Course Title: Sino-American Relations

Course Objectives:

The course is designed to explore the interactions between China and the United States since the first Opium War. Beginning with a brief evaluation of Sino-US relations since the First Opium War, the course will examine how the two nations have interacted with each other at some historical junctures with a focus on the bilateral relations since 1949. The course will look into some important events during different historical periods and uncover their underlying causes.

With knowledge of the historical interactions, the course will closely study some prominent issues arising from China’s rise and the US corresponding reactions.

Course Requirements:

(1) Each student is strongly encouraged to participate in class discussions and make a vigorous presentation; the presentation topics will be assigned by your instructor in advance;

(2) Each student is also required to write two short essays on the topics assigned by your instructor; the essay should be typed in double space, use a 12-point font (preferably Times or Times Roman), and 3-5 pages in length. The main sources of citation must be academic journals, books and serious newspapers. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Late submission, poor grammar or spelling and improper citation style will be counted against your grade.

Grading:

1. Attendance and class participation, 10%
2. Presentation, 10%
3. Two Essay, 15% each, total 30%
4. Final exam, 50%

Required Books:


Robert Sutter, U.S.-Chinese Relations: Perilous Past, Pragmatic Present, Third


**Selected Books:**


**Course Schedule:**

**Class 1 general introduction**

No reading assigned, movie

**Class 2 Historical Evaluation since the First Opium War (I)**


Warren I. Cohen, chapter 1, 2, pp.8-59.

Robert G. Sutter, chapter 2, pp.15-38.

**Class 3 Historical Evaluation since the First Opium War (II)**


Warren I. Cohen, chapter 3, 4, 5, pp.60-147.

Robert G. Sutter, chapter 3, pp.39-64.


**Class 4 Field trip (Exact date TBD)**

*The Road of Rejuvenation*, National Museum of China

**Class 5 Sino-US relations in the 1950s: From War to Negotiation**


First essay due: How do you characterize Sino-US relations before the founding of the People’s Republic of China?

Class 6 Rapprochement and Diplomatic Normalization in 1970s
    Robert G. Sutter, chapter 4, pp.65-94.

Class 7 Taiwan Issue and Tiananmen Event in the 1980s
Warren I. Cohen, chapter 9, pp.232-263.

Class 8, Three “Ts” and Human Rights Issue in the 1990s
David Lampton, part I, pp.1-158.
Robert G. Sutter, chapter 5, pp.95-122; chapter 11, pp.243-266.

Second essay due: How the Three Ts had affected Sino-US relations in the 1990s?

Class 9, Anti-Terrorism Campaign in the 21th Century
Robert G. Sutter, chapter 6, 7, pp.123-168.

Class 10, Strategic Rivalry Looms Large Under Obama Administration
Jeffrey A. Bader, chapter 3-4, 6-8, 10-11, pp.18-39, pp.48-93, pp.104-129.
Aston Carter, “Remarks at US Naval Academy Commencement,” Annapolis, Maryland, May 27, 2016,
Class 11, Round Table Discussion: The Future of the Sino-US Relations

Samuel P. Huntington, “the Clash of Civilizations,” Foreign Affairs, Summer 1993, 72/3.

Class 12, In-class Examination