

GTE – Summer 2026

INTA 3130. Foreign Policy of China

Instructor: Dr. Fei-Ling Wang

Time: TTh 10:25-12:20

Office Hours: TBA and by appointment.

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This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities, and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion

Course Description:

This course examines the foreign policy of China, the only other country that is capable and intends to reorganize the world, with profound implications for all of us. We will explore the history of Chinese foreign relations, Chinese worldviews and diplomatic tradition, with analysis of China's international position in the post-Cold War world. The focus of the course will be on the key factors, considerations, and limitations in the making and implementation of Chinese foreign policy. Finally, the course will discuss the major challenges and issues Beijing now faces abroad and assess its actions, with the backdrop of the rapidly rising Chinese power and in the context of U.S.-China relations.

There is no prerequisite for taking this course.

The class will be organized as a seminar with a clear emphasis on having an extensive classroom participation of the students. The assigned readings are expected to be finished before classes. An effort of following the current events relevant to the PRC especially its foreign relations is highly encouraged.

Course Rules

Unless the student has an official letter from the GT administration certifying a need for special accommodation, audio or video recording is not allowed in class.

Cell phones are to be placed on vibrate mode or turned off and remain out of sight, unless you are expecting an emergency call (in that case, please alert the instructor before class). No texting during class.

Class attendance is mandatory unless excused for legit reasons with proper documentation (e.g., doctor's note). Lecture slides will not be available online, nor made available unless there was an excused absence.

In addition to observation of class rules and carrying a professional conduct in classroom, Attentive and active contribution to class discussions will be awarded. All views are welcome!

University Policies

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities.

If you are a learner that requires adaptations for you to succeed in this course or are a student with disabilities that requires accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability (404) 894-2563 or disabilityservices.gatech.edu to make an appointment to discuss your needs and obtain the appropriate accommodation letter. Any student requiring such adaptation/accommodation should make inform the instructor as soon as possible so to make the appropriate arrangement.

We have all committed to upholding the ideals of honor and academic integrity. Please consult University policies for more information (www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/academic-honor-code; www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/). Any student suspected of violations of honor code including but not limited to cheating or plagiarizing behavior will be automatically reported to the Office of Student Integrity, which will investigate the incident and recommend penalties for the violations.

AI Policy

Generative AI agents offer additional opportunities for learning, research and communication. It is therefore allowed in this class as long as the GT Honor Code and the guidelines below are met.

Responsibility: you are responsible for the work submitted/presented, and ensure that any factual statements produced by a generative AI tool are true and that any references or citations produced by the AI tool are correct.

Transparency: Any generative AI tools you use in the group presentation of the course should be clearly acknowledged, including not only content directly produced by a generative AI tool but also when a generative AI tool is used in the process of composition and translation.

Documentation: You should cite any content generated by an AI tool as you would when quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing ideas, text, images, or other content made by other people.

Course Requirements

Requirement	Marks	(%)
Participation/Attendance	200	20
First test	200	20
Second test	200	20
Group Project	400	40
Total	1,000	100

First and Second tests be noncumulative, open- or closed-book exams. The examination will be drawn from all aspects of the course: readings, lectures, and classroom discussions.

Group Project will be a group research project exploring one aspect of Chinese foreign policy by the students. Each presenting group should select a research topic to be approved by the instructor. Sample topics are: Chinese worldviews, modern Chinese diplomatic history, China's territorial disputes, Chinese foreign policy towards Japan, Sino-Russian relationship, China in Africa/Latin America, China and the COVID-19 Pandemic, Belt and Road Initiative, China-EU relations, and the PRC-USA rivalry.

Each group should conduct a collective research and write a report and, finally, make an oral presentation of no longer than 12-15 minutes to the class, followed by a Q & A session. A written report (3 pages, single space or 5 pages, double space) is due on the day of the group project presentation. Every member of the same group will receive the same grade for this exercise. The group leaders are expected to report any free-riding activities that may take place in the groups.

Participation/Attendance will be based on the quality and the quantity of your participation in class discussions and the Q&A sessions of the group project. The class will be a mixture of informal lecture and relaxed discussion. All views are welcome and those who participate actively will be rewarded appropriately. We all learn from each other's insights.

5. Course Materials:

Marc Lanteigne, *Chinese Foreign Policy: An Introduction*, 4th Edition, Routledge, 2020 (Lanteigne). <https://www.amazon.com/Chinese-Foreign-Policy-Marc-Lanteigne/dp/1138345407>

Fei-Ling Wang, *The China Race: Global Competition for Alternative World Orders*, SUNY Press, 2024 (Wang). <https://www.press.jhu.edu/books/cart?domain=sunypress.edu>

Additional handout materials will be posted on Canvas.

6. Course Outline:

Week 1 Introduction: China and the World
5/19, 5/21 Lanteigne 1-26; Wang 1-5

Week 2 The China Order and Its Collapse
5/26, 5/28 Handout I (Wang 2017, 2-4, 99-101, 114-137).

Week 3 Foreign Policy and World Order: A Normative Consideration
6/2, 6/4 Wang 9-39
(Group Project topic due 6/4)

Week 4 Diplomatic History of the PRC
6/9, 6/11 Wang 77-97, Lanteigne 27-53

Week 5 Cost, Impact, and Consequences
6/16, 6/18 Wang 97-137

Week 6 6/23 Foreign Economic Relations
Lanteigne 54-85
6/25 Study & Group Research

Week 7	6/30 7/2	First Test International Institutions Lanteigne 86-112
Week 8	Military 7/7, 7/9	Lanteigne 113-141
Week 9	7/14 7/16	No Class – Enjoy the Bank Holiday Sino-American Relations Wang 141-199, 213-238, Skim Lanteigne 142-169
Week 10	Greater China, the Neighborhood and Beyond the Asia-Pacific 7/21, 7/23	Lanteigne 170-231
Week 11	7/28 7/30	Second Test Group Project Presentation