6: Mao’s China, Sino-Soviet Split, Korean War (Jan. 26 & 28)**

**Class 7 & 8: From Mao to Deng, Sino-U.S. Rapprochement (Feb. 2 & 4)**
- Spence, *The Search for Modern China*, p. 589-600.
Class 9 & 10: Reform and Opening Up, Tiananmen (Feb. 9 & 11)

Class 11 & 12: U.S.-China Relations after the Cold War (Feb. 16 & 18)
• Wang Jisi. 2005. “China’s Search for Stability with America,” *Foreign Affairs*

Current Debates:

Class 13: The Chinese Military (Feb. 23)

Class 14: China’s Integration into the World Economy (Feb. 25)

Class 15: Financial Influence and the “China Model” (Mar. 2)
• Barry Naughton, “China's Distinctive System: can it be a model for others?” *Journal of Contemporary China* 19 (65):437-460.
• Excerpt from James Fallows, *Postcards from Tomorrow Square*,
• “China and the West: A time for muscle-flexing,” *The Economist*, March 19, 2009

Class 16: China, Southeast Asia, and the South China Sea (Mar. 4)

SPRING BREAK

Class 17: FILM (Mar. 23)

Class 18: Media, Public Opinion, and Mass Sentiments (Mar. 25)
• Johnston and Stockmann. 2007. "Chinese Attitudes toward the United States and Americans," in Anti-Americanisms in World Politics

Class 19: Nationalism and Anti-Foreign Protest (Mar. 30)

Class 20: China and Japan (Apr. 1)

Class 21: Taiwan and North Korea (Apr. 6)

Class 23: Energy, Africa, and China’s Search for Resources (Apr. 13)


Class 24: China and US Elections (Apr. 15)


Class 25: Prospects for the Future (Apr. 23)


Final Exam: 2 PM on Monday, May 4.