China in World Politics

This course begins with China's extraordinary economic rise and its need to import oil. China's rise toward becoming the world's largest economy changes the world balance of power. It changes how Chinese ruling groups experience their international interests. It compels other governments to re-think their policies toward China. This course tries to comprehend these large changes in China and throughout the world. Based on diverse international relations perspectives, the course focuses on the possible futures informed by China's continuing rise as a world power with global interests which compel governments in all regions of the world to grapple with how to deal with an economic superpower China.

Required Books:
Chellaney, Asian Juggernaut.
Nathan and Sobell, China's Search for Security
Shambaugh, China Goes Global
Suettinger, Beyond Tienanmen
Zheng Wang, Never Forget National Humiliation

Assignments:
There is a 6 week exam and an 11 week exam and a final exam. All exams are open book and consist of both essay and short answer questions. The essay questions will be distributed in advance of the exam day. The essay questions for the final exam appear at the end of the syllabus.

Course Outline:

I (3 weeks)

Suettinger, chs. 1-5
Nathan, chs. 1, 2, 10 and pp. 170-182
Chellaney, ch. 3
Shambaugh, chs. 1, 5 and pp. 105-108.

II (2 1/2 weeks)
A New National Identity and New National Purposes (and Taiwan)
Zheng Wang, all
Nathan, pp. 182-191 and chs. 8-9.
Suettinger, ch. 6 and pp. 380-385
Shambaugh, chs. 2, 3 and 6

Six week exam

III (2 weeks)
Asia: East (Japan, Korea), Southeast (ASEAN), and South (India, Pakistan et al.)

Chellany, chs. 1, 2, 4 and 5.
Nathan, chs. 5-6
Shambaugh, pp. 95-105

IV Russia and Central Asia (1 week)

Nathan, ch. 3
Shambaugh, pp. 78-86

V Africa, Latin America, and Europe (1 1/2 weeks)

Shambaugh, pp. 86-94 and 108-120

11 week exam

VI Toward the Future (4 weeks)

Suettinger, chs. 7-10 and Epilogue
Nathan, chs. 4, 11, 12, and 13
Shambaugh, pp. 73-78 and chs. 4, 7, and 8
Contemporaneous E-articles forwarded to the class list by the instructor

Final Exam: Essay Questions

I (30 minutes)
Create a debate between two members of India’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One argues that in order for India to grow its economy, avoid war with China and help lead the community of less developed countries, India should bandwagon with China. The other argues that for India to avoid being dominated
by China and subordinated to China, thereby costing India its independence and its dignity, India must balance against China.

II (30 minutes)
Create a debate between two members of the European Parliament. One argues that since China will never become a hegemon or a threat to any vital European values, goals or interests, Europe should end its embargo on weapons sales to China and end limits on high technology sales to China. The other member finds that, because a world power China has made itself an adversary of Europe by threatening to roll back democracy and human rights and to undermine European economies, Europe has to cooperate with other governments which experience themselves as threatened by an authoritarian and assertive China with global ambitions.

III (30 Minutes)
Create a debate in which one side argues that Chinese actions which make its neighbors anxious are the result of politics in China and therefore are mutable, while the other side contends that the anxieties of China's neighbors are the inevitable structural consequence of the rise of a near-by superpower.

IV (Short Answers)
(30 minutes)
Respond to 10 of the following 18 with one compact paragraph of no more than 3 sentences in each of the 10 responses.