

SOSC 4280: CHINA IN THE GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 09:00 – 10:20, LSK1033

Instructor	Teaching Assistant
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Course Description

This course examines China from the global political economy perspective. The central theme is to demonstrate how contemporary China shapes the dynamics of the world's political economy, and vice versa. The course introduces the key ideas and issues in the field of global political economy and discusses selected readings and case studies on the phenomenon of global China. By the end of the course, students will benefit with the knowledge, skills and attitude for analyzing China in the age of globalization.

Pre-requisites

To enroll in this course, students must have completed at least ONE of the following courses:

- HUMA 2590: The Making of the Modern World: Renaissance to the Present
- SOSC 1350: Contemporary China: Continuity and Change
- SOSC 2290: Understanding Globalization

Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be better equipped to:

1. Knowledge: (a) Discuss the key ideas and issues in the field of global political economy; and (b) explain the phenomenon of global China from the global political economy perspective.
2. Skills: Apply concepts and theories in analyzing the phenomenon of global China.
3. Attitude: Exercise independent and critical judgments on issues about China and the world.

Required Textbook (Reserved for 2 hours at HKUST Library)

(RT) Robert O'Brien & Marc Williams (2016) *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics* (5th edition), London/New York: Palgrave.

Useful References (Reserved for 24 hours at HKUST Library)

- John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (2014) *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations* (6th edition), Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- John Ravenhill (ed.) (2014) *Global Political Economy* (4th edition), Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Ronen Palan (2013) *Global Political Economy: Contemporary Theories* (2nd edition), London: Routledge. [Online]
- Alvin Y. So & Yin-wah Chu (2016) *The Global Rise of China*, Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.
- David Shambaugh (2013) *China Goes Global: The Partial Power*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- David Zweig (2002) *Internationalizing China: Domestic Interests and Global Linkages*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- David Zweig & Zhimin Chen (eds.) (2007) *China's Reforms and International Political Economy*, London: Routledge.
- Lee Ching Kwan (2017) *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Robert Taylor & Jacques Jaussaud (2018) *China's Global Political Economy: Managerial Perspectives*, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. [Online]
- Shaun Breslin (2013) *China and the Global Political Economy*, London: Palgrave Macmillan. [Online]

Course Schedule

Week/Date	Topic	Required Reading	
1	Sep 3	Course orientation	(RT), ch. 2
		The study of global political economy (GPE)	
	Sep 5	Theories of GPE (1) – Economic nationalism / realism	(RT), ch. 1 Baylis et al., ch. 6 & 8
2	Sep 10	Theories of GPE (2) – Liberalism	(RT), ch. 1 Baylis et al., ch. 7 & 8
	Sep 12	Theories of GPE (3) – Critical approaches	(RT), ch. 1 Baylis et al., ch. 9 & 10
3	Sep 17	International trade	(RT), ch. 6
	Sep 19	Transnational production	(RT), ch. 7
4	Sep 24	Global division of labor	(RT), ch. 9
	Sep 26	Seminar 1: “The specter of global China”	[See Canvas]
5	Oct 1	Public holiday – no class	--
	Oct 3	Seminar 2: Hong Kong and Chinese state capitalism	[See Canvas]
6	Oct 8	Case writing workshop Revision	[See Canvas]
	Oct 10	Quiz 1	--
7	Oct 15	Economic development	(RT), ch. 9
	Oct 17	Ideas and knowledge	(RT), ch. 13
8	Oct 22	Security	(RT), ch. 14
	Oct 24	Global environmental change	(RT), ch. 12
9	Oct 29	Case briefing: China-US Trade War	[See Canvas]
	Oct 31	Case session: China-US Trade War	--
10	Nov 5	Seminar 3: The Beijing Consensus	[See Canvas]
	Nov 7	Seminar 4: China’s resource competition and territorial disputes	So & Chu, ch. 8
11	Nov 12	Case writing consultations Revision	--
	Nov 14	Quiz 2	--
12	Nov 19	Seminar 5: Case presentations & discussions (1)	--
	Nov 21	Seminar 6: Case presentations & discussions (2)	--
13	Nov 26	Seminar 7: Case presentations & discussions (3)	--
	Nov 28	Individual paper workshop Consultations	[See Canvas]
	Dec 13	Submission of individual paper	--

