

CONTEMPORARY CHINESE CITY

Columbia University/GSAPP

Spring 2014

A4356

Mondays 11:00-1:00 Avery 600

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During the past two decades, China's economic growth has fueled an unprecedented urban expansion. Never before at this scale and sustained pace has the world experienced such a project. This growth is projected to continue at an accelerated pace as more and more rural Chinese migrate to the urban areas. By 2030, China's urban population could balloon to almost 1 billion people, nearly double what exists today. This seminar will explore how the mechanisms of this rapid urbanization have created new urban models, and how the resultant forms and patterns might influence cities of the future as the world becomes ever more urbanized.

The seminar will be organized by topic, with each session dedicated to a specific subject or phenomenon. The course will utilize multiple source disciplines to discuss each topic, including film, architecture, urban planning, landscape, politics, etc. Relevant to the topic of discussion, guest speakers may participate in the seminar to offer their insight and expertise. Parallel with the course topics will be viewings of contemporary Chinese films from a new generation of urbane filmmakers.

Each student, or team, will be required to research and present a topic or phenomenon in PowerPoint format, or equivalent. At the conclusion of the semester, all research will be combined into one booklet/pamphlet. The format will be determined during the semester. Additionally, each student with a partner will be required to present and lead the discussion for one of the weekly sessions based on the readings as well as for one of the selected films.

Jan. 27_Session 1 Lecture/Q&A: **Contemporary Chinese Cities**

Feb. 3_Session 2 Lecture/Q&A: **Brief History of Chinese Cities**

Feb. 10_Session 3 Lecture/Q&A: **New Urbanisms?** _Megacities / Urban Clusters / Urban-Rural
Big & Fast _Tabula Rasa / Megablock / Migration / Infrastructure /
Urban Villages

China Megacities Lab: *Megablock Urbanism*

Feb. 17_Session 4 Guest Speaker: Stefan Al

Feb. 24_Session 5 No Class

March 3_Session 6 Student Discussion

March 10_ NO CLASS - KINNE WEEK

March 17_ NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK

March 24_Session 7 Guest Speaker: Clare Jacobson
 China Megacities Lab: *Future of the Museum in China*

March 31_Session 8 Student Discussion (2 presentations)
 Lecture/Q&A: **Utopia and New Towns** _ Satellites / Ghost Towns
 Urban Identity _Boast-opolis / generic city / CBD / culture

April 7_Session 9 Student Discussion 2

April 14_Session 10 Lecture/Q&A: **The Question of Preservation**_ Active/Passive
 Leisure and a Culture of Consumption _ automobile / shopping
 space = public space

April 21_Session 11 Lecture/Q&A: **City and Nature** _ Gardens / Feng Shui / environment / food
 Urban Futures

May 8_Session 12 **Final Presentations** 11:00am – 3pm Ware Lounge
 (*Additional class content and readings are located in Class files/Share files.*)