Welcome to this research seminar on China’s Rise! The China model has emphasized economic development, GDP growth of at least 8% a year, and a strong state hand that defies traditional understandings of how capitalism works. This course examines how the China model works, along with competing tensions within the model, regarding environmental harm, rising inequality, and providing requisite social services that go hand in hand with development.

An equally important aim in this seminar is to provide the conceptual and organizational tools necessary for students to appreciate good research and to begin practicing the craft themselves.

By the end of the course, you will be able to:
1. Explain why China is called a “fragile superpower.”
2. Explain the evolution of the China model.
3. Assess whether China’s path towards sustainable development is still open.
4. Understand the policymaking process in China.
5. Describe the components that comprise good research and incorporate those components into one’s own research.

Please complete the assigned readings before class. Ask questions! Remember, there are no stupid questions. I often find that after getting a “stupid” question answered, difficult concepts will more easily clink into place. Please visit me during office hours regarding any problems about the class, the readings, or the assignments. If you are unable to make
these office hours, please email or call me to arrange another time.

Be sure to understand St. Lawrence’s Constitution of the Academic Honor Council. All suspected violations of the academic honor code will be reported to the Academic Honor Council.

**Readings**

- Please acquire the following at Brewers Bookstore:

- **Current Events.** Suggested sources:
  - feed://www.chinastudygroup.net/rss/news.xml This website culls news about China from major news sources from around the world (e.g. The New York Times, The Guardian, Asia Times) as well as translations of important articles in major Chinese newspapers.
  - [Yahoo News Asia](#)
  - [China Digital Times](#)
  - [People’s Daily (English)](#) The official paper of the Chinese Communist Party.
  - [The Economist on China](#) Go to slu library website to obtain article for free.
  - [New York Times on China](#) Same as above.
  - [South China Morning Post](#) Based in Hong Kong.

**Requirements and Grades**

**Content Component** (45%)
- 3-page essay (9%), due 9/11.
- 5-page essay (15%), due 10/2.
- 7-page essay (21%), due 11/20.

**Research Component** (45%)
- Short In-Class Responses to Craft of Research Readings and Exercises (5%)
  - Response writing to the *Craft of Research* will be graded as √+ (4.0), √ (2.75), √− (1.5).
- Research design
  - Annotated bibliography (7.5%)
  - Research proposal (7.5%)
- Research Presentation and discussant work (5%)
Final Research Paper (20%) 15 to 20 pages

Class Participation (10%): Please participate actively, intelligently, often, and positively in this class. In addition, please share at least 3 current events.

Attendance Policy: You are allowed two absences. After the second absence, your class participation grade will drop by 10 points for each class you miss. For example, if you have an 88 for a participation grade and THREE absences, your participation grade drops to a 78.

Late Policy: Punctuality is important in this class. Tardiness to class will be marked as ½ absent, and late assignments will have 3 points deducted from the overall grade per day.

Final Grade Structure

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<td>≥80</td>
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<tr>
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CLASS SCHEDULE

W. 8/26: The China Model and Environmental Sustainability
Introduction to the Craft of Research

Begin “Under the Dome” by Chai Jing, February 2015. Air & Coal

WEEK 1

CHINA AS FRAGILE SUPERPOWER
M. 8/31: Fragile Superpower & Economic Miracle
Shirk, Chapters 1 & 2

Thinking in Print & Connecting with Your Reader
The Craft of Research, Chapters 1 & 2
W. 9/2:  
*Domestic Threats*  
Shirk, Chapter 3

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**WEEK 2**

M. 9/7:  
*The Echo Chamber of Nationalism: Media and the Internet*  
Shirk, Chapter 4  
SAKAI: List of words and phrases censored.  
*From Topics to Questions to a Problem*  
The *Craft of Research*, Chapters 3, 4

W. 9/9:  
*The Responsible Power*  
Shirk, Chapter 5

F. 9/11:  
3-page paper due; hardcopy in my mailbox, Hepburn 102.  
Recall that Shirk describes China as having a Jekyll and a Hyde persona (11). Based on the Shirk readings, elaborate upon three problems that need to be resolved in order for China to reduce its “Hyde” persona and become a genuinely responsible power. Do you think China will ultimately overcome these problems?

