The United States and China are the two most powerful countries in the world today, and their relationship is arguably one of the most complex major power bilateral relationships. How to manage this relationship has consequential impact on the future dynamics of international order and issues of global concerns. This course analyzes the historical context and contemporary developments of US-China relations. It begins with a conceptual overview as well as historical introduction dating back to the late 19th century until the end of WWII. The next section covers their major phases of conflict and cooperation during the Cold War. Following another section on their post-Tiananmen twists and turns, the final section discusses several key aspects of the current US-China relations.

**Required Readings**


All other required readings are available in PDF files on Course Site, or through university library e-books.

This course aims at meeting the following student learning outcomes:

- To master 1) the conceptual and analytical tools necessary for an independent evaluation of scholarly debates and real world political processes 2) an in-depth knowledge of a particular functional area and/or region of world politics
- To develop skills of 1) analyzing complex situations and synthesizing information; 2) communicating effectively in oral and written form

**Graded Assignments**

Grades will be based on one in-class exams (30%), one final exam (55%), and class participation (15%). Grades for each graded assignments are given according to its numerical proportion indicated in the syllabus (i.e. the full score for the in-class exam is 30 points, for the final exam 55 points, and for class participation 15 points). Your final grade will be the sum of the
assignment scores, with a possible, marginal adjustment upward using an impressionistic evaluation of your performance improvement toward the latter part of the course.

**Grading scale:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62%</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59% and below</td>
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**Course Information and Policies**

**Readings**
Readings should be done before the classes for which they are assigned. Fulfilling the reading requirements will help your performance in class participation and other course assignments. You are also expected to stay current on Chinese foreign relations by following major Western and Asian media.

**Class participation and courtesy rules**
Attendance at all classes is mandatory. You should contribute to class discussion actively and intelligently, with explicit engagement with the assigned readings. Meanwhile, students are strongly encouraged to introduce any related topics and cases into class discussion.

Politeness and consideration are expected of everyone in the classroom. If you walk in late you may disrupt the class, and it also means you have failed to participate in part of the class. Do not miss class without any legitimate reasons. You should email the professor, preferably before class, that you will be absent.

No cell phones, laptops, tablets, e-readers, MP3 players, calculators, or other electronic devices are allowed to be used during any class, quiz, or exam in the College of Arts and Sciences, unless otherwise specified by the instructor or authorized as an accommodation of disability. Electronic devices must be silenced and put away out of sight during class, unless their use is permitted.

**Students are required to attend Dr. Teng Biao's talk "Rule of Law in China and the Future of Sino-American Relations," 4:10-6:00pm, March 23.**

**Policy on make-ups and late papers**
In principle, make-up exam or extension of paper due date is NOT permitted. In case when there is a true emergency, a note from the Office of the Dean of Students with QUALIFIED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION is required, preferably in advance. The professor reserves the right to reject a make-up or extension request. A makeup exam, if granted, should take place as soon as possible and must be within one week from the exam date.

You will receive a "zero" score for a missed exam. Paper submitted within one week after the due date will be downgraded two points per day and, if submitted more than one week late, will not only be downgraded two points per day but also result in a course grade of "incomplete." You must complete all graded assignments in order to receive a grade for the course.
Academic integrity
Cheating will not be tolerated. Do not consult readings, notes, online sources, etc., or your classmates during exams. Students should not leave the classroom before completing the exam.

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is when writers use other people’s words or ideas but do not give them credit. Do not quote or paraphrase without giving footnotes or endnotes. Do not copy other people’s old papers. Do not submit the same paper to multiple courses. Do not copy or buy papers or sections of papers from the web or other sources. Your ideas, your arguments, and the vast majority of your text must be your own. For details, please refer to the International Relations Department Policy on Intellectual Integrity, Plagiarism, and Documentation. Students who cheat on a graded assignment will receive a "zero" score for it, and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting accommodations, please contact both your instructor and the Office of Academic Support Services, University Center C212 (610-758-4152) as early as possible in the semester. You must have documentation from the Academic Support Services office before accommodations can be granted, and provide at least SEVEN days notification for any requested accommodation.

The Principles of Our Equitable Community:
Lehigh University endorses The Principles of Our Equitable Community (http://www4.lehigh.edu/diversity/principles). We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.

Part I

Topic 1: Introduction (1/24, 1/26)


Topic 2. Pre-1945 history (1/31, 2/2, 2/7; showing movie The Sand Pebbles)
Part II

Topic 3. Lost chance and the Korean War (2/9, 2/14)


Topic 4: Geneva, Taiwan Strait Crises, and Vietnam War (2/16, 2/21)


No class on 2/23. Professor attends academic conference

Topic 5: Rapprochement, normalization, quasi-alignment in the 1980s (2/28, 3/2)
Harry Harding, A Fragile Relationship: The United States and China since 1972 (Brookings, 1992), chapters 2-5 (pp. 23-172) and Appendixes B, C, D

3/7 review and discussion

3/9 In-class exam

Spring break 3/14 & 3/16
Harding, *A Fragile Relationship* Chapter 7-8: pp. 215-296


3/23 No class. Students are required to attend Dr. TENG Biao's talk "Rule of Law in China and the Future of Sino-American Relations," 4:10-6:00pm, 3/23.

Part III

Topic 7: Clinton & Bush Jr. (4/4, 4/6)


Topic 8: Obama years (4/11, 4/13)


Part IV

Topic 9 Security and economic affairs (4/18, 4/20)


US Department of Defense, *ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS: Military and Security Developments Involving the People’s Republic of China 2013*

Topic 10: Environment, energy, and human rights (4/25, 4/27, 5/2)


*U.S.-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change*, November 12, 2014


5/4 Review and discussion

Final exam: Date TBD