

HISTORY 4611F
Foreign Relations of the People's Republic of China
Fall/Winter 2021-22
Wednesday, 2:30-5:30, FNB-2210
In Person

Instructor: James A. Flath

Office Hours: TBA

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This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course Description:

This course will examine the foreign relations of the People's Republic of China from its inception in 1949 through to the present day. The focus of the course will be on China's political and security relations with global powers, including the Soviet Union/Russian Federation, Japan, India, Iran, and the USA.

Prerequisite(s):

2.0 courses in History at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus:

Students enrolled in this course will examine international relations from the Chinese perspective. They will be tasked with explaining how world events of the latter part of the 20th and the early 21st century were shaped by Chinese influence, and how China adapted to international challenges.

This is not a lecture course. Students are expected to arrive in class fully prepared, and to make ongoing contributions to the discussion.

Course Materials:

John W. Garver, *China's Quest: The History of the Foreign Relations of the People's Republic of China*, Oxford University Press, 2018.

Online news articles and podcasts, to be assigned on a weekly basis.

Methods of Evaluation:

Late assignments will not be accepted.

Essay Proposal (10%): Due September 29.

The essay proposal defines the essay topic, establishes the research question and preliminary thesis, and briefly outlines the draft Research Essay (see below).

This is a required component and must be completed before submitting the Annotated Bibliography (see below).

Annotated Bibliography (10%): Due October 27

The annotated bibliography will be the second step in writing the capstone term paper for the course. Once the student determines the essay topic in consultation with the professor, they will compile a bibliography of ten to fifteen texts (books and academic articles) that relate to the same topic. Each entry is to be accompanied by a paragraph that briefly outlines the position of the author and describes how the text relates to the essay topic.

This is a required component and must be completed before submitting the Research Essay (see below)

Research Essay (50%): November 24

As the capstone assignment for the course, the Research Essay develops the Annotated Bibliography into a comprehensive historiographical discussion and develops the Essay Proposal into a fully articulated scholarly discussion of 20 pages in length.

This is a required component and must be completed to pass the course.

Essay Presentation (10%): December 8

The last class of the term will be treated as a symposium in which students deliver a “3 minute thesis” based on their research papers. Students will be graded on both content and delivery.

Professionalism (20%)

This is not a lecture course. Students are expected to arrive in class fully prepared, and to make ongoing contributions to the discussion. To reinforce the atmosphere of professionalism, equal portions of the Professionalism grade will be assigned to attendance, preparation (judged on the basis of a short weekly quiz), and participation. Unexcused absences will result in a score of 0 for the week in question.

Accommodation for missed tests/midterms, including Self Reported Absences (SRA):

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test.

Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Online courses will have online makeup tests.

In person classes have scheduled makeup tests scheduled at the following times:

Fall Term

- Tests scheduled before November 1 – the makeup will take place November 8 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between November 2 and December 7 – the makeup will take place December 8 at 9:30pm.

Winter Term

- Tests scheduled before February 19 – the makeup will take place February 28 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between February 20 and March 31 – the makeup will take place April 1 at 12:30pm

No other make-up opportunities will be provided. Students who fail to write a makeup test in the designated time slots will receive a grade of zero.

Course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

Students should be aware that when they have submitted an SRA for one test, they are not permitted to write a test or complete an assignment for another course during the period covered by the SRA. Failure to observe this regulation will result in the cancellation of the SRA and the possible application of late penalties.

Accommodation for missed assignment deadlines with a Self Reported Absence:

If a student reports a SRA for an assignment (i.e. an essay) the new due date will be 48 hours after the SRA was submitted.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Week 1 Introduction. Garver, Chapter 1

Week 2 Soviet Union, Korea, and the Bandung Era. Garver, Chapter 2-4

Week 3 Sino-Soviet Split and Sino-Indian Conflict. Garver, Chapter 5-6

Week 4 Vietnam and the Cultural Revolution. Garver, Chapter 9-10

Week 5 Managing the USA and USSR. Garver, Chapter 11-12

Week 6 Opening Up, China VS Vietnam. Garver, Chapter 13-14

Week 7 Modernizing and Normalizing. Garver, Chapter 15-16

Week 8 Surviving the Collapse of Communism. Garver, Chapter 17-19

Week 9 China and the Persian Gulf. Garver, Chapter 21

Week 10 China and the USA. Garver, Chapter 22-24

Week 11 China and its Neighbors. Garver, Chapter 26, 27

Week 12 China as a World Power. Garver, Chapter 25, 28, 29

Week 13 Conference Week Student Paper

Use of Electronic Devices:

Electronic devices will not be allowed during tests and examinations.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document,

<https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>,

for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness