3-Credit Courses

Silk Road: A History of Cultural and Material Exchanges

Credit and Hours: 3 PKU credits, 48 credit hours

This course introduces the history of the Silk Road — a complex network of trade routes that connected China and Rome over land and sea — and examines the cultural and material exchanges between the peoples and cultures it connected. The
course covers the period 500 BCE to 1500 CE, during which forces wielded by many peoples (e.g., Chinese, Greeks, Persians, Arabs, Turks, and Mongolians) shaped the geopolitical landscape of Asia. It explores the roles played by the Silk Road in forming and transforming the cultural, ethnic, and religious identities of these peoples and their perceptions of one another. It highlights such themes as conspicuous consumption, cultural diversity, religious pluralism, and nomadic migration, as well as the financial, judicial, religious, and social institutions that were the fruits of these extended exchanges. The course begins and ends with an analysis of conceptualizations of the “Silk Road” against the backdrop of the “Great Game” that played out in the late 19th and early 20th centuries among various colonial powers as well as its legacy to this day.

Teacher: Dr. Yang LU

Dr. Yang LU is the Senior Research Fellow of Center for Research on Ancient Chinese History in the Department of History, Peking University. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1999. He was the Instructor in 1996-1999 and Assistant Professor in 1999-2006 in the Department of East Asian Studies, Princeton University. From 2006-2007, he was the Instructor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University. From 2007-2011, he was the Assistant Professor in the Department of History, University of Kansas.

Flower in the Mirror: the Chinese Values

Credit and Hours: 3 PKU credits, 48 credit hours

The present course helps investigate the realm of values in which a Chinese approaches his family, love life, friends, education, career, and serious issues like nature, space, time, and inevitably, life and death. Texts cover a wide range of sources including classical and contemporary literature, social wisdoms and folklores, ancient philosophies and latest twitter discussions. In passing, there will also be substantial discussions on how a Chinese waves his lances of values and gropes for his identity in the postmodern maelstrom of information, globalization and political economy. It thus aims at a comprehensive understanding of Chinese values in the comparative light of tradition and individuality and of the Chinese in the eyes of other peoples and cultures and vice versa.

Teacher: Dr. Jinpeng HAN

Dr. Jinpeng HAN is the lecturer in School of Foreign Language at Peking University. He received his B.A. from Hebei Normal University in 1996, M.A. and Ph.D. from Peking University in 1999 and 2011 respectively. He was the visiting scholar to University of Melbourne, Australia in 2003-2004, and Research Fellow at Ouachita
Baptist University in USA in 2007-2008. His research interest and fields of specialties are Modern British and American Poetry, Modern European Poetry and Philosophy, Modern Chinese Poetry and Translation, Psycho-analysis and Social Theory, Simultaneous Interpretation and Phonetics.

2-Credit Courses

Philosophy, History & Culture

Comparative Philosophy: China and the West
Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

With the rise of China over the past generation we have witnessed a sea change in the economic and political order of the world. The G8 has become the G20 and GDP in the region has grown by 400%. What are the implications of this dramatic sea change for the world cultural order? Will Chinese culture make a difference over the next generation, and if so, what does it have on offer? Economic and political change is relatively easy to track, but how do we assess cultural change? How do we make responsible cultural comparisons between China and contemporary Western liberal assumptions? We will begin by reading Plato’s Euthyphro and Phaedo in order to register basic assumptions that ground the Western philosophical narrative. We will then read the Analects of Confucius, Focusing the Familiar (Zhongyong), the Chinese Classic of Family Reverence (Xiaojing), the Daodejing, and excerpts from the Zhuangzi to explore the process cosmology that serves as an interpretive context for early Chinese philosophical texts.

Teacher: Prof. Roger T. Ames

Dr. Roger T. Ames is the Professor of Department of Philosophy, University of Hawaii. He received his doctorate from the University of London and has spent many years abroad in China and Japan studying Chinese philosophy. He has been Visiting Professor at Peking University, as well as at Chinese University of Hong Kong and Taiwan University, and a fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and has lectured extensively at various universities around the world. Professor Ames has authored, edited, and translated some 30 books, and has written numerous book chapters and articles in professional journals. Currently he continues to work on interpretive studies and explicitly "philosophical" translations of the core classical texts, taking full advantage in his research of the exciting new archaeological finds.
Chinese History and Culture in a Global Context

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

This course is designed to help students understand China’s significant historical events, as well as Chinese myths, legends, and influential philosophies, ancient Chinese inventions, its traditional education system, social rituals and family structure, the changing female role in modern society, China’s political structure and foreign policy, China’s interaction with the West, nationalism, and the other topics. All analyses and discussions will be put into a global context. This course offers different perspectives on Chinese history and culture. Through lectures, presentations, videos, discussions, and other activities, students will be able to have a better understanding of China, especially how the Chinese think and behave, how to get along with them, and how to do business with them. Students are required to follow closely on a daily basis what is happening in today’s China and put forward their views in relation to what they have learned in class.

Teacher: Dr. Yanli GAO

Dr. Yanli GAO, is the Associate Professor at Peking University. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Peking University in 1990 and 2000 respectively, and Ph.D. from Peking University in 2010. She has been the visiting scholar at the Center for Chinese Studies, University of Hawaii-Manoa and the East-West Center. She was the Freeman Fellow at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2005-2006, and the fellow in American Studies and Asian Studies at the Salzburg Seminar in 2002 and 2003. Her research interests include Sino-US relations, modern Chinese history and culture, Chinese myths, women and marriage.

Chinese Traditional Identity and Its Transformation After 1949

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

Who is Chinese? How did Chinese people think about themselves? How did this identity change throughout the Revolution? This course will lead you explore several key phenomenon of the identity transformation in 20th century China. The first target of this introductory course is to help students to understand the basic structure of Chinese traditional identity from a perspective of sociology. Based on this understanding, this course will further the topic into the transformation of Chinese traditional identity after 1949, especially during the Land Revolution and today’s Reform and Open policy period. Required readings include both Chinese classical texts and modern sociological/anthropological works. A study tour of The Military Museum of the Chinese People’s Revolution and several movies will be arranged for students understanding of this transformation.
Teacher: Dr. Feiyu SUN

Dr. Feiyu SUN is the Assistant Professor of Sociology Department at Peking University. He received his B.A. and M.A. from Peking University in 2002 and 2004 respectively, and his Ph.D. from York University in Canada in 2010. His research interests and fields of specialties are Phenomenological Hermeneutics, Modern Social Philosophy, Classical Psychoanalysis, China’s modernity in terms of Revolution and Culture.

Literature

Classical Chinese Poetry

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

As a time-honored genre, poetry enjoyed an unrivalled status in classical Chinese literature. This course offers a survey of classical Chinese poetry by studying its evolution from about the 11th century B.C to the 12th century AD, when poetry had almost passed the zenith of its development. We shall study its two major forms — Shi poetry & Ci poetry (song lyrics) — and examine their various modes by focusing on the most representative works in history, particularly by ten major poets, with due attention to their distinctive life experience and the cultural context of each poem. By the end of the term, students will be enabled to cultivate their capacity for independent appreciation and to catch a glimpse of the breadth, depth and wealth of classical Chinese poetry.

Teacher: Dr. Shenyou MEI

Dr. Shenyou MEI is the Assistant Professor in the English Department of Peking University. He received his B.A. of Scientific English from the University of Electronic Science in 2001, his M.A. of English and American Literature from Beijing Foreign Studies University in 2004. From 2011-2012, he was the visiting scholar at the University of Iowa. His main research interest is the art of poetry and its translation. He is the author of several influential journal papers, chapters, and edited books. He also translated a wide range of English poems written by Czeslaw Milosz, Wislawa Szymborska, W. H. Auden and Fernado Pessoa.

Literature, Arts and Society in New China

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours
This course helps students not only to appreciate literary, visual and cultural expressions and representations of New China beginning from 1949, but also to better understand fundamental changes in the new society that is taking shape. Topics will be illustrated from a comparative perspective from the Old China to the New China and new culture. Students will browse text materials including prose essays, fiction, script, poetry, expository and journalistic writings in English. In addition, there will be some classical movie screenings in and outside class (documentaries, opera and drama films, etc).

Teacher: Dr. Hongsheng JIANG

Dr. Hongsheng JIANG is the Assistant Professor in the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Peking University. He received his B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature from Beijing Normal University in 1994, M.A. in Contemporary Literature from Peking University in 1997 and Ph.D. in Literature from Duke University in 2010. His research interests covers a wide range of comparative literature and theories, such as the Confucian Moral Education, Literary Self-awareness and National Ethos, Jacques Rancière’s Thinking of the Regimes of Art and Contemporary Political Art, Foucault’s Archaeology of Knowledge and Its Discontents, etc.

