

Department of Economics

ECON 219 – Chinese Economy

Fall 2014

Class Schedule: TR 2:45-4:00 PM

Class Room: McGregor 226

Office Hours: Monday 10:15-11:15 AM

Tuesday 10:15-11:15 AM

Tuesday 4:15-5:15 PM or by appointment

Instructor: Zijun Luo

Email: zluo@colgate.edu

Office: Persson 215

Phone: 315-228-6240

Course Description and Objectives

This course aims to improve your understanding of China, the Chinese people, and especially the Chinese economy. As an instructor, I am hoping to achieve three major goals in this semester. First, to provide you the necessary knowledge, including history, culture, geography, and ideology, within which the Chinese economy was progressing. Second, to apply economics tools and models that can help making sense of government, firm, and individual decision-makings since the economic reform in 1978. Last, to look forward and study the future of the Chinese economy and to discuss how other under-developed nations can learn from China's experience. These three components are integrated into each topic covered in this course although some might be more important than the other in particular topics.

Global Engagements

This class is intended to fulfill the Global Engagements requirement of Colgate University. You will learn about events and lessons when Chinese people interact with the world, both historically and contemporarily. China plays a critical role in the global economy and provides an important missing link between developed and developing worlds. On the one hand, China learned from countries such as the U.S., Japan, and South Korea in its developmental policies. On the other hand, China acts as the role model (though direct copying is not possible) for developing nations in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Furthermore, China exhibits huge internal diversity in terms of language, culture, geographic setting, and economic development. Your first team presentation and its follow-up report will serve as the official GE assignments. Details are specified below.

Course Materials

Optional textbook:

- [N2007] Barry Naughton, “*The Chinese Economy – Transitions and Growth*,” The MIT Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780262640640. (This is an inexpensive textbook with a very complete treatment of the Chinese economy.)

Supplement books (these books are on library reserve and you can check them out for a maximum of 24 hour period.):

- [BR2008] Loren Brandt and Thomas G. Rawski (ed.), “*China’s Great Economic Transformation*,” Cambridge University Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780521712903. (This relatively expensive book is a collection of 20 articles written by experts of different areas covering the most important aspects of the Chinese economic reform since 1978. We will be using this book extensively and the library has an ebook subscription alongside the hardcopy of this book.)
- [C2007] Gregory C. Chow, “*China’s Economic Transformation*,” 2nd edition, Blackwell Publishing, 2007. ISBN: 9781405156240. (This textbook presents a more advanced treatment, with econometrics tools, of our intended topic, the Chinese economy.)
- [H2003] Yasheng Huang, “*Selling China*,” Cambridge University Press, 2003. ISBN: 9780521814287. (An older book by Huang on foreign direct investments in China.)
- [H2008] Yasheng Huang, “*Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics*,” Cambridge University Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780521898102. (An inexpensive book with lots of facts and data about the Chinese economic reform in the 1980s. The author went through thousands of reports and documents to collect those facts and data. A very readable book.)
- [LCWZZL2013] Ming Lu, Zhao Chen, Yongqin Wang, Yan Zhang, Yuan Zhang, and Changyuan Luo, “*China’s Economic Development: Institutions, Growth and Imbalances*,” Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, 2013. ISBN: 9780857935083.
- [CW2012] Ronald Coase and Ning Wang, “*How China Became Capitalist*,” Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. ISBN: 9781137019363. (A most recent publication relates to our topic. This book presents some interesting thoughts but is a little disorganized and difficult to follow for beginner in the subject.)
- **Academic journal and news articles:** Academic journal and news articles will be provided periodically. Additional notes will be provided whenever necessary.

Course website

The official website for this class is <https://sites.google.com/a/colgate.edu/econ219-fall-2014/>. All lecture notes and supplementary course materials will be uploaded to this site. You should have full access to the website (with editing) while you are logged into your Colgate account. I will describe some of the important functions of this website in the rest of this syllabus. Please do not make changes to the website except for pages specify below.

Please make it a habit to check the class website and your email on a daily basis and certainly before class. Class announcements and advance warnings will be made through emails. You should discuss with me if you have difficulty getting regular internet access.

Study Advice

First, you are **required** to sign up a 10 minute slot to talk to me in the first full week of the semester. To sign up, go to <http://doodle.com/8ar2bt56r7q52t72> and choose one of the many slots. Make sure you click the “Save” button on the far right corner of the page especially when you are using your smartphone to access the website. I will also send this link to you through email. Please feel free to let me know if you have problem finding a time that works for you so I can coordinate with other students or accommodate your special needs.

Although attending classes is not mandatory, many researchers found positive correlation between a student’s grade and his/her attendance. You should talk to me in events that prevent you from attending several class periods.

You are expected to study all materials on your own before discussing with your classmates or seeking help from me. When you do need my help, the best way to do so is to send me an email. Most likely I will reply very quickly. You should send me another email if you don’t get reply in 24 hours.

