



**HIST 487**

COURSE NAME/NUMBER

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- To enhance students' understanding of China's experiences in social and political development since 1949.
- To develop students' analytical ability in understanding the current major development from an historical perspective.
- To offer basic research training in contemporary Chinese issues through the introduction of major western sources and scholarly works.

**METHODS:**

Introductory lectures will highlight the major interpretations of important issues, and seminars will be used to discuss students' research works or assigned readings. Visual materials relating to contemporary China will also be used during class discussion.

**PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR

 Yes No**METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:**

Challenge exam and research paper.

**TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:**

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic* 3rd. ed. (Free Press, 1999)

Orville Schell & David Shambaugh eds., *The China Reader: The Reform Era* (Vintage Books, 1999)

Cheng Li, *Rediscovering China: Dynamics and Dilemmas of Reform* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1997)

*Hist 487 Course pack*

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

N/A

**STUDENT EVALUATION:**

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Short essay	15%
Document analysis	15%
Book review	25%
Class attendance & participation	10%
Final examination	35%

**COURSE CONTENT:**

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

- Course Introduction
- Library Orientation: introduction to library research techniques on the study of contemporary China
- The origins of Communist rule in China in historical perspective
- Consolidation of a Communist Regime 1949-54
- Socialist Revolution in the Countryside to 1957
- The First Five Year Plan & Sino-Soviet Relations to 1957
- Origins of the Great Leap Forward Movement
- The Aftermath of the Great Leap Forward Movement: Society, Economy & Politics
- Origins & Development of the Cultural Revolution
- Ideology & Politics in transition: from Mao to Deng
- Market reforms during the Deng's Era
- Political Changes & the Search for Democracy 1979-1989
- Conclusion: China's experience in search for modernity