



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

## **HIS 230 Modern China**

**Summer 2023**

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 55 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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This course makes an overview of social, political, and economic organization of modern and contemporary Chinese life. The main topics include changes, transformations in China over the past four hundred years, the ways that Chinese have faced the challenges of the modern world, and the revolutions of the twentieth century and the attempts to reorder social, political and economic life. Throughout this course, students will learn some key issues in China's modern states and societies formation, including urbanization and industrialization, international relations and government structure.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Enhance basic knowledge of modern and contemporary China in various aspects;
2. Comprehend the key struggles and structural transformations of China over the past four hundred years;
3. Figure out the fundamental challenges faced by the imperial state in the eighteenth and nineteenth century;
4. Understand the social economic concerns and activities in modern China.

### **PREREQUISITES**

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N/A

### **GRADING**

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the



maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
2 Quizzes	20 Points
2 Assignments	20 Points
Midterm Exam	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$ .

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### **Required Texts:**

Jonathan Fenby, *Modern China: The Fall and Rise of a Great Power, 1850 to the Present*, Ecco, 2008.

### **Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:**

None

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Course Overview Topic 2: Chinese Geography and People Topic 3: Late Qing Dynasty Topic 4: Eighteenth-century China and the World <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment #1



Module 2	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Opium War Topic 6: Taiping Rebellion Topic 7: Self-strengthening Movement Topic 8: Hundred Days' Reform <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz #1
Module 3	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: Boxers' Rebellion Topic 10: Fragile Qing Empire Topic 11: Republican China, 1911 Revolution and Warlords' Dominance of China Topic 12: Midterm Exam Review <b>Assessments:</b> Midterm Exam
Module 4	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Nationalist Nanjing Decade Topic 14: Communist Agrarian Revolution Topic 15: Sino-Japanese War Topic 16: Chinese Civil War <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment #2
Module 5	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Maoist People's Republic, Building Maoist Socialism Topic 18: From the Hundred Flowers to the Great Leap Forward Topic 19: Socialist Education Campaign Topic 20: Cultural Revolution <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz #2
Module 6	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 21: China in Reform Era, Seeking Truth from the Facts Topic 22: Economic Reform, Cries for Democracy Topic 23: Changing Society, Emerging Giant Topic 24: Final Exam Review <b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to



decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

## **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

## **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the



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academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.