**New York University**  
*A Private University in the Public Service*

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Class Title</th>
<th>China Under Mao</th>
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| Listed as            | China Under Mao  
V57.9053001  
4 points                                                             |
| Instructor Contact Information | Name: Andrew Field                              |
| Class Time           | Tuesday, 5:00-8:00                                                              |
| Course Description   | This course offers an in-depth examination of the social, political, and economic transformations that China underwent under the leadership of Mao Zedong and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) from 1949 to 1976. Major topics and issues covered in the course will include the formation of the Chinese Socialist state, the nationalization of industry, land reforms and agricultural collectivization, and the great economic and political campaigns of Mao, especially the Great Leap Forward and Cultural Revolution. In addition to our textbook, the course will also make use of primary source materials, particularly the writings and speeches of Chairman Mao, as a way of understanding more deeply the ideological underpinnings of the great campaigns and movements of the era. Films will be shown that depict the era and these will be discussed critically in class. The course will also include two field trips to sites in Shanghai that evoke the Mao era. |
| Course Objectives    | Students who take this course will emerge with a deeper understanding of these major issues and themes in modern Chinese history, which are important to understanding both how Chinese government and society operates today, and how Chinese people today think about their own society and their relations with other nations. Through essay assignments, students will hone their writing, research, and analytical skills. Through the excursions and associated readings, students will learn how to analyze critically the way that history is represented to the public and how a city and nation’s history may be used to present and reinforce certain ideologies. |
| Grading Components   | 1) Six 250-word thought papers based on the week’s reading materials to be presented to the instructor at the beginning of six classes throughout the semester (5 percent each, 30 percent total)  
2) One 1500-word essay based on a subject of the student’s choice (20 percent) due on March 25  
3) One 3000-word essay on a historical subject of the student’s choice (30 percent) due on May 10  
4) A final exam given at the end of the semester (20 percent) |
### Instructor Bio
Andrew Field graduated from Dartmouth College (BA Asian Studies 1991) and from Columbia University (PhD East Asian Languages and Cultures 2001). He has been studying East Asian languages, cultures, history, and societies for over 20 years and is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and Japanese. He has taught Chinese, East Asian, and World History at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma Washington, University of New South Wales in Sydney Australia, and has taught for various study abroad programs in China. He has lived in China, mostly Shanghai, off and on since 1996 and has been teaching for NYU Shanghai since 2008. Andrew’s first book, *Shanghai’s Dancing World: Cabaret Culture and Urban Politics, 1919-1954*, was published in 2010 by Chinese University Press in Hong Kong. His second book, *Shanghai Nightscapes: Nightlife, Globalization, and Sexuality in the Chinese Metropolis, 1920-2010*, co-authored with James Farrer, is currently under review by the University of Chicago Press.

### Grading Expectations
**A:** Excellent performance showing a thorough knowledge and understanding of the topics of the course; all work includes clear, logical explanations, insight, and original thought and reasoning.

**B:** Good performance with general knowledge and understanding of the topics; all work includes general analysis and coherent explanations showing some independent reasoning, reading and research.

**C:** Satisfactory performance with some broad explanation and reasoning; the work will typically demonstrate an understanding of the course on a basic level.

**D:** Passable performance showing a general and superficial understanding of the course’s topics; work lacks satisfactory insight, analysis or reasoned explanations.

**F:** Unsatisfactory performance in all assessed criteria.

### Activities
Optional and suggested trips and events will be discussed throughout the semester.

### Attendance Policy
NYU in Shanghai has a strict policy about course attendance that allows *no unexcused absences*. Each unexcused absence will result in the deduction of *three percentage points* from the final grade. More than two unexcused absences will result in failure of the course. All absences due to illness require a signed doctor’s note from a local facility as proof that you have been ill and have sought treatment for that illness. All absence requests and excuses must be discussed with the Academic Support staff. Non-illness absences must be discussed with the Academic Support staff or the Program Director prior to the date(s) in question.

Students should contact their instructors to catch up on missed work but should *not* approach them for excused absences. If you must miss class (for any reason), the Academic Support staff will determine whether or
not it is an unexcused absence. If your absence is not excusable, you risk missing class as a detriment to your grade.

Students are expected to arrive to class promptly both at the start of class and after breaks. The Academic Assistant will check attendance 15 minutes after class begins. Arriving more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 10 minutes early will be considered an unexcused absence.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from an exam by the Academic Support staff, your instructor will decide how you will make up the exam.