Grade Structure

Midterm: 10%

Final Exam: 15%

Homework: 15%

First presentation and report (GE assignment): 20%

Second presentation and final paper: 28%

In Class Debate: 10%

News Articles: 2%

GE Assignment

You need two partners to form a **team of three** to complete a final report and two presentations together. Your first presentation and its follow-up report is the GE assignment and worth 20% of your final grade. This semester, the topic of the presentations is TBA. I will collect a list of academic papers on the topic. All these papers will be comparative studies such as comparisons of China and other nations or how developing nations can learn from China's experience. Your groups will pick and present one of the papers. While a single presentation is more likely to be *regional* rather than *global*, each of you (as an individual, not group) are required to write a follow-up report that summarize ALL presentations (you are not required to read the original papers of other groups), which provides a global perspective into the topic. Your report should be no less than 5 pages but no more than 10 pages in length, double spacing with 12 point times new roman fonts.

Class Structure

This class includes some film screening sessions throughout the semester. The exact time and place of the filming sessions are TBD. Presumably the filming session starts on the first week and will be showing every other week. There is also a page named "[Videos](#)" in the course website that lists many different videos related to this course. Many of them are free.

There will also be one full set of debate, which will be in class. Tentative dates are in the schedule attached to the end of this syllabus.

2% of your final grade is categorized as "News Articles." For this category, I ask you to bring in one news articles to share with your classmates. These news articles must be "recent" (not older than 7 days). The article must be related to China, but they do not have to be related to class materials ("the economy"). Once you have located your article, go to the "[News Article](#)" page in the course website and add information of your article to the list. Please do not choose articles that are already chosen by other students.

You need two partners to form a **team of three** to complete a final report and two presentations together. **I will make suggestions for how to form groups (see details below)**. As mentioned above, your first report is the global engagement assignment. Your final report should be no less than 10 pages but no more than 20 pages (double space and size 12 font). A two-page proposal of your report is due before the Midterm recess. I will send more details about proposal

and final report later. Your second presentation, which is scheduled toward the end of the semester, should be based on your final report.

Once you have formed a team, send me an email and let me know all the team members. We will set up a time to meet during my office hours to talk about the topic of your report and presentations. Order of presentation will be decided by a random number generator and is contingent to topics chosen.

Topics Covered This Semester and Group Formation

You are **required** to propose 3 topics that are related to Chinese *economy* by September 4, in class. This constitutes 3% of your final grade (in the category of “Second presentation and final paper”). I will then choose the most popular topics to cover this semester to the best of my capacity. For topics that I will not cover but interest several students, group formation suggestion will be made. In other words, I will suggest that students with similar interests to form a group to finish their two presentations and final project together. A list of topics covered in previous semesters is attached to the end of this syllabus for your reference.

Classroom Etiquette

All of us are expected to stay in class for the entire period. Interrupting the class with a ringtone of cell phone, snoring, and other noises is strictly prohibited. In addition, no texting, no facebooking, and no twittering during class. In case when you have special circumstance that prevents you from following these rules, please feel free to discuss with me.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you feel you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. If you have not already done so, please contact **Lynn Waldman at the Office of Academic Support and Disability Services in the Center for Learning, Teaching, and Research (x7375)**. Ms. Waldman is responsible for determining reasonable and appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities on a case-by-case basis, and more generally, for ensuring that members of the community with disabilities have access to Colgate’s programs and services. She also assists students in identifying and managing the factors that may interfere with learning and in developing strategies to enhance learning. *Her services are available to all students.*

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Note
Thursday, Aug. 28	First Day Class	Jennifer 8. Lee: The hunt for General Tso	Link
Friday, August 29	Topography of China	N2007 Chapter 1	
Tuesday, Sep. 2	China before 1948	N2007 Chapter 1 and 2	
Thursday, Sep. 4	PRC before 1978	N2007 Chapter 3	
Tuesday, Sep. 9	The Beginning of Reform	N2007 Chapter 3	Drop/Add Ends
Thursday, Sep. 11	TBD		
Tuesday, Sep. 16	TBD		
Thursday, Sep. 18	TBD		
Tuesday, Sep. 23	TBD		
Thursday, Sep. 25	TBD		
Tuesday, Sep. 30	TBD		
Thursday, Oct. 2	Paper Presentations		
Tuesday, Oct. 7	Paper Presentations		
Thursday, Oct. 9	Paper Presentations	Proposals Due	
Tuesday, Oct. 14	Midterm Recess – No class		
Thursday, Oct. 16	Midterm Exam		
Tuesday, Oct. 21	TBD		
Thursday, Oct. 23	TBD		
Tuesday, Oct. 28	TBD		
Thursday, Oct. 30	TBD		
Tuesday, Nov. 4	In Class Debate		
Thursday, Nov. 6	In Class Debate		
Tuesday, Nov. 11	TBD		
Thursday, Nov. 13	TBD		
Tuesday, Nov. 18	TBD		
Thursday, Nov. 20	Movie: Factory City		
Tuesday, Nov. 25	Thanksgiving – No class		
Thursday, Nov. 27	Thanksgiving – No class		
Tuesday, Dec. 2	No Class		Prepare for the final report!
Thursday, Dec. 4	Report Presentations		
Tuesday, Dec. 9	Report Presentations		
Thursday, Dec. 11	Report Presentations	Final Reports Due	
Thursday, Dec. 18	Session A Final Exam		

Topics covered in previous semesters: Private Sector Development 1980, State-owned Enterprise Reform in 1990, Dual Track Price System, Rural-Urban Divide and Hukou, China's Demographic and Aging, China and Globalization (China's International Trade, China's FDI), Labor market, Financial System, Fiscal System, Industrial Policy and Development, China's Environmental Issues, China and India