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**Chinese Economy**

**Topics on Chinese Economy**

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

China’s fast economic growth has generated great interest among media, scholars and ordinary people around the world. The aim of this course is to provide students with an overview of the Chinese economy and the detailed understanding of China’s economic transition. The topics covered include an introduction of the Chinese economic history, its market oriented transitional process and its implications on economic growth, the urban-rural divide and the reforms of the two sectors, population policy and the related labor market issues, poverty and inequality, fiscal and financial reforms, international trade and foreign investment, etc. Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be familiar with China’s economic system, its current economic reforms, and the challenges that the country faces in the twenty-first century.

Teacher: Dr. Xi JI (1st and 2nd weeks), Dr. Xuezheng QIN (3rd and 4th weeks)
Dr. Xi JI Dr. is the Assistant Professor of the School of Economics at Peking University, and the Researcher of Center for Human and Economic Development Studies in the School of Economics, Peking University. She is the Article reviewer for Energy Policy, Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulation. She received her B.A. at Huazhong University of Science and Technology in 2003, her M.A. and Ph.D. at Peking University in 2005 and 2008 respectively. Her primary research areas are Population, Resources and Environmental Economics, Energy and Low -Carbon Economy, Urban Economics, Urbanization and Migration.

Dr. Xuezheng QIN is the Assistant Professor of the School of Economics at Peking University. He received his B.A. in Economics at Peking University in 2002, his M.A. and Ph.D. at State University of New York at Buffalo in 2005 and 2009 respectively. He was the Research Assistant of New York State Center of Excellence on Human Capital and Economic Development in 2006-2009, and in 2007 he was the Adjunct Lecturer of State University of New York at Buffalo. He has been the Research Associate of Health Economics and Management Institute, Peking University since 2009. His primary research interests include Health Economics, Labor Economics and Applied Econometrics.

International Human Resource Management: West, East, and the Emerging Markets

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

The course introduces students to the nature of developing and managing human resources in international, multinational, global, and transnational firms. It provides students with an in-depth understanding of the basic problems inherent in IHRM as well as a sound basis to further explore the international dimensions for future business and career aspirations. The principle focus is the development of global leaders through cross-cultural awareness, interactive learning, comparative research experience, and analysis of the expatriation and repatriation processes. Country-firm specific cases will be incorporated in the multinational context with special attention to comparative human resource management practices, challenges, and the role of HR in global strategic decisions involving diverse countries and regions such as China, India, Europe, and the United States.

Teacher: Dr. Nini Yang

Dr. Nini Yang is the tenured Professor of International Business at San Francisco State University and has also taught as a guest professor in Europe, Africa, and China. She holds a Ph.D. in Management and an M.A. in American Studies from State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNY–Buffalo). She is a U.S. Fulbright Scholar to
South Africa (2001), an Oxford University Resident (U.K., 2004), and a Governor’s Teaching Fellow (since 1999) for superior teaching effectiveness by the Honorable Zell Miller, former Governor of Georgia. Her main areas of teaching include comparative management, international human resource management, global strategic management, international business and multicultural relations. She has recently served on-site as the Resident Director for California State University International Programs at Peking University, Beijing, China (2012-2013).

**Politics & Public Policy**

**China’s Constitution and Political System**

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

This course is intended for undergraduate students to understand basic components of China’s constitution and political system. It combines theoretical analysis with factual introduction, with the aim of enabling students to be quickly familiar with constitutional issues in China. Two theoretical questions will be asked throughout the course: 1. What is the relationship between law and political regime in China? 2. How do we understand the gap between law on paper and rule in reality in China? Guided by these two central questions, this course roughly breaks into three sections: 1. How do we read China’s Constitution; 2. Constitutional law and political regime; 3. Constitution and political reform. Under each section, a few sub-topics are to be specified.

Teacher: Dr. Demin DUAN

Dr. Demin DUAN is the Lecturer in the School of Government, Peking University. He received his Bachelor in Law from Jinlin University in 2003, his M.A. in Law from Peking University in 2006, and his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, in the year of 2011. His research fields include western political philosophy, Alexis de Tocqueville’s political thought, contemporary continental political philosophy (especially French political philosophy), contemporary western theories of democracy, and political problems in modern China.
This is an introductory course of the local government and politics in China, covers the central-local relationships, local people’s congress, local government and business, labor and peasants, and how the local state promotes or constraints economic development and social change of China after 1949. Topics will include: central-local relationship, local government and economic development, bureaucracy and policy implementation, as well as the local government and NGOs. Lectures will be supplemented by videos and class discussion.

