

Chinese Foreign Policy

Last Updated: Wed, 11/26/2025

Course prefix: INTA

Course number: 8803-FW

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
35313

Instructor First Name: Fei-Ling

Instructor Last Name: Wang

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course examines the foreign policy of China, the only other country that is capable and intends to reorganize the world, with profound implications for all of us. We will explore the history of Chinese foreign relations, Chinese worldviews and diplomatic tradition, with analysis of China's international position in the post-Cold War world. The focus of the course will be on the key factors, considerations, and limitations in the making and implementation of Chinese foreign policy. Finally, the course will discuss the major challenges and issues Beijing now faces abroad and assess its actions, with the backdrop of the rapidly rising Chinese power and in the context of U.S.-China relations.

Course learning outcomes:

There is no special requirement for this course except a willingness to read, think, and learn. The class will be organized as a seminar with a clear emphasis on having an extensive classroom participation of the students. The assigned readings are expected to be finished before classes.

An effort of following the current events relevant to the PRC especially its foreign relations is highly encouraged. Publications such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, and the South China Morning Post as well as the web-based news services list below are useful sources for up-to-date information of China in English:

China Digital Times: <http://chinadigitaltimes.net>

China Media Project: <http://cmp.hku.hk>

China Watch: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sponsored/china-watch/>

The Atlantic-China: <http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/categories/china/>

China Daily: <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/index.html>

Required course materials:

John W. Garver, *China's Quest: The History of the Foreign Relations of the People's Republic*, Oxford U Press, 2018 (Garver). <https://academic.oup.com/book/12799>

Marc Lanteigne, *Chinese Foreign Policy: An Introduction*, 4th Edition, Routledge, 2020 (Lanteigne). <https://www.amazon.com/Chinese-Foreign-Policy-Marc-Lanteigne/dp/1138345407>

Fei-Ling Wang, *The China Race: Global Competition for Alternative World Orders*, SUNY Press, 2024 (Wang). <https://www.press.jhu.edu/books/cart?domain=sunypress.edu>

Suisheng Zhao, *The Dragon Roars Back: Transformational Leaders and Dynamics of Chinese Foreign Policy*, Stanford U Press, 2022 (Zhao). <https://www.sup.org/books/politics/dragon-roars-back>

Grading policy:

Requirement	Marks	(%)
Participation/Attendance	200	20
Group Presentation	200	20
Reading Reports	300	20
Policy Memo	300	40
Total	1,000	100

Attendance policy:

Two unexcused absences will incur penalty.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.