

COURSE
US-CHINA RELATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY:
APPLE IN CHINA, TIKTOK IN THE UNITED STATES, TSMC IN PHOENIX

Term: Fall 2024

Dates: November 7 – December 12, 2024 (No Class on Thursday, November 28th)

Instructor: Professor Doug Guthrie

Guest Lecturers: Christine Ying, Martin Wang

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Class Meetings: Thursdays, 5-7 PM Phoenix Time (UTC-7), via Zoom
(Thursday 4-6 PM Pacific, Friday 8-10 AM Beijing Time)

Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will be considering US-China relations. Given our areas of expertise, there will be a significant amount of time spent on China, but we will also spend time discussing US-China relations. It is no longer controversial to state that China has now emerged as one of the most powerful economies in the world. And China's rise over the last 45 years has transformed the global political economic system in fundamental ways. Understanding China's role in the global economy is absolutely crucial for understanding the shifting balance of power that is currently underway in the world. However, while the fact of China emerging as global economic power is widely recognized, how the process has occurred is less well understood. And understanding US-China relations in the area of technology is crucial. Think Apple in China, think ByteDance and TikTok in the US, think TSMC in Phoenix, think Huawei in the world. We will use each of these cases to think through how the world's two largest and most powerful economies will remain intertwined, grow together, and together help the world grow.



US-China Relations and Technology: Apple in China, TikTok in the US, TSMC in Phoenix will focus on the key geopolitical issues the world's two largest economies are facing in dealing with each other. While America's preeminent status in terms of hard (military) power remains undisputed, China's gross domestic product may surpass that of the United States as soon as 2032. This course is a seminar on US-China relations with a focus on technology

companies. The course surveys US-China relations with a focus on three key cases and five key modules. The first module provides an overall introduction and overview of Chinese business and focuses on the foundations of what was thought to be the Chinese Miracle (created in part from a US security umbrella) just as the Washington Consensus rose to prominence. It takes students through the Asian Financial Crisis and its aftermath. We focus on the case of Apple and the US-China (Apple-China) relations that have made Apple the most profitable company in the world. Part II focuses on Chinese companies investing in the United States. There is a backdrop of Huawei here, but the main focus of this part of the course is TikTok in the United States. We then move to a focus on US-China-Taiwan relations and TSMC's investment in the Greater Phoenix Area. The purposes of the course are 1) Help students develop a deeper understanding of the geopolitics of economic development in China and the United States; and 2) to develop analytical tools useful for understanding US-China relations for helping US companies operating in China and Chinese companies operating in America.

OGL Learning Goals

- Ability to think analytically/critically in a global context
- Knowledge of a particular region of the world (economic, business, socio-governmental, socio-cultural, etc.)
- Ability to make ethical decisions in a global context
- Ability to conduct research effectively

Course Learning Outcomes

US-China Relations and Technology: Apple in China, TikTok in the United States, and TSMC in Phoenix	
Course Objectives	Learning Outcomes
Analyze changes and continuities in the discourses, institutions, and practices of US-China Relations	Ability to think analytically/critically in a global context, and US-China context
Identify both broad patterns and regional variations within US-China Relations and ability to assess the business environment of US and Chinese companies to determine if a specific business transnational or domestic enterprise can succeed in US/China	Knowledge of US-China relations in the world (economic, business, socio-governmental, socio-cultural, etc.) Ability to think analytically/critically in a global context Ability to conduct research effectively
Identification of activities consistent with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), and the	Ability to make ethical decisions in a global context.

difference between paying bribes and making “facilitating payments”	
Foster an ability to think theoretically and historically about the multi-faceted dimensions of business/management, including political economy and security and develop capacity to read, analyze, and synthesize arguments in both primary and secondary sources and articulate them in writing and conversation	Ability to conduct research effectively

Required Readings and Other Course Materials

- All readings will be provided to you.
- I have linked to [“One-Click” Economist Intelligence Unit \(EIU\)](#) Country reports in this syllabus whenever possible and expect that you will read the latest developments for the classes in which those countries are discussed so that we can have as updated an economic and business/management outlook as possible.

IMPORTANT: This course will rely heavily on **CURRENT EVENTS ARTICLES**. These articles that are as current as possible – they will only be posted one or two weeks before the class session in question.

I will send you a notice about these specific articles and what I want you to get out of them. **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “CASES” AND “CURRENT EVENTS ARTICLES.”** Please note that “Cases” are in a separate category from “current events articles.” Cases are **not** intended to bring you up to date about current developments in a country (that’s what current events articles are for). Instead, “Cases” are intended to illustrate relevant principles or concepts that we will apply to current situations that managers face.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students who attend at least 4 classes will receive certificates of completion. Additionally, papers submitted to the course may be considered for publication on the OGL website.

