

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

TOPICS IN WORLD HISTORY: CONTEMPORARY CHINA

**HIST 432 30164 1ST SUMMER SESSION 2016
ONLINE**

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COURSE DESCRIPTION This course takes a historical approach to understanding contemporary China. Topics covered include political systems, ideology, and economics. *Note: This syllabus will be revised over the course of the summer session.*

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES Through successful completion of this course, students will achieve the following:

1. An understanding of the basic facts about contemporary China in their historical context, including important facts about the social, political, economic, and cultural features.
2. An ability to summarize and evaluate secondary sources.
3. Students will complete a ten-page (double-spaced) critical essay on one aspect of contemporary China, analyzed in historical context. The paper should present (i) a well-formulated thesis, (ii) clear supporting arguments, (iii) persuasive evidence for each supporting argument, and (iv) a conclusion that synthesizes the central arguments.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS This course is offered online only, and therefore students are required to use the following technology:

Computers It is required that all students have a reliable computer, access to the Internet, word processing software, and a PDF reader. All students must have a TSU computer account, an e-mail account linked to Blackboard, and a TSU Blackboard account. If you do not have a TSU computer account, you must acquire one as soon as possible. Students who do not have a computer or internet access can use computers in the various open labs on campus, or in various branches of the Houston Public Library.

Blackboard Assignments and communications will be through Blackboard, available at <https://texsu.blackboard.com>

Students are required to check Blackboard daily.

E-mail Students are expected to check email daily.

CLASS ORGANIZATION Students are responsible for all assigned readings and for all material presented in class.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Topic 1: Overview of Contemporary China

“China,” in Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook* (Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency, 2103). Available at:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ch.html>

Robert Benewick and Stephanie Donald, *The State of China Atlas: Mapping the World's Fastest-Growing Economy*, Rev. and updated ed. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009).

Topic 2: Late Imperial China

Patricia Buckley Ebrey, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), chap. 9.

Topic 3: Republic of China

Ebrey, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China*, chap. 10.

Topic 4: Revolutionary China

Linda Benson, *China since 1949*, 2nd ed ed. (Harlow: Longman/Pearson, 2011), chaps. 1-4.

Topic 5: Post-Mao China

Benson, *China since 1949*, chaps. 5-10.

Topic 6: Ideology

William A. Joseph, *Politics in China: An Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), chap. 5.

Topic 7: Communist Party

Joseph, *Politics in China: An Introduction*, chap. 6.

Topic 8: Political Economy

Joseph, *Politics in China: An Introduction*, chap. 7.

Topic 9: Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

Yasheng Huang, *Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: Entrepreneurship and the State* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008), selections.

Barry Naughton, *The Chinese Economy: Transitions and Growth* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007), selections.

Topic 10: China in the Twenty-first Century

TBA

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING POLICIES

1. Quizzes will be given to assess students' understanding of the assigned readings.
2. Exams will be given assess students' mastery of the materials. Exams are open book and open notes.
3. Students must complete a ten-page (double-spaced) term paper.
4. The grade will be based on quizzes (30%), examinations (30%), and a final paper (40%).
5. Final grades will be assigned as follows: A 90-100; A- 88-89; B+ 86-87; B 80-85; B- 78-79; C+ 76-77; C 70-75; C- 68-69; D+ 66-67; D 60-65; D- 58-59; F 0-57.
6. Make-up work will be permitted only for documented emergencies.
7. Athletes, band members, and members of other outside activities must submit official documentation from their coaches or directors and make arrangements with the instructor prior to any assignments they miss.

ADDITIONAL COSTS This course has no additional costs.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Grade of I The grade of “I” is given only when a student’s work is satisfactory in quality, but due to reasons beyond his or her control, the work has not been completed. The missing work may be a midterm or final examination, a term paper, or other work. It is not given in lieu of an F. The instructor will stipulate, in writing, at the time the grade is given the conditions under which the “I” may be removed. This temporary grade of “I” is non-punitive and semester hours for the course are not considered in the computation of the quality-point average. Removal must be within one calendar year after the “I” is assigned, or the “I” grade shall become an “F”. The grade “I” is not assigned if the student must retake the course. In the event a student who earns a grade of “I” decides to retake the course, the student is required to pay for that course.

Scholastic Dishonesty Students must maintain a high standard of honesty in their academic work. They should avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, especially the following:

1. Plagiarism. The appropriation of passages, either word for word (or in substance) from the writing of another and the incorporation of these as one’s own written work offered for credit.
2. Collusion. Working with another person in the preparation of notes, themes, reports, or other written work offered for credit unless such collaboration is specifically approved in advance by the instructor.
3. Cheating on an examination or quiz. Giving or receiving, offering or soliciting information, or using prepared material in an examination or testing situation. On examinations and quizzes students are expected (i) to remain in the examination room until the examination is finished, and (ii) to refrain from talking.
4. Impersonation. Allowing another person to attend classes, take examinations or to do graded assignments for an enrolled student under his or her name is strictly forbidden.

A student who violates any of the above may incur severe disciplinary action ranging from suspension to expulsion from the University. Specific guidelines will be determined by each dean.

Students with Disabilities TSU is in compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities should register with the TSU Office for Disability Services.