Instructors

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Required Textbook

Point of View, Perspective and Presentation: Chinese Discourse on Sino-American Relations.
《研讨中美关系--观点、视角、表述》(by Xiaobin Jian et al)

Objectives

The main goals of this course are to provide training in the area of properly interpreting Chinese intentions and to prepare non native learners to begin practicing negotiating with such intentions as professionals. The general format of this course is to investigate, digest, and respond to Chinese discourse on a series of “hot topics,” topics that are currently debated by Chinese natives at various levels and are important to the understanding of the Chinese people and their culture. This year we focus our attention on these four topics that are heated discussed and have direct impact on Sino-American relations: economics and trade, Taiwan issue, “universal value,” and Chinese perceptions of American intentions. All these topics are complicated, sensitive and at the same time current, crucial and unavoidable. Through this course, students will learn to approach and handle various types of related materials, familiarize themselves with major Chinese points of views, perspectives and presentations of these topics, and practice participating in such discourse as non-native professionals.

Course Format

This course lasts nine weeks: each of the four topics takes up two weeks with a one-week field trip in the middle of the program. Instead of dividing the course into separated listening, speaking, reading and writing components, the course assign a series tasks for each topic that will utilize the learning and practicing of all these skills.
Students will learn about each topic at these four levels: 1) governmental discourse (statements issued by the Chinese government, talks given by Chinese officials, major Chinese media editorials); 2) scholarly discourse (short essays written by Chinese scholars, talks given by Chinese specialists); 3) mass discourse (internet discussion forums, internet blogs), and 4) local citizen’s response (interviews of the local people conducted by the students under specific directions of the instructors).

Students will practice participating in the discussions of these topics at these three levels: 1) through conversations taking place in their interviews of local residents; 2) through written reports on what they have learned about the topics and what they think of the issues at hand; and 3) through their presentations of their reports and their responses toward critiques for their presentations from audience in the local “cultural salon” where they make their presentations and which is open to the public.

Grading

Report and presentation on Topic 1 (20%), report and presentation on Topic 2 (20%), report and presentation on Topic 3 (20%), report and presentation on Topic 4 (20%), report on field trip location (10%), and overall attendance and participation (10%).

Schedule

Week 1

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
    Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Governmental Discourse)
    Texts: “外交部关于中美两国经贸问题答记者问” and “商务部部长谈中美贸易关系”

    Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
    Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
    Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Scholarly Discourse)
    Texts: “王福重：不妨跟美国人坐下来寻找平衡点” and “张宏良：Chimerica—中美战略对话的最大成果”

    Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
    Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
    Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Scholarly Discourse)
Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4 Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “张宏良：Chimerica—中美战略对话的最大成果” and “美对华贸易保护首拳将出 百名人大代表联名提抗议”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5 Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “张宏良：Chimerica—中美战略对话的最大成果” and “美对华贸易保护首拳将出 百名人大代表联名提抗议”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Week 2

Day 1 Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 1st interview assignment concerning Topic 1

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2 Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 2nd interview assignment concerning Topic 1

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3 Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 1 Report and Presentation (I)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions
Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 1 Report and Presentation (II)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Culture Salon (Topic 1): Report, Presentation and Response to Critique

Week 3

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Taiwan Issue (Governmental Discourse)
Texts: “国务院总理温家宝会见中外记者答问实录” and “外交部就台湾问题与中美关系的三个声明”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Taiwan Issue (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “李家泉：美国在台湾问题上的不光彩角色” and “阎学通：武力遏制台独越早越好”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Taiwan Issue (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “李家泉：美国在台湾问题上的不光彩角色” and “阎学通：武力遏制台独越早越好”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Taiwan Issue (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “美国军售台湾讹诈中国利益太过分了” and “美巧妙操作中美台战略三角 对台军售获巨大利益”
Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Taiwan Issue (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “美国军售台湾讹诈中国利益太过分了” and “美巧妙操作中美台战略三角 对台军售获巨大利益”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Week 4

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 1st interview assignment concerning Topic 2

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 2nd interview assignment concerning Topic 2

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 2 Report and Presentation (I)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 2 Report and Presentation (II)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Culture Salon (Topic 2): Report, Presentation and Response to Critique
Week 5

Field Trip and Report: A Case Study of Weifang

Week 6

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: “Universal Value” (Governmental Discourse)
Texts: “胡锦涛、温家宝关于‘普世价值’的谈话” and “外交部大使：西方渲染中国模式之背后”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: “Universal Value” (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “周琪：中美关系中的人权问题” and “张维为：‘普世价值’的来龙去脉”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: “Universal Value” (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “周琪：中美关系中的人权问题” and “张维为：‘普世价值’的来龙去脉”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: “Universal Value” (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “中美互揭人权缺陷，有利两国民众改善人权” and “过而不改，恶莫大焉”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: “Universal Value” (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “中美互揭人权缺陷，有利两国民众改善人权” and “过而不改，恶莫大焉”
Week 7

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 1st interview assignment concerning Topic 3

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 2nd interview assignment concerning Topic 3

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 3 Report and Presentation (I)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 3 Report and Presentation (II)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Culture Salon (Topic 3): Report, Presentation and Response to Critique

Week 8

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
(Governmental Discourse)
Texts: “国务院发言人：中国人眼中的美国和美国人” and “国家宗教局局长：宗教文化在跨文化交流中的文化精神”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions
Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “时殷弘：美国在适应中国的发展” and “庞中英：美国难改警惕中国之心”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Scholarly Discourse)
Texts: “时殷弘：美国在适应中国的发展” and “庞中英：美国难改警惕中国之心”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “对美国，该爱还是恨？” and “美国在全球推广民主是真的，不是假的”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Topic: Sino-American Relation: Economics and Trade (Mass Discourse)
Texts: Internet blog/discussion forum responses toward “对美国，该爱还是恨？” and “美国在全球推广民主是真的，不是假的”

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Week 9

Day 1  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 1st interview assignment concerning Topic 4

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 2  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on 2nd interview assignment concerning Topic 4
Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 3  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 4 Report and Presentation (I)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 4  Morning (08:30-11:30)
Report and critique on Topic 4 Report and Presentation (II)

Afternoon (14:00-17:00)
Individual Tutorial Sessions

Day 5  Culture Salon (Topic 4): Report, Presentation and Response to Critique