Teacher: Dr. Changdong ZHANG

Dr. Changdong ZHANG is the Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, Peking University. He received his B.A. of Economics from Beijing Technology and Business University in 2000, his M.A. of Political Science from Peking University in 2004 and from Washington University in 2008. In 2010, he received his Ph.D. from University of Washington, USA.

Transition and Public Policy in China
Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

This is an introductory course about China’s public policy in the process of economic, administrative and social transition. We will provide major facts and alternative explanations for various policy problems and corresponding public policies during this transition. Major topics covered in the course include: public policy in the centrally planned economy, rural and agriculture policy, state-owned enterprise reform and privatization in China, financial policy, market liberalization and administrative reform of central and local government, etc.

Teacher: Dr. Yongjun LI

Dr. Yongjun LI is the Associate Professor in the School of Government, Peking University. He received his Bachelor in Mathematics from Jilin University in 1990, his M.A. in Economics from Liaoning University in 1995 and his Ph.D. in Economics from Peking University in 2002. He then joined the faculty of School of Government. From 2001 to 2006, he co-authored with Justin Yifu Lin on a series of Chinese policy studies including poverty reduction, comparative advantage, FDI and export in China, China’s stock market, and SMEs. His research interest is in economic growth and development.

Social Issues and Policy Responses in Contemporary China
Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours
This course is an empirical evidence based course. It will provide an overview of the contemporary discussions on issues related to poverty, education, health care services, and social welfare in China. It will also introduce students the policy responses toward these issues, as well as basics on social research methods and policy analysis theories. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to understand the role of public policy and its implementation in producing, maintaining and alleviating social problems in China. Furthermore, students will obtain a solid understanding of some fundamental theoretical and methodological frameworks.

Teacher: Dr. Xiang GAO

Dr. Gao is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology at Peking University. She received her PhD from the School of Social Work at the University of Washington in 2009, and her M.A. and B.A. from Peking University in 2002. She also holds a Certificate for Statistics Concentration Track from the Center for Statistics and Social Sciences at the University of Washington. She has instructed Master and Doctoral level students at Peking University on social policy assessment. She has also instructed on advanced social welfare research and evaluation, as well as statistics, at the University of Washington.

Chinese Politics and Society

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

This course offers a general introduction to the politics of People’s Republic of China with a focus on the Reform Era. The primary objective is to provide a working knowledge for understanding political events in contemporary China. There are no prerequisites for the course. It is divided into three parts. The first part offers a historical background, the second discusses the evolution of political institutions, and the third reviews the changing relations between ordinary people and the Chinese state.

Teacher: Prof. Xi CHEN

Dr. Xi CHEN is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his B.A. from East China University of Politics and Law, and an M.Phil. from Peking University before going on to earn an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University. He then worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University for a year, and taught at Louisiana State University from 2006 to 2009. His research interests include social movements, democratization, and state-society relations in the context of authoritarianism. He teaches Comparative Politics, Contentious Politics, and Chinese Politics. He is the author of Social Protest
and Contentious Authoritarianism in China (Cambridge, 2012). He has also contributed articles to, among others, Comparative Politics and the China Quarterly.

**China & The World**

**Major Issues Concerning the Rise of China**

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

The rise of China is one of the most important and defining themes in contemporary international relations. This seminar course is intended for advanced undergraduate students to examine major issues and topics concerning the rise of China from a broad theoretical perspective, and to engage in the academic discourse and policy debate about implications of China’s rise for world politics. The seminar is organized around the central question – will China’s rise bring about a fundamental change to the international system? – and roughly divided into three sections: 1. China’s rise and the “paradigm change” in world politics; 2. China’s quest for identity and order; and 3. implications of China rising for Asia and the world. Under each of these sections, a few specific topics are identified for class discussion.

Teacher: Dr. Xin XU

Dr. Xin XU is the Director of the China and Asia-Pacific Studies Program (CAPS) and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Government at Cornell University. He received his B.A. and M.A. in International Relations from Peking University and his Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University. He has been Associate Professor of International Relations in the Department of International Politics at Peking University, Associate Professor of Asia Pacific Studies and Asia-Pacific Studies Academic Field Leader (Sustainable Development & International Governance) at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan, a Visiting Research Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs, an International Fellow at the Charles F. Kettering Foundation in the United States, a Postdoctoral Fellow on National Security in the John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University, and a Visiting Research Fellow and Acting Director of the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program at Princeton University. His current areas of interest include China’s grand strategy, the Taiwan issue, East Asian security politics, and Asian regionalism/multilateralism.