Requirements and Grading

- **Case writing and presentation – group-based (15% + 10%)**
- **Quiz 1 & Quiz 2 (20% + 20%)**
- **Individual paper (35%)**
- **BONUS: Attendance and participation (up to 15%)**

Case writing and presentation

- The aim of this exercise is to help students develop their individual papers (see below).
- Each group will identify an issue concerning the phenomenon of global China and develop a detailed narrative of a real situation featuring relevant plots and characters (i.e., case).
- Each written case should be **no longer than 6 pages** (A4 size, single-spaced, font size 12), excluding endnotes and appendices.
- In late November, each group will deliver a presentation of their case in no more than 10 minutes, followed by class discussions. All groups must **submit their written cases 24 hours before their presentations**.
- All written cases and presentations are evaluated in terms of (i) content; (ii) structure; and (iii) style. For presentations, an addition criterion, (iv) responses to questions, also applies.
- A training workshop on case writing will be provided in October.

Quiz 1 & Quiz 2

- Both quizzes are unseen and closed-book, containing short questions only. The time allowed for each quiz is about 1 hour.
- Quiz 1 will be held on **October 10 (Thursday)**, covering all topics in Weeks 1 to 5 only.
- Quiz 2 will be held on **November 14 (Thursday)**, covering all topics in Weeks 7 to 10 only.
- **NO ‘make-up’ quizzes will be arranged except for medical/family emergencies or unavoidable duties.** Students must present appropriate evidence (in original copies) in order to request for a make-up quiz.

Individual paper

- Each student will write a paper to analyze and discuss, from the global political economy perspective, an issue concerning the phenomenon of global China.
- Students may develop their papers based on the cases presented by their own groups or any other groups. Alternatively, students may investigate a new issue in their papers.
- When using any cases for their papers, students must refrain from committing plagiarism (including self-plagiarism). For example, they should NOT ‘copy and paste’ any texts directly from the cases (including cases written by their own groups) to their papers without citations. **For confirmed cases of plagiarism, severe sanctions – including but not limited to a failure grade – may be imposed.**
- Each paper should be about **2,500 words**, excluding references and appendices.
- The deadline of submission is **23:59, December 13 (Friday)**. Marks will be deducted for late submission at 3% per day. Papers submitted 4 days after the deadline will NOT be graded.
- All papers will be assessed in terms of: (i) issue interpretation; (ii) quality of argument; (iii) quality of evidence; (iv) application of relevant concepts and theories; and (v) structure, clarity and language.

Bonus

- A maximum of 15% bonus will be awarded to students who make an effort to attend classes and contribute to class discussions.
- For the bonus, **5% is designated for active and quality participation in the case session (October 31).**

Case Teaching and Learning

This is one of the courses experimenting with the case pedagogy – a teaching and learning innovation project for social science, public policy and sustainability education at HKUST, led by the course instructor. For enquiries, please contact the project assistant, Miss Joanna Yu (tyyuac@connect.ust.hk).

Course Communications

All announcements are made through the course website on Canvas (<https://canvas.ust.hk/>). In addition to Canvas, students may communicate with the instructor and course assistants via e-mails. They should allow at least 3 working days for a reply. **All e-mail enquiries regarding any of the assessment items should be made at least 48 hours before their respective due dates.**

Class Rules

Students should avoid using mobile phones in class except for class activities. **Video/sound recording is NOT allowed.** If there is a genuine need for video/sound recording, students must seek permission from the instructor before the session begins.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating are very serious offences. Students are reminded of the consequences for violating University's regulations governing academic integrity and honesty. For details of the regulations, please visit: <http://ugadmin.ust.hk/integrity/student-1.html>. For advice on avoiding plagiarism and copying, please visit: <http://libguides.ust.hk/writing/style-man>.

Quality Assurance

Students are welcome to offer comments and suggestions on the course. The principal concern of this course is students' learning, and therefore, the instructor may modify the schedule if this will facilitate their learning.

Last revised: August 21, 2019