

# **CONTEMPORARY CHINA**

USC U.S.-China Institute/National Consortium for Teaching about Asia  
Online Seminar \* Spring 2024 \* January–February 2024

## **SEMINAR REQUIREMENTS**

### **1. Attendance**

You should actively participate in the five weekly online live discussions on Tuesday evenings from 4pm to 5pm PST. You will need access to the Internet and a computer or phone with a camera and microphone to participate. These online discussions will be on Zoom. Please download it beforehand onto your desktop or phone at [https://zoom.us/download#client\\_4meeting](https://zoom.us/download#client_4meeting). You don't need to create an account. You will be able to join the videoconference as a guest. The Meeting ID will be emailed to you weekly.

<b>Session</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic/s <i>*subject to change</i></b>
1	Jan. 23	• Geography and Demography
		• The Communist Party and the Hukou System
2	Jan. 30	• The Rise of China's Economy
		• China Shakes the World
3	Feb. 6	• Evolving State-Society Relations
	Feb. 13	• Optional teacher discussion session
4	Feb. 20	• Generations
		• Environmental Degradation
5	Feb. 27	• U.S.-China Relations
		• Global China

If you missed a session (no more than one in the duration of the seminar), you will need to complete a make-up assignment.

- Attend an event (lecture/meeting/discussion panel, etc.) that focuses on China-related issues or visit a museum exhibition or performance relating to China.
- Submit a 150-200 word summary of what you learned, and post it in the forum.

### **2. Assignments**

Prior to each live discussion on Tuesday, please prepare for the session by watching the corresponding video presentations at your own pace as well as completing any reading

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assignments. Much of what will be discussed will be based upon the videos and readings.

### **3. Web discussion forum**

Each teacher is expected to actively participate in a seminar-focused web forum.

To log in:

1. Go to <http://china.usc.edu/k12/forums>
2. Click on the “Log In” button at the top left corner, underneath the menu bar.
3. Enter your username and password. Your username and password will be emailed to you.
4. Click on “forum” under the “k-12 curriculum” button on the menu bar.
5. You will have access to several general discussion forums that are public for educators. These include “Asia in My Classroom,” “Lesson Plans,” and “Web Resources,” etc.
6. You will also have access to the “Contemporary China, Spring 2020” forum, which is the dedicated forum for your seminar. You will contribute to this forum as a part of your seminar requirements.

### **Participation in the forum entails the following:**

- Minimum contribution of 20 thoughtful, well-written, analytical posts. You are encouraged and welcome to participate as much as possible in the forum, but please note that posts like introductions, one-line responses, and the final essay will not count towards the total.
- EVALUATIONS – reactions to readings, video presentations, and other participants’ posts. At least one posting needs to be made following each live discussion session:
  - React to the ideas presented
  - Discuss how these ideas can be effectively shared with students
  - Please post these in the “Contemporary China, Spring 2020” forum under the corresponding session thread.
- FILM REVIEW - at least one posting needs to be a film review from a teacher’s point of view:
  - 100-150 word summary on how you can use the film in the classroom
  - Reviewing a previously discussed film is acceptable, but be sure to offer your own assessment of the film and how it might be used with students
  - Post your review in the “Film Festival” forum  
at <http://china.usc.edu/k12/forums/forums/film-festival>
- WEBSITE REVIEW - at least one posting needs to assess the teaching usefulness of an East Asia-focused website:
  - Provide the website url, describe its contents and evaluate its ease of use
  - Discuss how the website could be used with students
  - Post your review in the “Web Resources” forum at <http://china.usc.edu/k12/forums/forums/web-resources>

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## **4. Curriculum project**

Upon completion of the seminar, you will incorporate the seminar experience into your own classes by **developing a multi-lesson curriculum project**.

**Design a series of lessons to be used in one of the courses you teach.** This multi-lesson plan should cover at least three days of instruction. You are encouraged, but not required, to create lessons that will help your students meet the California educational standards (included in the “Reference” section of your seminar binder). You are also encouraged to incorporate the Internet into your lessons, either in the research assigned, activities employed, or presentation of conclusions. You may wish to put draft versions of your lesson plan on the discussion forum to secure feedback from your colleagues.

Your multi-lesson curriculum project should include the following components:

### **1. A rationale for the proposed unit**

Explain how and where the unit fits into your course. What skills and/or content will your students have prior to the unit and what will they be ready to tackle?

### **2. Skill and content objectives**

Refer to the CA and NCHS world history standards or the CA language arts standards (included in the “Reference” section of your seminar binder) and identify which of these is addressed by your lesson plans.

### **3. Detailed lesson plan**

Include specific lesson objectives, class and individual activities, and materials to be used. Provide discussion-launching questions, questions to guide reading, and other procedural tips. Include copies of textbook readings, draft handouts, or other materials. Be sure to provide complete citations for the materials you include.

There are a wide variety of teaching guides you may consult for activity suggestions, and many primary source materials are available from the USCI website. You are encouraged to use music, film, and the web as part of your lessons. Also consider whether your location and budget might permit class trips to museums, temples, or ethnic commercial districts into your unit (don't neglect the possibility of virtual trips to museums and other sites).

### **4. A plan for assessing student achievement**

Describe culminating activities, projects, or other tasks which will permit students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have acquired.

#### **▪ Optional**

Discuss possible extracurricular extensions of this unit (e.g., Model UN, world music/film club, etc.)

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## **5. Final essay**

Reflect on the seminar experience in a 250-500 word essay. Discuss how you intend to incorporate modern China into your teaching. Possible topics you may wish to address include attitudes, approaches, and materials. Which issues or ideas raised in the seminar are of greatest relevance to your courses and your students? Your unit or essay will be shared with other teachers via the web.

**DEADLINE – Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

### **Checklist**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Readings/Videos	Prior to each session
20 forum posts, including at least one film review and one website review	Please post evaluations after each live discussion, the rest are due by March 26, 2024.
Final essay	March 26, 2024
Curriculum project	March 26, 2024

### **Seminar Benefits**

Teachers who successfully complete the seminar and its follow-up requirements receive:

- East Asian reference and teaching materials
- 3 Continuing Education Units (processing fee applicable)

### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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