**The China Factor--- Managing China’s Global Challenges**

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours
The rise of China over the last two decades is one of the most significant events that shape global market competition, trade and economic development, and geopolitics. Its implications on worldly issues from global and regional peace and security to the sustainability of the environment are profound. The China factor is an amalgamation of dynamic, complex and interactive forces that appear as problems, puzzles or challenges to different people at different times. This course aims to provide an orientation for students to understand those forces, especially those related to the major stakeholders and their evolving relationships, policies and game rules, and collective behaviors. The orientation is grounded in both Chinese historical and cultural legacies and the contexts of China’s state building, modernization and globalization. The course covers a wide array of topics in primarily three areas: international relations, investment and trade, and market competition.

Teacher: Dr. Wei LIANG

Dr. Wei LIANG is the Associate Professor at Monterey Institute of International Studies. She received her B.A. from Peking University in 1995, M.A. and Ph.D. from University of Southern California in 1998 and 2003 respectively. She served as the Assistant Professor in Florida International University from 2004 to 2006, and Adjunct Professor in Department of Political Science, San Francisco State University in 2007. She teaches Comparative Political Economy, Global Economic and Environmental Governance, International Relations of East Asia, International Trade Negotiation Simulation, Modern China, The China Factor to undergraduate and graduate students both in US and in China.

China’s Reform and Global Economy

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

The central theme of this course is China’s role in world economy. Revolving around that, there are three layers of objectives of this course. Firstly, it aims to help international students to understand the global economic structure, institutions and mechanisms where the Chinese economy is sitting; Secondly, it aims to help them to understand Chinese economic reform; Thirdly, emphasis of this course is the interaction between China and the rest of world in the economic front. Specifically, the course will cover some major issues of Chinese economy, such as urban-rural divide, SOE reform, financing issues, sustainable development, economic growth mode etc., the roadmap of China’s reform and opening-up, China’s interaction with the outside world in terms of trade, finance, investment, energy, and participation in international economic institutions, and the implications of Chinese economic reform on the global economy. Upon completing this course, students are expected to get familiar with China model, China’s economic interaction with the outside
world, challenges the Chinese economy is facing, as well as the world economic system.

Teacher: Dr. Shaofeng CHEN

Dr. Shaofeng CHEN is the Associate Professor of School of International Studies at Peking University. He received his M.A. from Renmin University of China in 2001, and Ph.D. from National University of Singapore (NUS) in 2008. She served as Research Official and Visiting Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, NUS from 2007 to 2009, and lecturer of School of International Studies at PKU from 2009 to 2011. Dr. Chen has been engaged in some consultation projects from China’s National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, etc. His research areas include China’s economy development, energy policy and their implications to the world.

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**Health & Exercise**

**Chinese Traditional Body Exercise, Diet and Health Maintenance**

Credit and Hours: 2 PKU credits, 32 credit hours

It is said there are three things interest westerners about china: food, health preservation, and finance. Those students who enroll in the course of Chinese Traditional Body Exercise, Diet and Health preservation will have chance to experience two of the three hot topics and know how the ancient Chinese people maintain their health via simple but effective body exercise and balance diet. The course will not only introduce and practice the most popular body exercises, such as Taiji, Baduanjin, Wuqinxi, but also the most mystery one, which is frequently appeared in the most popular martial arts novels, such as Yijingjing and Qigong. All the exercises will be demonstrated by the teaching assistants who are experts in that filed. The course will also apply the foundations of Traditional Chinese Medicine, such as basic conceptions, theories, and principles of Health preservation in TCM and reveal Chinese diet, which sometime play important roles as medicine and why. As one of the complementary common methods of health preservation, the acupuncture, moxibustion, and massage will be introduced as well. The course designer wish finally western undergraduates understand the associations between exercise, diet and health in very Chinese health preservation’s way.

Teacher: Fuquan LU
Dr. Fuquan LU is the Associate Professor in the Department of Physical education and Sports science. He received his B.S. and M.E. from Shanghai Institute of Physical Education in 1998 and 2001 respectively, and Ph.D. from Peking University. He served as the Visiting Professor in Institute of Sports Science and Sports Medicine Center, Humboldt University in 2012. He is also the Associate Director of Kinesiology laboratory of Peking University. His primary research areas are in charge of pregnancy outcome, physical activity, health care and physical therapy. He received several important founds including the President Found for his research of Diet patterns and their associations with adverse maternal and infant outcomes in 2009 and National social science Found from 2011-2014.