This attendance policy also applies for classes involving a field trip or other off-campus visit. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at the agreed meeting point on time.

There will be no adjustment of attendance records after the end of the semester. If you wish to contest a marked absence, you must do so before you leave Shanghai; so if you think that there may be a discrepancy about your attendance in class on a given day, ask the NYU in Shanghai academic staff to let you look at the attendance record.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission of Late Work</th>
<th>Written work due in class must be submitted during class time.</th>
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<td>Late work should be submitted in person to the Academic Support staff during regular office hours (9:30-6:00, Monday-Friday). The Academic Support staff will mark down the date and time of submission in the presence of the student.</td>
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<td>Work submitted within five weekdays will be penalized one portion of a grade for every day that it is late (so if it is late by one day, an assignment marked an “A” will be changed to an “A-,” and so on). Work submitted more than five days after the due date without an agreed extension will be given a zero.</td>
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<td><strong>Please note that final essays must be submitted on time.</strong></td>
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<td>Plagiarism Policy</td>
<td><em>Plagiarism:</em> the presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.</td>
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|                         | Students must retain an electronic copy of their work until final grades are posted on Albert. They must be prepared to supply an electronic copy if requested to do so by NYU in Shanghai. Not submitting a copy of
their work upon request will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class.

Penalties for confirmed cases of plagiarism are set out in the Academic Guide.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Intro to course</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Tuesday, February 22nd</em></td>
<td>documentary film, part 1/1 of <em>China: A Century of Revolution</em></td>
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<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Mao and the origins and early history of the CCP; Mao in the Countryside and Rural Revolution; the Long March, the Yan’an Period and the War of Resistance; Civil War with the KMT, 1920-1949</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Tuesday, March 1st</em></td>
<td>documentary film, part 1/2 of <em>China: A Century of Revolution</em></td>
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<td>Meisner ch. 1-4;</td>
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<td>Selected Works, vol. 1</td>
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<td>• “Report on an Investigation of the Peasant Movement in Hunan” Mar 1927</td>
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<td>Selected Works, vol. 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• &quot;Talks at the Yan’an Forum on Literature and Art,&quot; May 1942</td>
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Questions for discussion:
How and why did Mao’s ideological vision for China and the CCP change between the 1920s and the 1940s and what impact did this change have on the intellectual life of the Party?
| Week 3  
*Tuesday, March 8th* | Foundation of the PRC; Urban Controls and Campaigns; Rural Land Reforms; New Marriage Laws; The Korean War, 1949-1953  
Meisner ch. 5-7  
Cheng & Lestz:  
- “Proclamation of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (April 25, 1949)” p. 347-349  
- “On the People’s Democratic Dictatorship” p. 351-357  
- “New Laws: Marriage and Divorce” pp. 360-366  
Selected Works, vol. 5  
- “The Chinese People Have Stood Up!” (Sept 21 1949)  
- “Our Great Victory in the War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea and our Future Tasks” Sept 12 1953  
Questions for discussion:  
What were the promises and agreements made by Mao and the Party to the People at the dawn of the PRC? How did these new policies change the lives of people in China? |
| --- | --- |
| Week 4  
*Tuesday, March 15th* | Anti-US The First Five Year Plan; Heavy Industrialization; Nationalization of Industry; Agricultural Collectivization, 1953-1957  
Meisner ch. 8-9  
Cheng & Lestz:  
- Mao Zedong: “U.S. Imperialism is a Paper Tiger,” July 14, 1956  
Selected Works, vol. 5  
- “The Only Road for the Transformation of Capitalist Industry and Commerce,” Sept 7 1953  
- “Two Talks on Mutual Aid and Co-operation in Agriculture,” Oct and Nov 1953  
- “The Debate in the Co-operative Transformation of Agriculture and the Current Class Struggle” Oct 11 1955  
Questions for discussion:  
What obstacles did Mao and the CCP encounter in their plan to nationalize industry and collectivize agriculture? How successful was the First Five Year plan in attaining its goals? |
| Week 5  
*Tuesday, March 22nd* | The Hundred Flowers Campaign and the Anti-Rightist Campaign; Origins of the Great Leap Forward, 1956-1958 |
documentary film, part 2/1 of *China: A Century of Revolution*

Meisner ch. 10-11
Cheng & Lestz
- “Hundred Flowers/Anti-Rightist Campaigns” 385-399
Selected Works, vol. 5
- “Beat Back the Attacks of the Bourgeois Rightists,” July 9, 1957

Questions for discussion:
Was the Hundred Flowers campaign a deliberate plot to expose “rightists” in China? What were the immediate consequences of this campaign and the subsequent anti-rightist campaign for intellectual life in China?

