Many historic lessons were obtained through tremendous sacrifice. Such as eating food – if something is poisonous, we all seem to know it. It is common sense. But in the past many people must have eaten this food and died so that now we know better. Therefore I think the first person who ate crabs was admirable. If not a hero, who would dare eat such creatures? Since someone ate crabs, others must have eaten spiders as well. However, they were not tasty. So afterwards people stopped eating them. These people also deserve our heartfelt gratitude. – Lu Xun

China is full of contradictions: a Communist Party ruling over a rapidly growing capitalist economy; a dictatorship that often fails to implement policies on the ground; a country full of poor citizens loaning trillions of dollars to the US and other rich countries. This course explores how Chinese politics led to this place and where the future points.

Course Requirements

1. China Map Quiz 05% 4. Analysis 15%
2. News Presentation 10% 5. Midterm Exam 25%
3. Participation & Attendance 10% 6. Cumulative Final Exam 35%

China Map Quiz – In the second session of the class, there will be a quiz that requires students to correctly place the various provinces of China on a map.

News Presentation – In addition to a brief presentation described below in the Format section, students are to turn in a single-spaced, one page description of the issue, relevant players, potential biases in the coverage, etc.

Participation & Attendance – As stated in the Format section below, class sessions will combine lectures and seminar discussions. In order for discussions to thrive, your active presence is required.

Analysis – In week 8, students will be given a list of writing prompts. On the last day of classes, a 2-3 page single-spaced analysis will be turned in.

Midterm Exam – This exam will cover all material from the lectures and readings that occurs prior to the exam.

Cumulative Final Exam – This exam will cover material from the entirety of the course, although the exam will be biased towards topics discussed after the Midterm Exam.

Monday, March 12, 2012. 9:30-11:18am FINAL EXAMINATION
http://registrar.osu.edu/scheduling/SchedulingContent/WI12Finals.pdf
Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-82.99</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>67-69.99</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89.99</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>73-76.99</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Below 59.99</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86.99</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-72.99</td>
<td>C-</td>
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Grading will be based upon (a) accuracy of factual information; (b) ability to synthesize the appropriate evidence, both theoretical and empirical, from all parts of the course not just rehashing the texts; (c) judgment in separating the important from the trivial, keeping on the subject, critically evaluating all assumptions [including your own and mine]; and (d) effective expression—organization, choice of words, basic grammar, etc.

Requirements

This course does not assume any prior knowledge of Chinese politics or history. All students are expected to have read the assigned material before class. Students are also expected to keep up-to-date on current developments and news related to China. In addition to major newspapers, there are numerous English-language news aggregators that make the job of keeping up with China substantially easier. First among equals is [www.chinadigitaltimes.net](http://www.chinadigitaltimes.net).

Format

The class format will be that of a combined lecture-seminar. Sessions will typically include extensive remarks by the instructor – remarks designed to orient the students and to provide a context within which the readings for that day can be understood. Sessions will also include periodic discussion of both points made in the lecture and of the readings assigned for that day. All students are encouraged to ask questions and raise points of interest during our sessions. At the end of each session after Week 3, at least one student will make a brief presentation of an event or news story that relates to contemporary China.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp)).

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; [http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/](http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/).
Schedule of Readings
You may find it helpful to purchase the following books as a reference text although doing so is not required for the course.


Other materials and readings will be available on carmen.osu.edu and/or with links below.

**Week 01 – Introduction**

Jan 3 – Initial Session
Jan 5 – Area Studies & Comparative Politics

*China Map Quiz*

**Week 02 – Area Studies, Legacies of Imperial China, & Beginnings of Mao**

Jan 10, 12
  [1] Lieberthal. Chapters 1&2
  [2] Lieberthal. Chapter 4

**Week 03 – Maoist China**

Jan 17, 19

*China: A Century of Revolution* [watching and discussing portions of the film in class]

**Week 04 – The Decision to & Beginnings of Reform**

Jan 24, 26

*Midterm Review*

**Week 05 – Midterm & Economics of Reform**

**Jan 31 – MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

Feb 2
Week 06 – Tiananmen & Workers
Feb 7, 9

Week 07 – Differing Perspectives
Feb 14, 16

Week 08 – Social Stability & Nationalism
Feb 21, 23
[Analysis Writing Prompts Handed Out] [Analysis Writing Prompts Handed Out]

Week 09 – China and the Global Economic Crisis
Feb 28, Mar 2

Week 10 – Conclusions
Mar 6, 8 [Mar 8: Analysis due]

Final Exam Review

Monday, March 12, 2012. 9:30-11:18am FINAL EXAMINATION
http://registrar.osu.edu/scheduling/SchedulingContent/WI12Finals.pdf