BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CHINA: FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM
CAS IR 370/PO 351
Semester I – 2016/2017
Mon., Weds., Fri.: 10:00-11:00
SHA 206

Professor Joseph Fewsmith
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Office hours: Mon., 1:30-5:00, Wed., 9:00-10:00; Fri., 4:00-5:00
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COURSE CONTENT
This course is intended as an introduction to the political and economic development of modern and contemporary China, with particular attention to the dynamics of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The course will look first at the reasons China embarked on a path of revolution, giving special attention to the origins and development of the CCP. It will then focus on the economic and political development of the People's Republic of China (PRC), including the early years, the Great Leap Forward, and the Cultural Revolution, before looking at the development of the reform era. The course will also examine how the interplay between China's domestic politics and the outside world has affected China's development as well as the dilemmas involved in trying to reform a socialist economy.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
There will be two in-class midterm exams, one group presentation, an annotated bibliography and a book review, and a final exam. There will also be some short quizzes given at random throughout the course. These will focus on either the reading due that day or the content of the previous class. They will not be difficult and are intended to help you focus on class work. The midterm exams will be held on Monday, October 11 and Wednesday, November 11.

Group Report. You will be divided into six groups and each group will do a collective report on one or more articles, stories, or a topic. The purpose of this report is not only to read the reading assigned for that particular class but also to find out about the importance of that reading or topic. In other words, what does this reading tell us about the development of Chinese society or politics? Dates for the Group Reports are listed on the syllabus.

I am well aware that students tend not to like group projects. Somebody works hard while somebody else slacks off; coordinating with classmates is difficult, etc., but group projects allow you to get to know at least some of your classmates (why attend a large
and diverse university if you don’t get to know some of your classmates?) and they give you experience in public presentation (something you will find important as you go through life).

Book review. Early in the semester I will circulate a list of books, all of which are regarded as “classics” in the field. Choose a book and tell me on September 30 which book you would like to read. DO NOT READ IT (yet)! Now go to the library (at least virtually) and find SIX articles related to the topic of your book. Some might be written before your book, some after. Write an annotated bibliography. For each article, tell me who wrote it, when it was written, which journal it appeared in, its main point, and why you found it useful or not. You can do this in a single paragraph (for each book). Turn in the annotated bibliography on October 17. Now read the book. I will provide details on the book review later, but the book review will be due on November 28. The primary goal will be to put the book in the context of the development of the field (which you have ascertained through your reading of six related articles). The book review should be about 10 pages long.

NOTE: The book review must be submitted on time. "On time" means the start of class on the day the paper is due. Late papers will be downgraded half a grade per day late.

The final exam will be held on Wednesday, December 16, from 9:00-11:00.

COURSE READINGS:

The texts for this course are as follows:


These books are available at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. In addition, a few assigned articles are on the Blackboard website.

POLICY ON ABSENCES
YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL CLASSES. Absences may be excused for medical, religious, official and personal reasons. Absences for illness for more than two days require a medical certificate. Absences for religious observances and for family or personal reasons require documentation. Absence for purposes of representing the University in authorized athletic events or officially sponsored activities are excused by
notification from your sponsoring department or activity. The stated University policy reads: "Any student who has been excessively absent from a course may be required to withdraw from that course without credit." I define "excessively absent" for this course to be six absences, excused or not. Attendance will be a factor in grading.

POLICY ON "INCOMPLETES"
No incomplete grades will be reported unless the instructor and the student have conferred, the student has presented a sufficient reason why the work of the course cannot be completed on schedule, and the instructor has assigned a date within the succeeding twelve months by which time all course requirements must be completed. This must be in written form. No degree credit for incomplete courses will be granted unless the work is completed by the date assigned, which must be no later than one calendar year from the date on which the incomplete grade was reported. In the event that coursework remains incomplete on the assigned date or twelve months after the "I" grade has been awarded, whichever comes first, the "I" grade will be changed automatically and permanently to an "F" grade.

POLICY ON PLAGIARISM
Plagiarism is the passing off of the ideas or words of another as your own. It is taken very seriously at Boston University as at all institutions of higher learning. Those believed to have committed plagiarism must appear before a university disciplinary board, a procedure that can result in a student's suspension or expulsion. Your papers should contain appropriate citations. It is better to use too many citations than too few. If you have any doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, please talk with me.

POLICY ON IN-CLASS COMPUTERS
None! Put them away. Paper and pencil (pen) are good enough.

GRADING
Grades will be determined on the following basis:
- Class Participation 5%
- Quizzes 5%
- Group Presentation 10%
- Midterm Exam 15%
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- Annotated Bibliography 10%
- Book Review 15%
- Final Exam 25%
COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM OF MODERN CHINESE POLITICS

#1 Wed., Sept. 7: Introduction and Organization – China ca. 1915
   Introduce the basic outline of the course and expectations of the students.

