This course explores China’s radical transformations since the establishment of the People’s Republic in 1949, a culmination of China’s century of revolution. We will examine the course and consequences of socialist campaigns, reforms, and recent rise of the Chinese economy, with a focus on historical legacies, internal diversity, and global connections.

Class meetings comprise lectures, discussion, a simulation game, and presentations. We will critically analyze a wide range of visual and textual materials, including historical documents, films, propaganda materials, news reports, and memoirs.

Readings
The following required books are available at the University Bookstore and on reserve at the College Library.

- *Li Fengjin: How the New Marriage Law Helped Chinese Women Stand Up* (Opal Mogus Books)

• Rae Yang, *Spider Eaters: A Memoir* (California, 1998)

Additional readings (marked with *) can be accessed via MyUW: Click on “Learning” tab, followed by “Course Resources.” Look for “Library/Reserves” under History 342.

**Requirements**

1. Attendance and participation 10%
2. Sudden quizzes on readings 10%
3. Short report of 2 pages on land reform game (Due Sept. 28) 10%
4. Midterm exam (Oct. 24) 20%
5. China correspondent project (details on page 5) 30%
   a. Group presentation during week of Dec. 5
   b. Individual article of 5 pages with bibliography due on the day of presentation
6. Cumulative take-home exam (Due Dec. 20) 20%

**Schedule**

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Sep. 2</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Sep. 5</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Labor Day. No Class.</td>
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</tbody>
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| Sep. 7 | W   | Marxism and Mao Zedong
|       |     | Karl, 1-34 |
| Sep. 9 | F   | The 1949 Revolution
|       |     | Film: “The Mao Years,” part 1 |
| Sep. 12 | M  | New Order
|       |     | Karl, 35-72 |
|       |     | *Correspondent project guidelines distributed* |
| Sep. 14 | W  | Land Reform
|       |     | Karl, 73-97 |
| Sep. 16 | F  | Marriage Reform
|       |     | Yang, 1-30 |
| Sep. 19 | M  | Discussion: *Li Fengjin*
|       |     | *Sign up for a news team* |
| Sep. 21 | W  | Land Reform Game Briefing
<p>|       |     | <em>Post-game report guidelines distributed</em> |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<td>Sep. 23</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Land Reform Game, session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep. 26</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Land Reform Game, session 2</td>
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<td>Sep. 28</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Industrialization and Collectivization</td>
<td><em>Post-game report due</em></td>
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<td>Sep. 30</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom</td>
<td>Yang, 31-57</td>
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<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Great Leap Forward</td>
<td>Karl, 99-116</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Famines and Restoration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 7</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Film: “The Mao Years,” part 2</td>
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<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Socialist Education</td>
<td>Yang, 58-86</td>
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<td><em>Groups report on project progress this week</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Cultural Revolution</td>
<td>Karl, 117-138</td>
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<td>Yang, 87-129</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Film: <em>Morning Sun</em>, part 1</td>
<td>Yang, 130-173</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 17</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Film: <em>Morning Sun</em>, part 2</td>
<td>Yang, 174-216</td>
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<td><em>Midterm study guide distributed</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Discussion: <em>Spider Eaters</em> and <em>Morning Sun</em></td>
<td>Yang, 217-285</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Death of Mao</td>
<td>Karl, 139-158</td>
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<td>Oct. 24</td>
<td>M</td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Democracy Wall Movement</td>
<td>Karl, 168-184</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>*Wei Jingsheng, “Democracy: The Fifth Modernization”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 28</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Rural Reforms</td>
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Chang, 3-43

Oct. 31 M Urban Reforms
        Chang, 44-97

Nov. 2  W One-Child Policy
        Chang, 98-170

Nov. 4  F Social Discontents and 1989
        Chang, 171-245
*Selections from
        Oksenberg et al, Beijing Spring

Nov. 7  M Film: Gate of Heavenly Peace,
        part 1
        Groups report on project process this week

Nov. 9  W GHP, part 2

Nov. 11 F GHP, part 3

Nov. 14 M Film Discussion
*Wasserstrom, “Tian’anmen’s Shifting Legacy”

Nov. 16 W Reforms Resumed
        Chang, 246-302

Nov. 18 F Migrant Lives
        Chang, 303-359
*Jacka, “Migrant Women’s Stories”

Nov. 21 M Discussion: Factory Girls
        Chang, 360-409

Nov. 23 W Work on your project. No Class.

Nov. 25 F Thanksgiving. No Class.

Nov. 28 M U.S.-China Misunderstandings
*Mihm, “A Nation of Outlaws”
*Pomeranz, “Follow the Money”
*Hanser, “Yellow Peril Consumerism”

Nov. 30 W Guest Lecture: Galen Poor, “Zheng He at the Beijing Olympics:
Symbol of China’s ‘Peaceful Rise’”
Dec. 2       F       Group Presentation 1
Dec. 5       M       Group Presentation 2
Dec. 7       W       Group Presentation 3
Dec. 9       F       Group Presentation 4
Dec. 12      M       “Harmonious Society”
              *Cumulative take-home exam distributed*

**Take-Home Exam due on Dec. 20**

**POLICIES**
- If you need any accommodations related to your attendance or performance in this course, please inform me during the first two weeks of class.
- As a courtesy, please do not use your cell phone or the internet when class is in session.
- If you miss a lecture, find another student who can share notes and announcements with you.
- Request for deadline extension or make-up exam will only be accepted with a doctor’s note. Unexcused late papers will be docked for 10% per day.
- All students are held to high standards of academic excellence and integrity. Plagiarism, meaning quoting or basing your ideas on the work of another person without proper citation, is a serious offence. All cases will be reported. Learn how to avoid it: [http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html](http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html)

**CHINA CORRESPONDENT PROJECT (30%)**
You are a China correspondent with excellent historical and contemporary knowledge of the PRC. Your assignment is to bring historical insight and depth to a current news topic, making your feature story one of the most interesting and compelling. This project has two components: a collaborative group presentation (20%) and an individual article of 5 pages (10%). You will join one of the four news teams below:

1. **Environmental Crises**
   - water and air pollution, deforestation, the Three Gorges Dam, etc.
2. **The World’s Factory**
   - workers, labor protests, global capitalism, etc.
3. **Nationalisms**
   - Xinjiang, Tibet, patriotic education, popular nostalgia for the Mao era, anti-Japanese protests, dissidents, etc.
4. **Youth Cultures**
   - social media and the internet, attitudes toward sex, marriage and family, opportunities for education and employment, etc.
Schedule
Sept. 12  Project guidelines distributed
Sept. 19  Sign up for a news team. Get to know your teammates
Week of Oct. 10  Groups report on progress in class
Week of Nov. 7  Groups report on progress in class
Week of Dec. 5  Presentation and submission of individual article with bibliography

USEFUL SITES
China Beat: Blogging how the East is Red: http://thechinabeat.org/
China Digital Times: http://chinadigitaltimes.net/
China Media Project: http://cmp.hku.hk/
Danwei: http://www.danwei.com/
Shanghaiist: http://shanghaiist.com/

RECOMMENDED REFERENCES
Kate Merkel-Hess, Kenneth L. Pomeranz, and Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom, eds with Miri Kim.