Course Title:
Special Topics/Seminar: Contemporary China

Course Number:
CAS 5970-302

Course Description:
This course will provide students with both historical background and contemporary analyses needed to understand today’s China. An overview of the past and recent history of China will provide a foundation for analyzing and interpreting recent and future developments. Other topics covered include the role of the Chinese Communist Party; the role of humiliation and nationalism in shaping China’s world view; corruption; the role of the military; the meaning of “socialism with Chinese characteristics”; central control and democracy; social organization and family structure; China’s global ambitions and the use of soft versus hard power; how the Chinese people view their current situation; China’s goals for the future; and the past and future of US-China relations. Readings will provide views of China’s rise and current conditions from both Chinese and Western perspectives. Students will learn to think about China from a variety of perspectives and to be able to use what they have learned to make their own analyses of the current and future situations in China.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: February 2-8, 2014
Location: Hangar 2, Room 202, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.
Hours: Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; M-F 6:00-10:00 p.m.; Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 4, 2014

Site Director:
Mary Keller. Assistant: Virginia Martin. Phone: 808-449-6364 (DSN & Commercial); Fax: 808-422-5509; E-mail: aphickam@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Paul B. Bell, Jr.
Mailing Address: 633 Elm Ave., Room 323
Norman, OK 73019-3118
Telephone Number: 405-325-2077
Fax Number: 405-325-7709
E-mail Address: pbell@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session and by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bksstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)


6. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: A list of journal articles and other required and recommended readings is listed online at the course website. Access D2L at [http://learn.ou.edu](http://learn.ou.edu); enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance. **Note:** Required readings must be completed before the first meeting of the class and you will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the required readings.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**Course Objectives:**

As a result of readings, lectures and discussions, students who complete this course should be able to:

1. Understand the role of Chinese history and culture in creating modern China;
2. Understand the historical forces and events that drive China today;
3. Understand the effects of past humiliations on China's current national and foreign policies;
4. Develop a basic understanding of the current social, economic, political, military situation in China;
5. Learn the names and roles of China's leading political leaders over the past 40 years;
6. Understand the current views and aspirations of both the Chinese government and ordinary Chinese citizens;
7. Understand the political underpinnings of Chinese society and the tensions that exist between central control and democracy;
8. Understand the reasons behind China’s current economic success and the challenges China faces in sustaining it;
9. Understand and analyze the past, present and future relationship between the US and China;
10. Use resources available on the Internet to obtain information about contemporary China from official and unofficial Chinese and non-Chinese perspectives;
11. Engage in informed discussion and debate about China's past, current and future situation and national goals;
12. Do independent research on topics related to contemporary China and write an analysis paper on a topic about contemporary China of interest to the student.

**Course Outline:**

All classes will consist of a combination of lecture and discussion, with discussion becoming the dominant element as the course progresses. Students are expected to have read all of the assignments prior to class and to come to class prepared to discuss the material, express informed opinions and ask relevant questions. Class participation will count 25% of the final grade.

Topics covered will include:

1. A brief overview of 5000 years of Chinese history
2. The historical origins of modern China
3. Family life in contemporary China
4. Humiliation, patriotism and nationalism
5. Chinese politics: The Communist Party of China
6. Democracy with Chinese characteristics
7. Opening and Reform: China’s economic miracle
8. Corruption in China
9. China’s rise: Soft power
10. China’s rise: Military power
11. US-China relations
12. What are the Chinese thinking?

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

I. Pre-Class Assignments
   a. Read all of the assigned books listed in the syllabus.
   b. After completing each book, complete the assignments listed on the course website.  
      **NOTE:** Pre-class assignment 1 is due three weeks prior to the first meeting of the class.  
      The remaining pre-class assignments are due no later than 72 hours prior to the first 
      meeting of the class. Assignments submitted after these dates will still be accepted but 
      they will receive less than full credit.
   c. Read all of the required articles listed on the course website.
   d. Complete the on-line Chinese newspaper reading assignment described on the course 
      website.

II. Assignments during the class week
   a. Prior to each class, review the required journal articles associated with that class.
   b. Prior to each class meeting read at least one article from an online Chinese newspaper (in English) and come to class prepared to report on and discuss the article.
   c. Submit and get approval for your post-class research paper.

III. Post-Class Assignments
   a. Complete the post-class research paper described on the course website on the topic 
      approved by the instructor. **The paper is due three weeks after the final class meeting.**

Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-class essay</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-class written assignments based on the readings</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to in-class discussion</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role-playing exercise</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-class research paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Making up missed classes:** Students who miss a class will be required to read the papers assigned for 
the topics that were discussed during the missed class and write a 2-3 page summary of each of the assigned papers. Students who miss the role-playing exercise must write a three page essay describing and evaluating his or her imagined life as a Chinese citizen who occupies the same place in contemporary Chinese society that the student does in his or her own society.

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity.

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Paul Burton Bell, Jr., Ph.D.

Education

- 1968  B.S. in Biology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
- 1975  Ph.D. in Biology Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Current Positions

- Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- Vice Provost for Instruction
- Professor of Zoology

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Leadership
- Histology
- Contemporary China
- Mechanism and control of cell motility
- Specimen preparation for scanning and transmission electron microscopy

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Outstanding Civic Leader for the Asia Society of Oklahoma, 2011
- Member of the Board of Directors, Council of Colleges of Arts and Science, 2004-2011
- President-elect, President, and Past-President, Council of Colleges of Arts and Science, 2006-2011
- Honorary Doctor of Philosophy, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden 1997
- Special Recognition Award, Oklahoma Academic Advising Association 1995
- Distinguished Lecturer, University of Oklahoma Associates, 1988
- AMOCO Good teaching Award, 1987
- OU College of Arts and Science Summer Fellowship 1981
- OU Research Council Junior Faculty Summer Fellowship 1980

Major Professional Affiliations

- Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
- International Commission of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.
- Council on Instruction, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, Board Member, ex officio
- OU Confucius Institute, Chairman of the Board
- OU University Club, Board of Directors and President
- Sutton Avian Research Center, Board Member