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<th>Week 6</th>
<th>The Great Leap Forward; People’s Communes; Famine; The Rift in Sino-Soviet Relations, 1958-1961</th>
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| Tuesday, March 29th | Meisner ch. 12-13  
Cheng & Lestz  
- “The Great Leap Forward and the Sino-Soviet Split” 400-411  
Selected Works, Vol. 8  
- “Concerning Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR” Nov 1958  |

Questions for discussion:
Why did China split with the USSR? Did the Great Leap Forward succeed in meeting the economic goals of the CCP and if not, why not? What were the consequences of this campaign for state-society relations?

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<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Bureaucratic Restoration; Economic Policy; Socialist Education Movement; the Vietnam War and US Imperialism; the Emergence of the Cult of Mao, 1961-1965</th>
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| Tuesday Makeup Day, Friday, April 1st | Meisner ch. 14-16  
Cheng & Lestz  
- “The Origin and Development of the Differences Between the Leadership of the CPSU and Ourselves,” Sept 6 1963, 413-416  
- Life and Death of Lei Feng, an Admirable Fool 417-421  
Selected Works, vol. 9  
- “Instruction on the Commune Education Movement,” May 1963  |

Questions for discussion:
To what extent did China’s deteriorating relationship with the outside world, particularly the US and Soviet Union, motivate the internal policies of China’s leadership? How did being isolated on the world stage affect the rhetoric and ideology of Maoism?

**Week 8**  
*Tuesday, April 5th*

- **The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, First Phase, 1966-1969**  
  documentary film, part 2/2 of *China: A Century of Revolution*

- **Lecture:** The Nationalist Revolution and the Nanjing Decade of Guomindang Rule (1927-1937)

  Meisner ch. 17-18  
  Cheng & Lestz
  - “The Future Direction of the Cultural Revolution 424-432

- **Selected Works, vol. 9**
  - “Talks at Three Meetings with Comrades Chang Ch’un-ch’iao and Yao Wen-yuan” Feb 1967
  - “Directives Regarding Cultural Revolution,” 1966-69

**Questions for discussion:**
What were Mao’s motivations for carrying out the GPCR? Who were his most loyal followers, how did he maintain his power over them, and what roles did they play in carrying out his agenda?

**Week 9**  
*Tuesday, April 12th*

- **Field Trip:** Mao Museum on Maoming Road (alternatively to be held on Friday afternoon)

**Week 10**  
*Tuesday, April 19th*

- **The GPCR, Second Phase and Aftermath, 1969-1976**

- **Film “In the Heat of the Sun”** (yangguang canlan de rizi)

  Meisner ch. 19-20  
  No primary reading: focus on formulating and researching your Major Essay

**Study Break**
Program study break from Friday, April 22nd until Sunday, May 1st

**Week 11**  
*Tuesday, May 3rd*

- **US-China Relations; US Imperialism in Asia; Nixon’s Visit to China; The Shanghai Communiqué, 1972**

- **Film “Nixon in China”**

  Cheng & Lestz
  - The Shanghai Communiqué 435-440

**Questions for discussion:**
| **Week 12**  
*Tuesday, May 10th* | **Field Trip:** We will visit the Jinjiang Hotel and reenact the signing of the Shanghai Communiqué in 1972  
Your major essay should be emailed to the instructor by 5 pm Tuesday May 10 |
| **Week 13**  
*Tuesday, May 17th* | **Lecture:** The Death of Mao and Zhou Enlai; Deng Xiaoping and his Opening and Reforms Policy; The Tiananmen Crisis of 1989 (1976-1989)  
**Film:** 20th Century China Part 3 |
| **Week 14**  
*Tuesday, May 24th* | **Review Session for Final Exam;**  
**Film** “To Live (huozhe)” |
| **Final Exam**  
*Tuesday, May 31st* | **Final exam will take place during the regularly scheduled course time during exam week** |