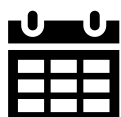


Geog 2041A – Geography of China

Course Outline: Section 650 Distance Studies 2023

1. Course Information

Delivery Mode – Online Asynchronous



Classes Start	Classes End	Last Day to Add	Last Day to Drop	Exams
May 8	July 28	May 12	June 12	July 31-August 3

Monday May 22, 2023: Victoria Day Holiday

Friday, June 30, 2023: Observed Canada Day



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Dr. Clare Gordon	cgordon@uwo.ca	Fridays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
NA		



- ☒ Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom.
- ☒ Students will be able to drop into sessions via the course OWL site.
- ☒ Students who cannot find answers in the course material or Course Outline can post such questions at the Questions and Answers area under OWL Forums which are checked at least once every 48 hours.

2. Calendar Description

This course adopts a geographic approach to understanding contemporary China. It examines how transformations of China's land, people, economy, and society are recasting internal regional divisions and repositioning China in a rapidly changing world.

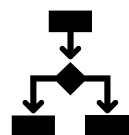
2 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.5

Antirequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s): None

Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility



Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

3. Textbook

☒ All resources will be posted in OWL

☒ Required textbook:

Veeck, Gregory. et al. 2021. (4th ed.) *China's Geography: Globalization and the Dynamics of Political, Economic, and Social Change*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
ISBN 9781538140802



Available for purchase at the Book Store at Western:

https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=B2023&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/GEO2041A

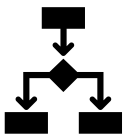
Publisher's link below:

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781538140796/China's-Geography-Globalization-and-the-Dynamics-of-Political-Economic-and-Social-Change-Fourth-Edition>

4. Course Objectives and Format

This course provides students with a comprehensive view of a rapidly changing China and its geographic condition and realities. Lectures will present essential information for a virtual tour of the regions and peoples of the “many Chinas” in the reform era. We trace dramatic changes over space and time while this vast ancient civilization has emerged on the world stage as contemporary China. We explore diverse values, practices, and landscapes. We see continuing development in the face of daunting challenges, but also exciting possibilities for the future of its own citizens, regional role, and global presence.

The course uses the theories and methodologies of geography to help students understand these dynamic changes in context. Employing various scales of analysis to identify regional features, students will explore the conditions, events, problems, and trends of contemporary China and their implications for people inside and outside of China.



All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). [Using the right browser is important, especially when using different features integrated with OWL]

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Help page](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will have



- knowledge of the geography of China: population, environmental, cultural, political, and economic characteristics;
- use of geographical concepts and techniques: reading and working with map data and satellite images of China;
- understanding of the regions of China: natural (physical) settings, socio-economic regions, and recasting of regions;
- critical reasoning, reflective reading, and spatial thinking.

6. Course Content and Schedule



Week	Dates	Lecture Topics	Readings & Assignments
1	May 8-12	Course Overview; Introduction: China's Path and Progress;	NGC Video: <i>China from Above</i> ; Chap. 1, pp. 1-21
2	May 15-19	Physical Geographies: Landscape of Diversity;	Chap. 2, pp. 22-50
3	May 22-26	History: Ancient Roots and Binding Traditions;	Chap. 3, pp. 51-86 Assignment 1
4	May 29-June 2	Politics: The Central Kingdom in a Globalized World; Cities: The Road to an Urban Revolution;	Chap. 4, pp. 87-115 Chap. 5, pp. 116-154
5	June 5-9	Population: Demographic Changes and Challenges;	Chap. 6, pp. 155-178 Assignment 2
6	June 12-16	Inequality: Rising Social, Economic, and Spatial Divides;	Chap. 7, pp. 179-206
7	June 19-23	Economy: China's Changing Economic Geography;	Chap. 8, pp. 207-234
8	June 26-30	Agriculture: From Antiquity to Revolution to Reform;	Chap. 9, pp. 235-260
9	July 3-7	Industry and Energy: A Geohistorical Survey;	Chap. 10, pp. 261-285 Assignment 3
10	July 10-14	Trade and Transportation: New Pillars of Growth;	Chap. 11, pp. 286-318
11	July 17-21	The Environment: Crises and Responses;	Chap. 12, pp. 319-347
12	July 24-28	Taiwan: An Enduring East Asian Miracle; Hong Kong and Macau: Postcolonial Futures	Chap. 13, pp. 348-372; Chap. 14, pp. 373-401

7. Communication



- ☒ Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- ☒ A weekly update will be provided on the OWL announcements.
- ☒ For any other communication, the centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- ☒ Q&A will be monitored regularly; students will receive a response within 48 hours.
- ☒ This course will use the OWL Forum for discussions.
- ☒ Students should post all course-related content on the discussion Forums so that everyone can access answers to questions.

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date
Participation	Forum discussions	10%	Entire course
Assignment 1	Reading maps for regional comparisons	15%	May 26
Assignment 2	Tracing landscape changes over time and space	15%	June 9
Assignment 3	Evaluating resources distribution patterns	20%	July 7
Final Examination	Map labelling, map-interpretation, and multiple-choice questions. 2 hours in length	40%	July 31 – August 3 (TBD by the Registrar's Office)



Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.

- ☒ All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EDT unless otherwise specified.
- ☒ Virtual proctoring will be used as specified by the Registrar's Office.

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for missed assessments of the course grade must submit documentation to the Academic Counselling office of their home faculty and provide documentation within 48 hours of the scheduled assessment. The Dean's office will determine if accommodation is warranted. In addition, the student must notify the course instructor within the same 48 hours to avoid receiving a grade of zero.

- ☒ Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 10% per day.
- ☒ Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report.
- ☒ A missed assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; the weight will be transferred to the final grade.

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.

9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness - Undergraduate Students

Student Medical Certificate (SMC)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

10. Make-up Examinations

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided to the Academic Counselling Office within 48 hours of the scheduled exam, otherwise the instructor will assign a grade of zero.

The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

11. Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during the Final examinations.

12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.



1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

13. Online Proctoring Notice and Guidelines

1. If using Proctortrack or alternative remote proctoring solution only:

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using the remote proctoring service, Proctortrack. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. More information about this remote proctoring service is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. Information about the technical requirements are available at the following link:

<https://www.proctortrack.com/tech-requirements/>.

2. If using Zoom Only:

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using Zoom. You will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session will **not** be recorded.*

More information about the use of Zoom for exam invigilation is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>.

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please discuss this with your instructor in advance of the test or examination.

3. If using both Zoom and Proctortrack or alternative remote proctoring solution:

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using both Zoom and the remote proctoring service, Proctortrack.

When Zoom is used for exam invigilation, you will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session using Zoom will **not** be recorded.*

Proctortrack will require you to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data). The session will be **recorded**. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software. More information about remote proctoring is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system and technical requirements for both Zoom and Proctortrack. Information about the system and technical requirements are available at the following links:

<https://www.proctortrack.com/tech-requirements/>,

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>.

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please discuss this with your instructor in advance of the test or examination.

14.Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a [Scholastic Offence](#).

Computer-marked multiple-choice exam may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

15. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography and Environment strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. [Information regarding accommodation of exams](#) is available on the Registrar's website.

More information about ["Accessibility at Western"](#) is available.

16.Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's [Health and Wellness website](#) for more information on mental health resources.

17. Support Services

[Western's Support Services](#)
[Student Development Centre](#)

18.Important Dates

May 8: First day of classes
May 12: Last day to add
June 12: Last day to drop
May 22: Victoria Day
June 30: Observed Canada Day
July 28: Classes end
July 31-August 3: Exams