### Course Description

This course studies the relations between the United States and China from the 19th century until the end of the 20th century. By examining the most important political, economic, cultural and military interactions between these two nations, it offers a comprehensive review of how the complex U.S.-China relations constantly changed throughout history and how history shaped their current relations that may influence the future of the world. For this goal, we will use scholarly books, articles, memoirs, declassified documents and visual materials. We will also have several field trips to some important historical places in Nanjing that are specifically related to our course of study.

### Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Understand how the US-China relations have developed throughout history.
- Comprehend how the key issues in contemporary US-China relations are shaped by history.
- Improve the ability to evaluate various scholastic opinions on the US-China relations based on evidence.
- Gain experience and improve skills in generalizing, explaining, and interpreting specific problems in the US-China relations.

### Course Prerequisites

No prerequisite.
Methods of Instruction

Lectures with PowerPoint; small and large group discussions; analysis of documents, photographs and documentaries; fieldtrips with accompanying assignments; student presentations; essay writings.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Attendance and class participation: 25%
2. Presentation: 15%
3. Midterm exam: 30%
4. Final essay: 30%

The instructor will use the same CIEE Grade Scale applied in your other CIEE courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>96-100</th>
<th>90-95</th>
<th>87-89</th>
<th>83-86</th>
<th>80-82</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>70-75</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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All assignments must be competed to receive a passing grade in the course.

Course Requirements

Attendance and class participation
Attendance is mandatory and will be taken by the instructor at the start of each class and field trip. Students may not arrive late to or leave early from any class or field trip. Students may be excused from class and field trips only with the permission of the Resident Director and the Instructor. Students who miss class for medical reasons should inform the Resident Director and the Instructor prior to class. Three absences in the course (including field trips) may result in no grade for the course.

You are expected to be an active learner in this course, along with the Instructor and your fellow classmates. Informed discussion is an important instructional method in this class and you are expected to have completed the course readings by the first class meetings of the week to be fully prepared for both lecture and discussions. Your participation grade will include your active engagement in class discussions, constructive peer feedback on Student Presentations, preparation of any discussion questions, and active engagement in all in-class exercises and field trips.

Essay Writing
You will write one essay in this course, and the topic will be arranged by consultation with the instructor within the first three weeks. You should finish the final essay by the due date. A finished essay should be 10-15 pages long, double spaced. It is expected to have an introduction with a strong thesis statement, a clear organizational structure with crisp topic sentences, a lucid conclusion, and proper source citations.

Midterm
A closed-book midterm exam will be held in class. It may include short answers and essay questions, and your answer will be graded with the CIEE Grade Scale.

Academic integrity
You may only submit your own work for credit, and must use social science or historical citation methods when utilizing the research, data, language or ideas of others. Failure to cite the work of others is considered plagiarism and will result in failure of the assignment and may result in the failure of the course.

Late assignments
Late work will lose three points per weekday (M-F) late unless the student has an excused absence or prior arrangements have been made for an extension. Extensions are given strictly at the instructor’s discretion.

Classroom decorum
Students are expected to treat one another and the instructor courteously, listen attentively, and maintain a respectful attitude even toward views with which they disagree. Please turn off the ringer on your cell phones. No texting or email is permitted during class.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 . The First Contact
Cohen, America’s Response to China, prologue

Week 2 The Unequal Treaty System
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 1

Week 3 The Emergence of a Republican China
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 2

Writing assignment

Week 4 Cultural Exchanges and the Racial Problems
Chinese Exclusion Act

Week 5  Labor Day

Week 6  The US and Sino-Japanese Conflicts
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chaps. 3 & 4

Week 7  The Pacific War
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 5
Documentary; Why we fight

Field trip: Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall

Week 8  The US and Chinese Civil War
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 6
John Leighton Stuart, Fifty Years in China.

Introduction to Buddhism and the Silk Road

Week 9  Silk Road

Week 10  Midterm
Americans in Chinese Revolution
Documentary: China Hands: Li Dunbai

Week 11  Mao’s China in the Cold War
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 7

Week 12  The Road to Normalization
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 8

Week 13  The US and a Re-opened China (Human rights, Taiwan, Tibet)
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 9

Week 14  Presentations: Collaborations and Conflicts
Cohen, America’s Response to China, chap. 10

Final essay due
Readings


• Peter Hessler (何伟) *Oracle Bones*.


• Liliane Willens. *Stateless in Shanghai*.


• Osons, Evan (欧逸文) *Age of Ambition*.

• Pomfret, John (潘文), *Chinese Lessons*.


• Rob Schmitz, *Street of Eternal Happiness*.


• Wu, Ningkun, *A Single Tear*. 
• **Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2016**  
  China (includes Tibet, Hong Kong, and Macau)

• Progress in China's Human Rights in 2016

• Human Rights Record of the United States in 2016

More to be announced

**Course Instructor**

刘握宇 Woyu Liu obtained his PhD in Modern East Asian History from the University of Iowa in 2012. He has taught at both public and private universities and colleges in the United States, and currently is an Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese History at Nanjing University. He is also teaching Contemporary Chinese History at Johns Hopkins-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies. His research interests are the socialist agrarian reforms and individual-state relationship in modern China.