CHIN301
Social Issues in China Today
S2 Day 2019
Dept of International Studies

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 2
General Assessment Information 3
Assessment Tasks 3
Delivery and Resources 5
Unit Schedule 6
Policies and Procedures 7
Graduate Capabilities 9

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Kathleen Poling
kathleen.poling@mq.edu.au
Contact via email
Australian Hearing Hub, 2nd floor
Monday 11-12

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
39cp at 100 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
As China plays an increasingly important role in global affairs, graduates of the Chinese program, as well as graduates from other programs and departments, need to be familiar with the most pressing issues in contemporary Chinese culture and society. Learners also need to be familiar with the theories through which scholars analyze these issues, and the resulting diversity of opinions on these issues, so that they can make informed comments and decisions in their future careers. This unit will draw upon the rich English-language sociological and anthropological literature on contemporary China. There will be a focus upon not only understanding local social issues, such as contentious politics, the environment, ethnic relations, and urbanization, but also thinking through these issues in a broader comparative perspective. The knowledge provided in this course will be of use to graduates in whichever careers they pursue, whether in Australia or China or elsewhere in the world.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate enhanced knowledge of Chinese culture and society
2. Demonstrate understanding of and critical perspectives toward contemporary social and cultural theory
3. Able to discuss and evaluate concepts, themes, and theoretical perspectives on contemporary Chinese culture and society
4. Demonstrate capacity for analytical and critical thinking
5. Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

**General Assessment Information**
Indicative examples of assessment tasks will be available on iLearn.

**Late Assessment Penalty**
Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research proposal</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading responses</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Before Week 7 and Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Throughout semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research proposal**
Due: **Week 7**
Weighting: **20%**

A proposal for a final research paper, including a thesis statement and an annotated bibliography.

The topic shall be of the student's choosing, developed in consultation with the instructor.

The assignment and rubric will be available on ilearn in Week 3.

The proposal must be submitted via Turnitin.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
- Demonstrate capacity for analytical and critical thinking
• Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

Research paper
Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **30%**
A final research paper on a topic developed in consultation with the instructor.
The assignment and rubric will be available on ilearn in Week 3.
The paper must be submitted via Turnitin.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate capacity for analytical and critical thinking
• Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

Reading responses
Due: **Before Week 7 and Week 13**
Weighting: **15%**
In the first and second half of the semester, each student will write a critical reading response to one of our readings (of their choosing).
The assignment and rubric is available on ilearn.
Each response will count for 7.5% of the final grade.
Each response must be submitted via Turnitin.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate enhanced knowledge of Chinese culture and society

In-class presentation
Due: **Throughout semester**
Weighting: **15%**
Each participant will be required to guide discussion on one reading during the session, also providing three discussion questions for the class.
A rubric will be available on iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate understanding of and critical perspectives toward contemporary social and
Active participation

Due: Throughout semester
Weighting: 20%

This is not an attendance mark. Note that this highlights "active participation," not attendance. Marks will in fact not be awarded for attendance alone, meaning that it is possible to attend every class and still not receive any participation marks. Participation marks are based in your active contributions to discussion.

Active participation in class discussion is a critical part of your learning in this unit. All students will be expected to have read the readings prior to attending class.

The instructor will look for evidence of student knowledge of set readings; analysis of those readings and questions expressed in verbal form; ability to complete set tasks; ability and willingness to work with and respond to the views of the tutor and other students in verbal form. To do well in tutorial participation, you will not be expected to 'know everything' (asking questions is also a form of participation), but you will be expected to show an informed opinion of the unit materials and be able to contribute and share constructively with the class.

Rubric on iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Able to discuss and evaluate concepts, themes, and theoretical perspectives on contemporary Chinese culture and society
• Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

Delivery and Resources

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Online Unit
Login is via: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/
Is my unit in iLearn?: http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitonline/ to check when your online unit will become available.

Technology

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

For students attending classes on campus we strongly encourage that you bring along your own laptop computer, ready to work with activities in your online unit. The preferred operating system...
Students are required to access the online unit in iLearn by the end of Week 1 and follow any relevant instructions and links for downloads that may be required. If applicable, students are required to download the relevant language package prior to Week 2.

Please contact your course convenor before the end of Week 1 if you do not have a suitable laptop (or tablet) for in-class use.

- **For central technical support go to**: [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/)
- **For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to**: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn/ilearn-quick-guides-for-students](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn/ilearn-quick-guides-for-students)

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Textbook reading</th>
<th>Focused readings (available on iLearn)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Introduction</td>
<td>Jacka, Kipnis, and Sargeson, pg 1-23</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7- Proposal presentations and discussions</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Academic Appeals Policy**
- **Academic Integrity Policy**
- **Academic Progression Policy**
- **Assessment Policy**
- **Fitness to Practice Procedure**
- **Grade Appeal Policy**
- **Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public**
- **Special Consideration Policy** *(Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*
Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

**Results**

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.
Graduate Capabilities

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

• Demonstrate enhanced knowledge of Chinese culture and society

Assessment tasks

• Research paper
• Reading responses

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrate understanding of and critical perspectives toward contemporary social and cultural theory
• Demonstrate capacity for analytical and critical thinking

Assessment tasks

• Research proposal
• Research paper
• Reading responses
• Active participation
Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Able to discuss and evaluate concepts, themes, and theoretical perspectives on contemporary Chinese culture and society
- Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

**Assessment tasks**

- Research paper
- In-class presentation

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- Able to engage in independent and reflective learning through assessing and responding to ideas in discussion and assignments

**Assessment tasks**

- In-class presentation
- Active participation

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcome

• Demonstrate capacity for analytical and critical thinking

Assessment tasks

• Research proposal
• Research paper