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**WEEK 3**

**WHAT KIND OF ECONOMIC SYSTEM DOES CHINA REALLY HAVE?**

M. 9/14:  
*Just How Capitalist is China?*  
Huang, Chapter 1  
Pgs. ix–xii, 1–7; 10–13, study closely Tables 1.1 (p. 15) and 1.2 (pg. 21) (read surrounding text to understand tables); 24–41.  
*From Problems to Sources*  
The *Craft of Research*, Chapters 5

W. 9/16:  
*The Entrepreneurial Decade*  
Huang, Chapter 2.  
  o Pgs. 50–62; 73–87; 94–100; 102–105.

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**WEEK 4**

M. 9/21:  
*A Great Reversal*  
Huang, Chapter 3  
*Engaging Sources*  
The *Craft of Research*, Chapter 6
W. 9/23:  What is Wrong with Shanghai?

- Politburo exercise.
  - Huang, Chapter 4
    - 175–185; 207–231.

WEEK 5

M. 9/28:  Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics

- Huang, Chapter 5.
  - 233–252; 260–298.

- Discuss Annotated Bibliography

W. 9/30:  From Most Polluted City to Cultural Center: The Case of Datong.

  - Success or Failure?


F. 10/2:  5-page paper due 4 pm; hardcopy in my mailbox, Hepburn 102.

- Given the weakness of the rule of law in China, how does Huang demonstrate that successful economic development occurred in the 1980s under Deng Xiaoping’s watch? (Elaborate on two or three examples).
- How did Jiang Zemin change the approach in the 1990s? (Also, elaborate on two or three examples).
- Is the Mayor of Datong similar to Deng or Jiang and why? The Hu Jintao administration appears to be a hybrid of the Deng and Jiang administrations. Please describe this hybrid approach. Do you think Hu’s approach is viable for China’s long-term economic success?

WEEK 6

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

M. 10/5:  Legacies from the Chinese Past: Mao Zedong and the Environment


W. 10/7:  The Big Picture

- Shapiro, Chapter 1

Making Good Arguments: Overview & Main Claim (Thesis)
- The Craft of Research, Chapters 7, 8.

WEEK 7

M. 10/12:  Environmental Challenges and the View from Above

- Shapiro, Chapters 2, 3.
RESEARCH SEMINAR: CHINA’S RISE

Reasons, Evidence, Acknowledgments, & Responses
Chapters 9 & 10

W. 10/14: Sustainable Development and National Identity
Shapiro, Chapter 4

MIDTERM BREAK (10/15–10/18)

WEEK 8

M. 10/19: Public Participation and Civil Society
Shapiro, Chapter 5

Research Design

◆ Discuss Research Proposal ◆

W. 10/21: No class. A quirk in the fall schedule is that the MW timeslot has one extra scheduled class. Please spend the extra time on your annotated bibliography, which is due later today.
◆ Annotated Bibliography ◆ Due 4 pm in my mailbox, H102.

WEEK 9

M. 10/26: No class.
Individual meetings to go over research question & annotated bibliography.

W. 10/28: No class.
Individual meetings.

WEEK 10

M. 11/2: Environmental Justice, Displacement of Environmental Harm, and Prospects for the Future
Shapiro, Chapters 6, 7

Planning & Drafting Your Report
The Craft of Research, Chapters 12, 13


F. 11/6: ◆ Research Proposals ◆ Due 4 pm in my mailbox, H102.

WEEK 11

M. 11/9: Case Study #1: The Failure at Pubugou
Mertha, Chapter 3.

*Revising Your Organization & Argument*

*The Craft of Research, Chapter 14*

**W. 11/13:**  *Case Study #2: The Success of Dujiangyan*

Mertha, Chapter 4

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**WEEK 12**

**M. 11/16:**  *Case Study #3: The Protracted Struggle in the Nu River Project*

Mertha, Chapter 5

*Introductions, Conclusions, & Telling Your Story Clearly*

*The Craft of Research, Chapter 16, 17*

**W. 11/18:**  *Analyzing the Three Cases: A Gentler “Fragmented Authoritarianism”?*

Mertha, Chapter 6, also read Preface to Paperback Edition, which updates the three cases.

**F. 11/20:**  7-page paper due 4 pm; hardcopy in my mailbox, Hepburn 102. Essay topic TBD.

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**THANKSGIVING BREAK 11/23–11/29**

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**WEEK 14**

**M. 11/30:**  *Conclusion*


*Guidelines for Research Presentations*

**W. 12/2:**  *Presentations*

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**WEEK 15**

**M. 12/7:**  *Presentations*

**W. 12/9:**  *Presentations*

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**WEEK 16**

**W. 12/16:**  *RESEARCH PAPERS* Hardcopy, due 4 pm in my mailbox H102.