The course will examine the major developments -- political, economic, social and intellectual -- in China since 1949 and consider the broader historical and theoretical problems posed by the People's Republic's unique pattern of "post-revolutionary" history in the comparative perspective of other modern revolutions, particularly the Russian revolution. Special emphasis will be placed on the evolution of Maoist theory, its relationship to socio-economic development, and the problems involved in attempting to bring about a socialist reorganization of state and society in conditions of economic scarcity. Foreign relations will be considered only to the extent they have impinged directly on internal development.

No prior knowledge of Chinese history is presupposed. The first four weeks of the semester will be devoted to a general consideration of the modern Chinese historical situation and a survey of the Chinese Communist revolution (1921-1949).

There will be a final take-home examination based on the lectures, discussions, and readings. It will be distributed on Tuesday, May 17, and is due on Monday, May 23. A term paper is desirable but not required; in lieu of a paper, students may elect to take the optional mid-semester examination (focusing on the period to 1957) and/or write a critique of the readings.

**Lecture and Discussion Outline:**

**Weeks I-IV: The Historical and Revolutionary Background**

- Imperialism, Capitalism, and the Modern Chinese Social Class Structure
- The Failure of Bourgeois and Proletarian Revolutions (1911-1927)
- The Consequences of 1927
- The Kiangsi Era (1928-35)
- The Yenan Era (1935-45)
- The Development of Maoism
- The Revolutionary Heritage

**Weeks V-VI: The New State (1949-52)**

- Dilemmas of Victory: Revolutionaries Turned Rulers
- China and Russia: a Comparison of Starting Points
- The Consolidation of Power
- The Ideology of State Power: the Chinese History of the Marxist Concept of Bourgeois Revolution
- Control of the Cities
- The Land Reform Campaign
Weeks VII-VIII: The Social Consequences of Industrialization and the Search for a Chinese Road to Socialism (1953-57)

The First Five Year Plan
Maoism and the Dilemma of Means and Ends
Agricultural Collectivization
Emergences of the "Two Roads"

Week IX: The Era of the Hundred Flowers, 1956-57

Socialism, Bureaucracy and Freedom
The Question of Stalin
Mao and the Chinese Communist Party

Week X: The Great Leap Forward Campaign, 1958-60

The Theory of Permanent Revolution
Maoist Economic Strategy
The Rise and Decline of the Communes
Maoism and Utopianism

Week XI: Thermidor, 1960-65

The Problem of Bureaucracy
The New Economic Policy
The Socialist Education Movement

Week XII-XIV: The Cultural Revolution

Political History of the Cultural Revolution, 1966-69
Social Results of the Cultural Revolution
Political Implications of the Cultural Revolution
The Cult of Mao

Week XV: China in the Aftermath of the Cultural Revolution, 1970-76

The Fall of Lin Piao
The Passing of the Old Revolutionaries

Week XVI: Maoism, Socialism, and the Marxist-Leninist Tradition

cont'd
Readings:


4. Stuart Schram (ed.), *Chairman Mao Talks to the People: Talks and Letters, 1956-71* (Pantheon paperback)

5. Stuart Schram (ed.), *Authority, Participation and Cultural Change in China* (Cambridge University Press paperback)


In addition, a limited number of periodical articles and documentary materials will be suggested.