Chinese Foreign Policy
POSC 232 – Spring 2020
Mon. & Wed. 11:10am-12:20pm, Fri. 12-1pm
Zoom Code:

Instructor: Kent Freeze
Phone: 507-222-4158 (Office)
Email: kfreeze@carleton.edu
Office: Zoom code:
Office Hours: Monday 2-4pm and Thursday 1:30-3-30pm and by appointment

Course Description
The “Rise of China” presents challenges and opportunities for the United States and other countries around the world. In this course, we will examine China’s growing and changing influence in the world. We will begin by investigating a variety of different theories and factors explaining the general nature of China’s foreign policy, as well as the implications of China’s rapid economic development for international relations. In the second half of the class we will detail China’s relationships with countries and regions around the world.

Course Requirements and Expectations
Typically readings will average around 150 pages a week, although this may be higher in certain weeks (so plan ahead accordingly). You are expected to come to class having read the material, and prepared to discuss the topics for the day.

We will be meeting virtually at the scheduled time in Northfield via a zoom meeting. Attendance at the zoom meeting is NOT mandatory, but I would really appreciate it if you could make an effort to participate synchronously. The typical class period will have a very short lecture from me (maybe 15 minutes at the most), as well as opportunities for questions and answer. I will record and post the meeting online for later reference or if you miss the meeting. This is a brave new world for me too, so I appreciate your patience as I figure out how best to navigate the technology. I am open to suggestions and advice you can offer for how I might make these meetings more effective, so feel free to let me know.

In addition to reading, I have a series of simple worksheets for you to fill out in advance of class. Sometimes the answers will come from the readings, sometimes they will require you to do your own digging, and sometimes I am looking for you to develop your own argument. We will use your responses in the online discussion forum slack at https://carletonposc232.slack.com/.

Any plagiarism, copying other student’s work, or other forms of academic misconduct will be referred to the college for disciplinary action. Please review the website on Academic
Integrity at https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/doc/integrity/ or talk to me if you have any questions.

**Texts**

The readings for this course will be provided electronically on Moodle. I encourage students to print out the course materials and read them in paper format rather than electronically, as this facilitates note taking, and better retention of the material. That said, you don’t have access to your Carleton print quota, so do whatever works for you.

**Grading**

Your grade will be based on the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Responses</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slack Participation and Discussion</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Reviews</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Oral Exams</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Please refer to the separate document with guidelines for all evaluated class activities.

**Class Worksheets - 25%**

I will be making a shared Google Drive worksheet, which you will fill out one hour prior (using Northfield (Central) time) to the start of the class session. These will be graded on a simple pass/fail basis.

**Slack Participation and Discussion - 25%**

During the regularly scheduled class period, we will have a NON-MANDATORY synchronous class session via zoom, where I will give a short lecture on the topic of the day (no more than 15 minutes), and have opportunity for open class discussion. I will record these lectures and put the link on the class slack page.

You will be expected to comment and participate on the slack page, including responses to the lecture, with questions, comments relating to the topic for the day. For each class session, I will mark your participation on a simple pass/fail basis.

**Class Reviews - 25%**

To facilitate your learning of the topics and materials covered in the class, you will prepare one page review guides for your fellow students on one of the previous daily discussions in
preparation for each of the oral exams. These will be due by noon the day prior to the oral exams.

**Oral Exams - 25%**

We will have two oral exams completed individually over the telephone or zoom. I will give you the potential questions in advance, so that you may prepare your answers accordingly. These will be approximately 15 minutes in length and will be scheduled individually in advance.

**Disability-Related Accomodations**

It is the policy of Carleton College to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with Disabilities Services, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible (during the 1st week of the term), so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The procedures for registering with Disabilities Services can be found at http://apps.carleton.edu/disabilityservices/.
Course Schedule

Readings should be completed prior to class. I reserve the right to make changes to the course schedule. I will alert you to any changes made in class, via email, and I will post the updated syllabus on Moodle.

Section I: Historical Legacies/Theoretical Overview

April 6: Rising Power/Power Transition Theories: The Pessimistic View


April 8: Rising Power Theories: Alternative Views

- Bijian Zheng. China’s “peaceful rise” to great-power status. *Foreign Affairs*, pages 18–24, 2005

April 10: Foreign Relations in Imperial China


Section II: Sources and Nature of Chinese Foreign Policy

April 13: Nationalism and Domestic Influences on Foreign Policy


April 15: OBOR/BRI

• Astrid HM Nordin and Mikael Weissmann. Will Trump make China great again? the belt and road initiative and international order. *International Affairs*, 94(2):231–249, 2018

**Apr. 17: China, Climate Change and the Environment**

• Scott Malcolmson. How China became the world’s leader in green energy. *Foreign Affairs*, 2020

**Apr. 20: Territorial Disputes**


**Apr. 22: Military Modernization**

• Eric Heginbotham, Michael Nixon, Forrest E Morgan, Jacob L Heim, Jeff Hagen, Sheng Li, Jeffrey Engstrom, Martin C Libicki, Paul DeLuca, David A Shlapak, et al. *The US-China military scorecard: Forces, geography, and the evolving balance of power, 1996–2017*. Rand Corporation, 2015 – This is a long report, and we will break this up, with small groups of students being responsible for some sections, while skimming the rest.

**Apr. 24: Cybersecurity**


**Apr. 27: Culture and “Soft Power”**

Apr. 29: Oral Exam Day

- I will schedule these for roughly 15 minute sessions with you in advance. To completed via telephone.

Section III: Bilateral and Regional Relationships

May 1: USA

- “Did America Get China Wrong?” series of responses in July and August 2018 Foreign Affairs.

May 6: Taiwan


May 8: Korean Peninsula

- Bonnie Glaser and Lisa Collins “China’s Rapprochement With South Korea” in Nov. 2017 Foreign Affairs Magazine.

May 11: Japan


May 13: South China Sea

May 15: Southeast Asia


May 18: Russia


May 20: Central Asia


May 22: South Asia


May 25: Latin America


May 27: Northern Africa/Middle East

- Zakir Hussain. *Saudi Arabia in a Multipolar World: Changing Dynamics*. Routledge, 2016, Chapter 4
May 29: Sub-Saharan Africa


June 1: Europe


June 3: Oral Exams