Course ID Number: REC 5760
Course Title: Chinese Foreign Policy

No. of Credits: 2

Graduate School of International Relations
International University of Japan

Term: Fall 2011

Instructor: Janet Xuanli Liao

Course Introduction

This course is designed to introduce the major topics and features of the foreign policy of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), from its founding in 1949 to present. It will first examine the changing style and concerns of China’s foreign policy-making under different leaderships, to demonstrate the logic behind the policy-decisions. The teaching will then look at a number of important events/counties, in China’s foreign policy in order to illustrate the changes occurred. The examples include China’s entry into the Korean War, the Sino-Soviet split, rapprochement between China and the United States, China’s policy towards Japan, the Taiwan issue, Sino-European relations, China’s dealing with Africa and Latin America, and, China and the United Nations. The final session will focus on China’s recent rise at the international stage, and the likely implications.
Chinese Foreign Policy
(3 October- 5 December 2011)

Instructor:  Dr Janet Xuanli Liao,
Class time:  Mondays 10:30-12:00 and 13:00-14:30
Classroom:  TBD
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3-5pm

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The course aims to acquaint students with knowledge of China’s involvement in world affairs in historical and contemporary perspectives, and provide them special insights of understanding the dynamics of China’s foreign policy.

Organization
The course will be conducted mainly by lectures, but students are also expected to actively participate in the classroom discussions, and certain time has been allocated for the purpose of discussions throughout the sessions. In addition, each student is expected to write a piece of book-review upon his/her choice. Both of the elements will be counted as part of the course assessment.

Assessment
1. **One research paper** (4,500 words +/-10%): the topic can be decided by a student based on his/her preference, but the analysis needs to demonstrate the student’s understanding of the key issues relating to China’s foreign policy, as well as the ability of academic criticism. The mark of the research paper is 60 %.
2. **One Book Review**: the student can select a book and write a book-review, which needs to be submitted by the end of fifth week (4th Nov 5pm). 25%.
3. **Classroom performance and attendance**: 15%.

Policies
1. The course participants are encouraged to attend the sessions on time, and to actively participate in classroom discussions. It is also highly recommended that the participants do some basic readings before coming to the class.
2. The course participants should choose a topic of their interest for the research paper. A preliminary discussion with the course instructor (via email or in person) is also encouraged for the purpose of approval.
3. Evaluation is based largely on clarity of views, ability to analyze concepts and
dynamics, and adherence to ethical academic practices is a must. Serious action
will be taken against plagiarism.

Weekly Schedule
This section will introduce the topics and issues that will be covered in each class. In
addition, what the students should read or prepare for a class should be clearly
specified. It should include information about tests/exams, paper submissions, etc.

Week 1 (3 Oct 2011)
Introduction: Understanding China’s Foreign Policy and Evolution
- Introduction to the course
- The evolution of the style of China’s foreign policy-making
- The main actors in Chinese foreign policy-making system under different
leadership
- The main features and principles in China’s foreign policy
- The changing nature of China’s foreign policy-making in post-Mao era

Reading Materials (the ones with * are key readings)
* A. Doak Barnett (1985), The Making of Foreign Policy in China: Structure and
Samuel S. Kim ed. (1998), China and the World: Chinese Foreign Policy Faces the
* David Lampton (2002), The Making of Chinese Foreign and Security Policy in the
Era of Reform, Stanford University Press (Chapters 1-4).
Xuanli Liao (2006), Chinese Foreign Policy Think Tanks and China’s Policy Towards
Japan, Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, (Chapters, 2 &3).
* Sutter, Robert G. (2009), Chinese Foreign Relations: Power and Policy since the
policy: a Chinese perspective", in T. W. Robinson & D. Shambaugh ed., Chinese
Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice, pp. 481-505.

