1. Introduction

This course aims to provide graduate-level students with an understanding on the ancient Chinese thoughts and its implications on Chinese perception about the world. Major school of thoughts by thinkers in Chinese history will be hence discussed, so that students are supposed to understand philosophical thinking behind China’s foreign policy, Chinese view of the world, Chinese view of Western powers and the role of Chinese culture in policy making. Students are encouraged to analyze current events with some basic concepts and approaches of international relations. Students are also encouraged to think critically and come up with their own explanation to understand China’s foreign policy. Readings will be drawn from China’s foreign policy and history.
2. Course Policies

1) Assignments The first requirement is firm attendance and active participation in class discussion. To stimulate discussion, students may be assigned to give short presentations on assigned readings. The second and third requirements are to raise a research question and complete the literature review on the question of your choice. The final assignment is a research paper on the same question as your literature review. The topic for the literature review/paper must be approved by the professor.

2) Grading Grades will be determined as follows:
   - Attendance (10%), missing one class will cause student one point.
   - Presentation: (10%), each student is required to make at least one presentation on the readings circulated.
   - Middle-term paper (30%), each student is required to write a literature review of no less than 1,500 words on a topic of their choice.
   - Final term paper (50%), each student is required to write a final paper of no less than 3,000 words on a topic of their choice.
   - Students can choose to present and write on the same topic for presentation, mid-and final exam paper.

3) Grading System

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Active and consistent class participation adds bonus points to your grade. However, students who are found to have missed three class sessions or more will receive “zero” for their participation grade.

Make-up exams or extensions will not be granted except in case of emergency and in all cases require a note from the Dean or your doctor. Late work will be penalized by 2 points of a grade for each hour that the assignment is late.

4) Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism is a piece of writing that has been copied from someone else and is presented as being your own work. This includes ideas as well as specific phrases, sentences or paragraphs. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Additionally, do not submit a paper written for another course, or vice versa.
3. Schedule and Readings

The 1st Session: Introduction (4 February)


The 2nd Session: Schools of Pre-Qin Philosophers & Rising Power’s Strategy (6 February)

*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 1, Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power


The 3rd Session: Xunzi (1) & Foreign Relations (11 February)

*Yan Xuetong, Chpater 2 & 5, Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 4, *Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers*


The 4th Session: Xunzi (2) & International System (13 February)

*Yan Xuetong, Chpater 2 & 5, Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 4, *Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers*


The 5th Session: Guanzi & Comprehensive Power (18 February)
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 1, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers


The 6th Session: Hanfeizi & Cooperation without Mutual Trust (20 February)
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 5, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers


The 7th Session: Confucius & Soft Power (25 February)
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 8, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers

Daniel Bell, Chap. 2, Beyond Liberal Democracy: Political Thinking for an East Asian Context


The 8th Session: Mencius & Universal Values (27 February)
*Yan Xuetong, Chapter 8, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers


**The 9th Session: Laozi & International Responsibility (3 March)**
* Yan Xuetong, Chapter 2, *Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers*


**The 10th Session: Mozi & Norm Evolution (5 March)**
* Yan Xuetong, Chapter 3, *Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers*


**The 11th-12th Session: Midterm exam (10 March and 12 March)**
A literature review of 1,500 words on a topic on Chinese ancient thoughts and modern foreign policy behavior. The assignment will be announced on 3 March’s class and the deadline of submitting the mid-term paper is 15 March.
The 13th Session: The Stratagems of Warring States & International Order (17 March)
* Chapter 9, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers
* Chapter 3 & 6, Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power


The 14th Session: Spring and Autumn of Lü Buwei & international System (19 March)
* Chapter 10, Selected Writings on Interstate Politics by Pre-Qin Philosophers


The 15th Session: Chinese School & Tsinghua School (24 March)
* Appendix 2, 3, Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power


The 16th Session: Q & A Final exam (26 March)
A paper of 3,000 words, on a topic on Chinese ancient thoughts and modern foreign policy behavior; the deadline of submitting the mid-term paper is 30 April.