

University Seminar: "China and the U.S. in a Globalizing World"

Professor Wyatt J. Brooks

University of Notre Dame

Fall 2017

Course Information

Class Time:	Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 – 12:15
Class Location:	B058 Jenkins and Nanovic Hall
Office Hours:	Tuesday 4:00 – 6:00
Office Location:	3035 Nanovic Hall
Course Website:	https://www3.nd.edu/~wbrooks/USEMF17.html
Email:	wbrooks@nd.edu

Course Description

China and the United States have the two largest economies and two largest militaries in the world. The relationship between these two countries is defined by tight economic links (such as trade flows and financial flows) and by areas of policy disagreement (as in the areas of human rights and foreign policy). This course is designed to help students begin to understand the history and economy of China as well as the effect that increased integration with China has had on the U.S. economy.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to actively participate in classroom discussions and complete all writing assignments. Classroom discussion materials cover topics of general interest that we explore together, while the writing assignments allow students to select topics to study in depth. Discussion material must be studied before each class so that students can actively participate. There will be four writing assignments completed in the first twelve weeks of the course. Students will select one of their four assignments to expand into a term paper. Attendance will be taken at every lecture, and absences must be excused to avoid losing participation points.

Course Materials

There is no assigned textbook for this course. Instead, course materials will consist of freely available sources on the internet as assigned by the professor. Students are required to check their university email accounts for updates and assignments.

Writing Assignments and Term Paper

Students will complete four writing assignments related to the course. Each writing assignment requires an essay of 1,500-1,600 words, and include citations to relevant source material. Writing assignments are given a whole number grade on a scale from 0 to 25. Papers are graded for content (15 points), quality of writing (5 points), and quality of citations and research (5 points). Due dates and complete descriptions of the writing assignments are available on the course website.

Students will select one of their writing assignments to be expanded into a full term paper of 3,000-3,100 words. A full description of the requirements of the term paper can be found on the course website.

Class Participation

Not including the introductory lecture, there are 27 required lectures in this course. Each lecture represents two points for class participation. Students receive one point for attendance, and another point for discussion. To receive the discussion point, students are expected to volunteer to answer questions in the group discussion, or to give a response when called upon that demonstrates engagement and preparation for the lecture. Excused absences with proper documentation according to university policies will be given two points for the missed lecture. Students cannot achieve more than 50 points in the class participation category of their grade, so they could, for instance, miss two lectures with unexcused absences and still receive a full class participation grade.

Course Grade

There are 200 possible points in the course.

- 25 for each of the four writing assignments
- 50 for the term paper
- 50 for participation

Course letter grades are:

- 186-200: A; 180-185: A-; 174-179: B+; 166-173: B; 160-165: B-
- 154-159: C+; 146-153: C; 140-145: C-; 120-139: D; below 120: F

Email Contact

Email is the primary mode of communication between students and the instructor throughout this course. Students are required to check their university-assigned email accounts for all class instructions and updates. Students are encouraged to ask questions of the professor via email, but should expect that it may take up to 24 hours to receive a response. If no response has been received after 24 hours, students are encouraged to politely follow up.

To encourage students to complete their assignments early, the professor will not answer questions about assignments within 24 hours of their due date. As such, students are strongly encouraged to begin working on their assignments early, and ask all the questions they have about the assignment well in advance of their due date.

All email correspondence should be professional, and use a salutation, a sign-off, proper grammar, and as little slang as possible. This policy is not to encourage formality for its own sake, but rather to build habits to prepare you for your professional life after graduation.

The professor will not communicate with any party outside the university about the performance of any student in this course, including the students' family. If your family has any questions about the course or your performance in it, they should discuss them with you.

Academic Dishonesty

This class follows the binding *Code of Honor* at Notre Dame as described in *The Academic Code of Honor Handbook*. The graded work you do in this class must be your own. If you collaborate with other students make sure to fairly attribute their contribution to your project. Students can review the code at: <http://honorcode.nd.edu>