Week 2 (10 October 2011)
China’s entry into the Korean War and Its role in the Six Party Talks
- Background of the Korean War
- China’s entry into the Korean War
- Who has won the Korean War?
- The nature of the current North Korean problem?
- China’s role in the Six Party Talks

Reading Materials
* Chen Jian (2001), Mao’s China and the Cold War, Chapel Hill & London: The
University of North Carolina Press, (Chapter 4),


**Week 3 (17 October 2011)**

**Sino-Russian Relations: During and After the Cold War**

- The rise and demise of the Sino-Soviet alliance
- The China-US-Russian strategic triangle
- The collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War
- China, Russia and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- How to access the Sino-Russian relationship in today's world?

**Reading Materials:**

* Chen Jian (2001), *Mao’s China and the Cold War*, (Chapter 3) pp. 49-84.


**Week 4 (24 October 2011)**

**China’s Rapprochement with the United States and the Aftermath**

- Background of the Sino-American rapprochement: the US withdrawal from Vietnam and Soviet threat to PRC
- The Ping-Pong Diplomacy, Kissinger’s secret trip to Beijing, and Nixon’s visit to China
- The end of the cold-war and the Sino-US relations
• The “9.11” event and the Sino-US relations
• Will a rising China be a threat or opportunity to the United States?

Reading Materials:
* Chen Jian (2001), Mao's China and the Cold War (Chapter 9), pp. 238-276.

Week 5 (31 October 2011)
China and Japan: Partners or Competitors?
• Sino-Japanese diplomatic normalization
• Japanese assistance to China’s economic development
• A rising China and Japan’s political response
• China, the US-Japan security alliance and East Asian security
• The Sino-Japanese energy relationship
• Can China and Japan be co-leaders in East Asia?

Reading Materials:
Week 6 (7 November 2011)

The Taiwan Issue

- Origin of the Taiwan issue
- The Taiwan Strait crisis of 1958
- The US factor and the Taiwan issue
- The Taiwan issue and Sino-Japanese relations
- The cross-strait relations and regional stability of East Asia

Reading Materials:

* Chen Jian (2001), *Mao's China and the Cold War*, (Chapter 7), pp. 163-204.


Week 7 (14 November 2011)

Sino-European Relations

- What is the nature of Sino-EU relations: strategic or trade partnership?
- Are China and EU co-operators or competitors in dealing with Iran?
- Does Europe welcome a rising China?
- Can Europe replace the United States in China’s foreign relations?

Reading Materials:


Week 8 (21 November 2011)

China’s Dealing with Developing Countries

- Maoist theory of the “Third world” and China’s diplomacy to developing world under Mao: the Bandung Conference and the Tanzania-Zambian railway
- The “Open-door” policy and its implications to China-third world relationship
- China’s dealing with Africa in the new era and the three pillars
- China – Middle East relations and the Iran nuclear crisis
- China and Latin America
- Is China still a member of the “third world” club?

Reading Materials:


Week 9 (28 November 2011)

China and the United Nations

- China’s entry to the United Nations
- Power struggles between the great powers
- China and the UN peace-keeping operation
- China and the UN reform
- China’s dealing with Iran’s nuclear crisis within the UN system
- The future of the United Nations

Reading Materials:


Kornberg, Judith & John R. Faust (2005), China in World Politics: Policies, Processes,

Qian Qichen, “Multilateralism, the Way to Respond to Threats and Challenges,” http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjdt/zyjh/t142393.htm


Week 10 (5 December 2011) (presentations and discussions)

China's Peaceful Rise and the Implications to the World Order

- What is the trend of China’s foreign policy evolution since the PRC era?
- Will China’s growing economic potential make it a political superpower?
- Is it possible for China to rise peacefully? Why?
- What could be likely obstacles for China’s peaceful rise: domestic factors or international constraints?
- What are likely implications of China’s rise to the world today?

Reading Materials:


Reading List for Chinese Foreign Policy


Liao, Xuanli (2006), *Chinese Foreign Policy Think Tanks and China’s Policy Towards Japan*, Hong Kong: Chinese University Press.
Liu, Fei and David Kerr, eds. (2007), The International Politics of EU-China Relations, OUP/ British Academy.


Qian, Qichen, “Multilateralism, the Way to Respond to Threats and Challenges,” http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjdt/zyjh/t142393.htm

Romberg, Alan (2009), China and North Korea, Napsnet Special Report, 10 November (electronic version available).


