

Boston University  
Dept of International Relations

CAS IR365 / PO352 – Fall 2013  
Tues & Thurs: 9:30-11:00  
Classroom: MCS B21

## **THE RISE OF CHINA**

Professor Min Ye

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### **Course Description**

This course provides undergraduates with a broad introduction to China's political, economic, and strategic development during the modern era. The discussion begins with the lowest point in Chinese history when the country was rendered as a semi-colony of Western powers and ends with China's contemporary rise and implications for the world. The questions asked include: In what ways is China rising? How did it happen? How does China's rise impact the U.S and the global system?

The course is divided into four parts. Part I discusses foreign impact on China from 1840-1949. This part provides historical background for analyses of domestic and foreign policies in the People's Republic of China. Part II introduces China's strategic relations with major powers in the world, the Soviet Union, the U.S, and Japan. The third part examines China's economic reform and openness since 1978. Finally, the course discusses "China's peaceful rise" and the U.S response to it. It also examines social, ideational, and environmental pressure created by the rise of China.

### **Course Requirements**

The examinations and grading are diverse. It has three main components: (1) Mid-term 1, on Oct 8, an in-class exam; (2) Mid-term 2, on Nov 19, in-class exam; (3) group research project, presentation, and final report. The topics are assigned by the instructor. Presentation to be completed in the last three classes, and report is due on the day of final exam of the class.

**Note:** Late submission of the final report can be rejected, or seriously downgraded.

### **Course Reading**

Most readings will be assigned from the following books available for purchase at the BU Bookstore. You can also purchase them on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

June Teufel Dreyer, *China's Political System: Modernization and Tradition*, fifth edition, New York: Pearson / Longman, 2006.

Barry Naughton, *The China's Economy: Transition and Growth*, Cambridge, MA: MIT University Press, 2007.

Susan Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

The books are also available on two-hour reserve at the Mugar Library. There are also articles supplied on Courseinfo website. You are expected to finish required reading before the lectures.

### **Reading, Participation, and Small Group Assignment:**

The class will be divided into 5-6 small groups, each consisting of 4-6 students. *All* students are expected to finish assigned readings before class, but each week, one small group will be designated to read the assigned materials closely and come up with 3-4 questions for each session, and the instructor will select 1-2 for class discussion. The questions will not be graded, but will be factored into the final evaluation of the student's performance.

The goal of this assignment is three-fold: (1) to enhance social networking and collaboration among students; (2) to invite critical reading and independent thinking of materials; and (3) to promote in-class participation and discussion. I hope you all complete the assignment with enthusiasm and dedication.

### **Group Research Project:**

On November 7, the class will be divided into three groups. The instructor will provide three research topics in China's domestic politics, economic development, and foreign relations respectively. Each group will be assigned to one topic. The group should work collaboratively to conduct outside research, as well as involve class readings when appropriate and necessary. There will be in-class presentations on their research findings. The students then write a report based on the group's research, inclass presentation (and questions), and/or other new materials. The report has to be written *independently*.

### **Policy on Absences**

You are expected to attend all classes. Absences may be excused for medical, religious, official and personal reasons. 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.

### **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. A “contract” must be signed by the instructor and the student. 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 course work remains incomplete on the assigned date or twelve months after the “I” grade has been awarded, which ever 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 the 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 constitute plagiarism, please talk with me. I reserve the right to use computer software for plagiarism detection.

Consult <http://www.bu.edu/cas/academics/programs/conductcode.html> for a systematic discussion of Academic Conduct Code of the College of Arts and Sciences.

### **Grading**

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	25%
Group Research Project:	45%
(Presentation 15%; Final Report 30%)	
Participation	10%

### **SESSION SCHEDULE**

(subject to change)

9/3, Tue: Introduction of the class

### **PART I. POLITICS OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

9/5, Thur: Tradition and Impact of the West

Reading: Dreyer, Ch 2-3

***Handout: Small group assignment sheet***

9/10, Tue: Communist Road to Power

Reading: Dreyer, Ch 4

9/12, Thur: Maoist China

Reading: Dreyer, Ch 5

9/17: Post-Mao China

Reading: Dreyer, Ch 6

9/19: Post-Deng Leadership

Reading: as above

**PART II. CHINESE ECONOMY: TRANSITION AND GROWTH**

9/24 & 26: Tradition, Legacy, and Socialism

Reading: Naughton, Ch 1-3

10/1: Market Transition:

Reading: Naughton, Ch 4

10/3: Market transition II

Reading: Naughton, Ch 7, 8

10/8, Tuesday: MID TERM I, IN CLASS

10/10: Rural Organization

Reading: Naughton, Ch 5, 10

10/15: SUBSTITUTE MONDAY, NO CLASS

10/17: Rural Industrialization

Reading: Naughton, Ch 11-12

10/22: Institutional and Structural Change

Reading: Naughton, Ch 13-14

10/24: Knowledge Economy, “Scientific Development”

Reading: Naughton, Ch 15

10/29: International Trade and Investment

Reading: Naughton, Ch 16-17

10/31: Macroeconomic Trends  
Reading: Naughton, Ch 18

11/5: Financial Reform  
Reading: Naughton, Ch 19

### **PART III. FOREIGN RELATIONS OF PRC**

11/7: Determinants and Goals of Foreign Policy  
Reading: Dreyer, Ch 14

#### ***Handout Group Research Assignment Sheet and Questions***

11/12: Strong Abroad, Fragile at Home  
Reading: Shirk, Ch 1-2

11/14: Domestic Threat  
Reading: Shirk, Ch 3-4

11/19, Tuesday: MID TERM II, IN CLASS

11/21, Thursday: Responsible Power  
Reading: Shirk, Ch 5; Zheng Bijian, "China Peaceful Rise," Foreign Affairs Sept/Oct 2005, pp. 18-24; Zbigniew Brzezinski and John Mearscheimer, "Clash of the Titans," Foreign Policy Jan/Feb 2005,  
[www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story\\_id=2740](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=2740)

11/26, Tuesday: Japan Relations, Taiwan, Anti-Americanism  
Reading: Shirk, Chs 6 -9

12/3: Presentation, Group 1 &2

12/5: Presentation, Group 3 & Discussion on report

12/10: Last Day, Review