



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

8,664: Kulturen/Cultures: China's New Place in the Geopolitical Order since the Ukraine War

ECTS credits: 3

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)
decentral - Portfolio, --, -- (100%)
Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
[8.664.1.00 Kulturen/Cultures: China's New Place in the Geopolitical Order since the Ukraine War](#) -- English -- [Cozzi Guido](#) , [Berg Daria](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

None

Learning objectives

Upon the completion of the course, the students will:

- have developed intercultural skills important in the new world order kick-started by the war in Ukraine;
- possess a deeper understanding of the key elements and cornerstones of China's geopolitical position;
- be better prepared to meet the many new challenges posed by the post Ukraine-war shifting world order and to operate in global markets;
- have gained insights into how to communicate successfully with global partners and competitors through financial crises, political turmoil, and the clash of foreign cultures;
- have developed intellectual and transferable skills, including e-learning, web-based interactive work, and teamwork.

Course content

Russia's attack on Ukraine in February 2022 has rocked our understanding of the geopolitical world order. The war in Ukraine has made governments around the world rethink their position and priorities. Since its outbreak in 2022 the world has been looking up to China as a mediator, hoping China may provide solutions on the geopolitical stage where nobody else has succeeded so far. However, China's reactions to the war and its relations with Russia have confounded the world. How has its new geopolitical position changed and what does it mean for the future of Europe?

China's GDP is predicted (OECD) to equal the sum of the US and European GDPs in a quarter century (by 2048). Our students must prepare for this scenario and decipher its economic and geopolitical implications which they will live for most of their life. Will Europe provide the US with a vital anti-China ally or will it mediate? How about the Swiss special role in this process? By 2048, India's GDP will match that of the United States. Is India a threat or a potential partner for China? And how about China's future relationship with Russia facing increasing Western pressures? How can China consolidate its role along the Belt and Road regions? Will it opt for a stronger and critical African hegemony? All this will be analysed also in the light of China's current fertility transition rendering it impossible to revert the population time-bomb started with its past single-child policy. At the same time China is seeing a reversal to autocratic forms of government with Xi Jinping cementing his position as China's supreme leader for life, supported by a cabinet of loyalists.



This course offers a unique combination of approaches from both macroeconomics and cultural studies, in particular the visual arts, to look at China from the post-Ukrainian war perspective and answer such questions. It opens up a new interdisciplinary platform to deepen our analysis of the challenges that the new superpower China poses to the world, in terms of its economy, politics, culture and society. This course will explore how China's new geopolitical position is changing the world order.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

This course is taught by four block session, comprising six lessons at 45 minutes duration.

The course is structured into the following parts:

- Introductory session: aims, structure, readings and evaluation;
- Block sessions: including lectures, student presentations, workshop activities and discussion. Students will find the detailed list of topics on Canvas by the start of the course;
- Conclusion, revision, Q&A and wrap-up.

Contextual Studies are considered part of **Contact Learning**; thus, taking part properly implies **regular attendance**. It is the students' own responsibility to ensure that there is **no timetable clash** between the courses they have chosen. A detailed course outline and all relevant documents will be made available on **StudyNet**. Only the current timetable as published on **Courses** does apply.

Course literature

An Online Reader including Key Readings and Additional Reading Materials will be available on Studynet 2.0 by the end of Teaching Week 2.

Examples of reading materials include:

- Acemoglu, Daron and Robinson, James, *The Narrow Corridor*, Penguin, 2019.
- Baldwin, Elaine, et al. *Introducing Cultural Studies*. Revised edition. Harlow: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2003.
- Barmé, Geremie. *In The Red: On Contemporary Chinese Culture*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.
- Callahan, William, *China Dreams: 20 Visions of the Future*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Carrai, Maria Adele. "Chinese Political Nostalgia and Xi Jinping's Dream of Great Rejuvenation". In *International Journal of Asian Studies* 18, 2021, 7-25.
- Casas, Tomas and Cozzi, Guido, *Elite Quality Report: Country Scores and Global Rankings*, Zurich, Seismo, 2022.
- Clarke Michael. "The Belt and Road Initiative: China's New Grand Strategy?" *Asia Policy*, No. 24, pp. 71-79. National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR), 2017.
- Davis, Edward L. *Encyclopedia Of Contemporary Chinese Culture*. London: Routledge, 2005.
- Fairbank, John King And Denis Twitchett, eds. *The Cambridge History Of China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1978-.
- Fairbank, John King and Merle Goldman. *China: A New History*. Second enlarged edition. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006.
- Fairbank, John King, Edwin O. Reischauer and Albert M. Craig. *East Asia: The Modern Transformation*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1965.
- Fasulo, Filippo. "Waking from the China Dream". Alessia Amighini (ed.) *China Dream: Still Coming True?* Ispi, 2016.
- Hart, Brian. "Creating the Cult of Xi Jinping: The Chinese Dream as a Leader Symbol". *Cornell International Affairs Review* 9:2, 2016.
- Hook, Brian, Ed. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of China*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- Hsü, Immanuel Chung-Yueh. *The Rise of Modern China*. Second edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 1975.
- Lee, Leo Ou-Fan, and Merle Goldman, eds. *An Intellectual History of Modern China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Peters, Michael A. "The Chinese Dream, Belt and Road Initiative and the future of education: A philosophical postscript", *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, 2019.
- Schell, Orville. *Mandate of Heaven: A New Generation of Entrepreneurs, Dissidents, Bohemians and Technocrats Lays Claim to China's Future*. London: Little, Brown and Co., 1995.
- Spence, Jonathan. *The Search For Modern China*. Second edition. New York: W.W. Norton, 1999.
- Wasserstrom, Jeffrey N. *Student Protests In Twentieth-Century China: The View From Shanghai*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1991.

Additional course information



Daria **Berg**, DPhil (1995) in Chinese Studies, University of Oxford, is Chair Professor (Ordinaria) of Chinese Culture and Society at the University of St.Gallen.

Guido **Cozzi**, PhD (NYU), is Chair Professor (Ordinarius) of Macroeconomics at the University of St. Gallen.

For queries, please contact Dr. Qian Cui qian.cui@unisg.ch

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Portfolio
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Mixed form
Examination mode	--
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	--
Examination location	--
Grading type	--
Weighting	100%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

--

Examination-aid rule

no regulation necessary

- For written examinations at home (term paper), courses without credits, etc., no specific rules for examination aids are required.
- The regulations of the University of St. Gallen and the rules of academic work (sources and aids must always be identified) are applicable in a subsidiary fashion.
- All written work must be accompanied by a declaration of authorship.

Supplementary aids

--

Examination content

One portfolio (100%) (to be submitted as one PDF file via Studynet) including the following parts:

1. One **individual essay** on a topic of your choice related to the main lecture topics (2500 words; weighted **50%**);
2. Written evidence of **individual contributions** to the group tasks (weighted **50%**) consisting of the following parts:
 - a) A print-out of **one presentation** on a selected topic, which is also presented in class (weighted **45%**);
 - b.) A print-out of the **contributions to the online group discussion forum** as evidence of active contribution to the group tasks, including **peer feedback** on the other groups' presentations (one comment, one question) (weighted **5%**);
 - c) A **self-reflection** on the course and your learning experience (ca. 200 words) (marked for inclusion; contents not marked, but a deduction of 0.2 Points will apply if it is missing).



Late Submission will be penalised with a deduction of 0.2 Points per day off the final mark. This might also affect final rounding.

Examination relevant literature

See course literature.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 13 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 25 January 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 08 April 2024).