Class Participation

Anything you want as long as it’s related to the topic of Globalization, in particular the Regional Business Environment of Asia, and our weekly readings and discussions. You can post an interesting article you’ve read, a quote, an opinion on the reading... the possibilities are endless. This is your opportunity to connect with others in the course on topics that matter most to you and to help us apply what we are learning to current events and to our personal experiences. Remember to engage every week by not only creating a post, but by responding to others as well. Learning communities are a powerful and impactful part of the learning process. You have much to offer other participants in the course, and many others will have ideas, perspectives, and questions that will help you apply, explain, and reflect on the important concepts in the course.

This course will be conducted as a seminar with a significant discussion component and requirement. Each session, I will give a brief lecture and contextualize the readings. Most of the class and your learning will then proceed through guided discussion and, sometimes, structured debates. Successful participation will require thorough and thoughtful reading of the assigned materials and constructive engagement with your classmates. It will also require familiarity with current events — that is, you must make an effort to keep up with the news by reading at least one quality newspaper (recommended: the *New York Times*, the *Financial Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*) and one news magazine (recommended: the *Economist* and *Foreign Policy*) on a regular basis. I will distribute news articles for discussion; and I encourage you to point me to any you think are worthwhile.

These are self-explanatory. Do the readings and engage with the material – in class and/or on the Discussion Board – and you will be fine.

Paper (Optional)

You will write a term paper analyzing a management or business issue in Asia. The first part of this process is a 500-1000 word proposal, which must include an annotated bibliography of refereed sources. The proposal is a miniature version of the Paper. You can think of it as a rough draft that is less than half the length of the Term Paper, and not fleshed out. Basically, I'd like to see a down payment on your Paper. Too often students procrastinate; suddenly the semester is nearly over and they still can't choose a topic on which to write. I will then anonymize these proposals and other students will sign-up to read them and provide written feedback. The feedback, 250 words each, should not be vacuous praise. It should be constructive, a bit as if you were co-authoring the paper. You will present your proposal including Q&A, accounting for written feedback already received, and receive live feedback from everyone in the class and myself. This is all to help you in the process of delivering the best paper possible. After receiving all this feedback, you will write your Term Paper.

READINGS

[China and Globalization, 3rd Edition, Routledge](#)

[Apple in China](#)

[Corporate Governance in Today's China: China's Political Regime and Economic System, in Research Handbook of Chinese Corporate Governance.](#)

[OGL Materials](#)

Postings on [On Global Leadership site https://ongloballeadership.com](https://ongloballeadership.com) (direct links below)

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

US-China Relations and Technology: Apple in China, TikTok and TSMC in the US

W Oct 16	1	<p><i>Introduction to the Course: A Brief History of the Region and US-China Relations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: The importance of culture and history in understanding regional development; Chinese political economy; Chinese political leaders; US-China relations <p><i>General Reading Materials:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China EIU Report (download report here) • Why China is China: A Historical Perspective - Part I • Why China is China: A Historical Perspective -- Part II • Understanding How Xi Became Xi • Xi Jinping as Emperor Yongle: Insights for Navigating Xi's China • What to Expect for and from China in 2024 <p><i>The Case of Apple in China</i></p> <p>Required Reading</p> <p>Apple in China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OGL Materials - Everyday Leadership • Married to China: Apple, Tesla and the Fate of US-China Relations • Huawei's Surprise Launch & What it Means for the Chinese Economy • Podcast: Doing Business in China • Podcast: A Brief History of China and its Role in the World
W Oct 23	2	<p><i>Manufacturing and Innovation in China: TikTok in the United States</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Manufacturing and Innovation in Asia; Understanding the Asian Consumer Ecosystem; Technology and Society in the World and in Asia; The Trade Wars and COVID-19 <p>Reading Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Age of Cooptation: The Cost of Doing Business in Xi's China • A Response to the 'Age of Cooptation' by Huawei SVP Madame Chen • The Human Face of Huawei: A Personal Account • CHINA: Local Governments as Industrial Firms, Part I • Entrepreneurship in China Today: A Bookseller and a Basketmaker
W Oct 30	3	<p><i>Manufacturing and Innovation in Asia. TSMC in Phoenix</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Manufacturing and Innovation in Asia; Understanding the Asian Consumer Ecosystem; Technology and Society in the World and in Asia; The Trade Wars and COVID-19

		Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Age of Cooptation: The Cost of Doing Business in Xi's China • A Response to the 'Age of Cooptation' by Huawei SVP Madame Chen • The Human Face of Huawei: A Personal Account • CHINA: Local Governments as Industrial Firms, Part I • Entrepreneurship in China Today: A Bookseller and a Basketmaker • Podcast: A Brief History of China and its Role in the World
W Nov 6	4	<i>Doing Business with China</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Manufacturing and Innovation in Asia; Understanding the Asian Consumer Ecosystem; Technology and Society in the World and in Asia; The Trade Wars and COVID-19 Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China is Better at Capitalism Than the United States. Period. • Entrepreneurship in China Today: A Bookseller and a Basketmaker • Understanding China's Consumers and Thriving Consumption Market • Podcast: Doing Business in China
W Nov 130	5	<i>Local Governments as Industrial Firms</i> Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHINA: Local Governments as Industrial Firms, Part I • China's Local Debt Disorder • Entrepreneurship in China Today: A Bookseller and a Basketmaker • Changzhou: China's "New Energy" Capital & its Entrepreneurship • Zhenjiang: More on Local Governments as Industrial Firms
Other Readings		<i>China and Trade</i> Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHINA: Playing Chess with Trade • The Human Face of Huawei: A Personal Account • Populism and Trump's Rhetoric of Distrust for Multinationals • Looking for Opportunity in China in the Next Five Years • U.S. Trade Representative Nominee Tai Brings Integrity to Post • The EU has a New Best Friend: Are We Worried? • OGL Real Time: Is Didi a one-off or an emerging trend? • China: Economic Outlook & Geopolitical Options • President Biden: Please Bring Some Sanity to U.S.-China Trade War • Yellen's Strategic Visit to China • The Biden-Xi Meeting in San Francisco • Biden-Xi Summit in San Francisco • Corporate Governance in Today's China • REAL TIME: BIDEN'S CYNICAL TARIFFS

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REAL TIME: YELLEN'S 2024 CHINA TRIP
Other Readings		<p><i>China's Marshall Plan: The Belt and Road Initiative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Democracy and Human Rights; The World's Next Superpower <p>Reading Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China Today, With Insights from Thought Leaders in China • CHINA: 600 Million Low-Income Citizens; The Street-Stall Economy • CHINA: Wang Jisi: China-US Relations in the Pandemic Situation • CHINA: Lin Yifu: The pandemic and China's economic growth levels
Other Readings		<p><i>China's Marshall Plan: The Belt and Road Initiative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Democracy and Human Rights; The World's Next Superpower <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China Today, With Insights from Thought Leaders in China • CHINA: 600 Million Low-Income Citizens; The Street-Stall Economy • CHINA: Wang Jisi: China-US Relations in the Pandemic Situation • CHINA: Lin Yifu: The pandemic and China's economic growth levels
Other Readings		<p><i>China's Marshall Plan: The Belt and Road Initiative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Democracy and Human Rights; The World's Next Superpower <p>Required reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's Belt & Road Initiative 101 • China's Belt & Road Initiative: The Case of the Madaraka Express • The EU has a New Best Friend: Are We Worried? • CHINA: 600 Million Low-Income Citizens; The Street-Stall Economy • CHINA: Wang Jisi: China-US Relations in the Pandemic Situation • CHINA: Lin Yifu: The pandemic and China's economic growth levels
Other Readings	11	<p><i>China and Taiwan</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key-topics: Democracy and Human Rights; The World's Next Superpower; TSMC in Phoenix <p>Reading Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What in the World is Joe Biden Thinking? The Taiwan Gaffe & More • America's Ambiguity and China's Clarity: Notes on Biden's Remarks • TSMC's History and Geopolitical Impact: Lessons from 'Chip War' by Chris Miller by Christine Ying Aug, 2024 Medium

Other Readings	12	<i>China in the World</i> Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● President Biden: Please Bring Some Sanity to U.S.-China Trade War ● China: Economic Outlook & Geopolitical Options ● In Conversation: Guthrie on the Meaning of China Tech Job Losses ● Nixon's Trip to China & the Potential Birth of a G2 ● OGL Real Time: Biden, Xi, and the Current Geopolitical Crisis ● China's Supply Chain & Innovation: The Case of Brilliant Labs
Other Readings	13	<i>China, Social Media, Renewal Energy</i> Reading Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Case of TikTok (forthcoming) ● AN AUTOMAKER PROPS UP A CITY: BMW IN SHENYANG ● TRANSFORMATION OF CHINA'S RUST BELT: SHENYANG, PART II ● Changzhou: China's "New Energy" Capital & its Entrepreneurship ● Zhenjiang: More on Local Governments as Industrial Firms

IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATED TO THE COURSE – READ CAREFULLY

Computer Requirements

- A web browser (Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (free)
- Adobe Flash Player (free)
- Email and Internet

Copyright Policy:

Course content, including lectures, are copyrighted material and students may not sell notes taken during the conduct of the course (see [ACD 304-06](#), “Commercial Note Taking Services” for more information).

DISCLAIMER: Information contained within this syllabus (except grading and absence policies) is subject to change. The course syllabus is an educational contract between the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule, but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes via email, in person or in the Announcements section of the learning platform Teachable.