#2 Fri., Sept. 9: Warlordism
   Reading:

Week 2: MODERNIZATION AND REVOLUTION

#3 Mon., Sept. 12: Awakening the People
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and its Past*, Chpt. 8, Selecting Identities

#4 Wed., Sept. 14: The New Culture Movement
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and its Past*, Chpt. 8, Constructing a New Cultural Identity

#5 Fri., Sept. 16: Lu Xun
   Reading:
   Lu Xun, “Dairy of a Madman” (Blackboard)
   Lu Xun, “True Story of Ah Q” (Blackboard)

GROUP 1 REPORT

Week 3: THE REVOLUTIONARY PATH

#6 Mon., Sept. 19: The Birth of the Chinese Communist Party and the May 30th Movement
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 10, Drawing the Sword of Opposition
#7 Wed., Sept. 21: The Northern Expedition
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 11, Revolution in Retreat

#8 Fri., Sept. 23: The Young Mao Zedong
Reading:
*Red Star over China* (on Blackboard)

Week 4: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CHINESE COMMUNISM

#9 Mon., Sept. 26: Mao as a Revolutionary
Reading:
Mao Zedong, “Report on the Peasant Situation” (Blackboard)

GROUP 2 REPORT

#10 Wed., Sept. 28: The Jiangxi Soviet
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 12, The Communists in the 1930s

#11 Fri., Sept. 30: Mao Zedong Thought
Reading:
Mao Tse-tung, "On Practice" (Blackboard).
Mao Tse-tung, “On Contradiction” (Blackboard).

GROUP 3 REPORT

CHOICE OF BOOK DUE

Week 5: From Revolution to Regime

Reading:
Mao Tse-tung, "Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art"
(Blackboard).

GROUP 4 REPORT

#13 Wed., Oct. 5: China at War
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpts. 13 and 14, A Rising Clash of Identities

#14 Fri., Oct. 7: MIDTERM REVIEW


Mon., Oct. 10: NO CLASS

#15 Tues., Oct. 11: MIDTERM EXAM

#16 Wed., Oct. 12: Transforming the Countryside
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 16, Paths to the Future

#17 Fri., Oct. 14: Transforming the Cities
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 16, Paths to the Future

Week 7: THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD

#18 Mon., October 17: The Party and the Intellectuals
   Reading:
   Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions among the People" (Blackboard).

GROUP 5 REPORT

ANOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

#19 Wed., Oct. 19: The Road toward Disaster?
   Reading:
   Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 17, Coming Unglued

#20 Fri., Oct. 21: The Great Leap Forward
BOOK SELECTIONS DUE

Week 8: THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

#21 Mon., Oct. 24: Toward the Cultural Revolution
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 18, Death Dance

#22 Wed., Oct. 26: The End of the Cultural Revolution
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, Chpt. 18, Death Dance

#23 Fri., Oct. 28: The Mao Era in Retrospect
Reading:
Walder, *China under Mao*, pp. 315-346 (on Blackboard)

Week 9: THE EMERGENCE OF REFORM

#24 Mon., Oct. 31: Where Did Reform Come from?
Reading:
Fewsmith, “The Emergence of Rural Reform” (Blackboard)

#25 Weds., Nov. 2: The Rise (Again) of Deng Xiaoping
Reading:
Fewsmith, “The Emergence of Enterprise Reform” (Blackboard)

#26 Fri., Nov. 4: Issues of Ideology
Reading:
Week 10: TIANANMEN

#27 Mon., Nov. 7: Tiananmen

#28 Weds., Nov. 9: Review for Midterm

#29 Fri., Nov. 11: MIDTERM EXAM

Week 11: THE JIANG ZEMIN ERA

#30 Mon., Nov. 14: Why Jiang Zemin?
   Reading:
   Fewsmith, *China since Tiananmen*, pp. 21-47.

#31 Wed., Nov. 16: Reviving Reform
   Reading:
   Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 48-82.

#32 Fri., Nov. 18: Neoconservatism
   Reading:

Week 12: REDEFINING REFORM

#33 Mon., Nov. 21: The New Nationalism
   Reading:
   Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 140-162.

   THANKSGIVING RECESS: Nov. 23-27

Week 13: CHINA AND THE WTO

#34 Mon., Nov. 28: The Enlightenment Tradition
   Reading:
   Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 113-139.
GROUP 6 REPORT

BOOK REVIEWS DUE

#35 Wed., Nov. 30: The New Nationalism
Reading:
Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 140-162.

#36 Fri., Dec. 2: Jiang Zemin and Sino-U.S. Relations
Reading:
Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 197-227.

Week 14: HU JINTAO and XI JINPING

#37 Mon., Dec. 5: The Hu Jintao Era
Reading:
Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 231-271.

#38 Weds., Dec. 7: The Xi Jinping Era
Reading:

#39 Fri., Dec. 9: The State and Society
Reading:

Week 15: A SUMMING UP

#40 Mon., Dec. 12: Whither China?

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 16, 9:00-11:00.