

Georgia Institute of Technology

School of Modern Languages

CHIN 3696: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY IN CHINA

Instructors: Dr. Xiaoliang Li and other LBAT faculty members and local tutors

Email: xiaoliang.li@modlangs.gatech.edu, chao.li@modlangs.gatech.edu, jin.liu@modlangs.gatech.edu,

Class Structure:

- 8:30am-10:00am: lectures that explain vocabulary, grammar, etc.
- 10:10am-12:00pm: Internet research; discussion, and application/practice of language skills.
- Fieldwork will be inserted according to the discussion topics
- Tuesday & Thursday afternoon Academic Fieldtrips
- Friday (week one) daylong Academic Fieldtrip

Course Description

This course employs the prism of Qingdao – a city also marked by architectural and cultural reminders of the imperial German occupation – to expand upon students' China experience. In addition to its historical uniqueness, Qingdao has gained recognition as a national exemplar in environmental preservation. In contrast to Shanghai, students find Qingdao, with its more manageable size and smaller number of foreigners, a more intimate place to establish connections with local people. Qingdao's economy, with important foci in shipping, fisheries, industry, and tourism, offers a diverse milieu for students to gain an appreciation of the complexities of development/sustainability issues in contemporary China.

Course Objectives

1. Students will be able to identify and explain, in Chinese, basic environmental issues that China, as well as the rest of the world, faces today.
2. Drawing from personal experiences, students will understand China's developmental activities, be able to articulate problems facing both Chinese and Americans, and see first-hand how the Chinese confront environmental and economic problems.
3. Students will come to appreciate the importance of effective intercultural communication skills, both verbal and nonverbal, in dealing with some of the sustainable development issues that the world faces in the 21st century.

Course Materials

Learning materials will be drawn from Chinese sources, including Internet, newspaper articles, and video programs. The instructor will provide readings for each class. Students will prepare handouts for the class based upon their research. All handouts will be green – via T-square or email.

Course Activities

In addition to in class lectures and discussions, students are expected to conduct team research, via Internet and fieldwork, deliver presentations of their experiences, and participate in discussions based on their findings. Students' research may encompass both Chinese and English sources, but presentations will be in Chinese. Through this process, students will simultaneously hone their understanding of pertinent economic and environmental sustainability issues and enhance language skills as well as cultural awareness.

The first class period during which a topic is introduced is built around lectures that explain vocabulary, grammar, and cultural ramifications, and provides background information on each study topic. The second period of that topic will concentrate upon instructor-students, students-students interactions, including instructor-led Internet research; discussion of readings and visual materials; and application/practice of language skills. The third period of the topic is devoted to discussion in the form of roundtable presentations of the fieldwork associated with the topic.

Students will participate in neighborhood mini-fieldtrips, half-day fieldtrips on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and a whole day fieldtrip on Friday of week 1. Students will build a website around an interview-based research project, which they will also present in a final presentation to the class.

Fieldtrips: (To be adjusted as opportunities arise.)

- 1 Tuesday: Qingdao Beer Museum (240 minutes)
- 2 Thursday: German Governor's Mansion and Protestant Church (240 minutes)
- 3 Friday: Mountain Lao – Daoism (540 minutes)
- 4 Tuesday: Badashan and Huashi Villa (180 minutes)
- 5 Thursday: The German Military Headquarter Bunker, old town, Zhanqiao, and Cathedral (240 minutes)
- 6 Haier

Final Project:

Whatever topic you choose for your final project, it needs to be on basic environmental issues that China, as well as the rest of the world, faces today. It must include personal observation based upon your China experiences. Topics include, but are not limited to, man and nature, traditionally Chinese belief in Yin/Yang, population problems, natural resources - land, forest, water, energy, air pollution, acid rain, sand storms, greenhouse effect, ozone damage, global warming, waste collection and handling, species diversity crisis, etc.

The paper should be at least 2,000, but not more than 3,000, characters (including spaces). The PPT presentation (about 10 slides) in class should reflect what you write in the paper. Please keep in mind that the paper plus the presentation constitute this course's final summation.

In keeping with the GT Honor Code, you must neither give nor receive help from others. You can consult a dictionary and conduct interviews with local people. Any quotations from other sources should be

footnoted. Please note that the paper is due (via t-square) on July 13, will be accepted until 5:00PM Friday, July 14.

Grading:

Class/discussion participation	20%
Research and presentation	15%
Quizzes	20%
Field trips and discussions	15%
Final Project	30% (Final paper 20, presentation 10)

Course Schedule

Week 1

Monday, 8:30-10:00

- Course introduction
- 中国经济发展一览

Monday, 10:10-11:30

- 人与生物圈 (Man and Biosphere – people and nature)
- Discussion and open floor interaction; team organization

Preparation & Assignment:

Course lecture #1

Tuesday, 8:30-10:00

- 人与生物圈 (A Five-Thousand-Year Footprint)

Tuesday, 10:15-11:30

- 人口发展与环境 (1.3 Billion People – The Demographics of Sustainability)

Preparation & Assignment:

1. Course lectures #1&2

2. Fieldwork interview – Daily Life in Qingdao: people's opinions on pollution and resource consumption

Wednesday, 8:30-10:00

- 人口发展与环境 (1.3 Billion People – The Demographics of Sustainability)

Wednesday, 10:15-11:30

- 中国的地理和自然资源 (Natural Resources and Sustainability)

Preparation & Assignment:

1. Course lecture #3

Thursday, 8:30-10:00

- 中国的自然资源 (Natural Resources and Sustainability)

1. Water
2. Land
3. Coal and Other Minerals

Thursday, 10:15-11:30

- Weekly Recap Roundtable Discussion – Fieldwork Interviews
China's Single Child Policy
Daily Life in Qingdao
Agricultural Development

Preparation & Assignment:
Course lecture #4

Week 2

Monday, 8:30-10:00

- 大气污染

Monday, 10:15-11:30

- Research, your personal experience and open floor interaction

Preparation & Assignment:
Course lecture #5

Tuesday, 8:30-10:00

- 发展带来的挑战 I: 大气污染; 酸雨; 森林破坏 (Sustainability in the industrial and Automotive Age)

Tuesday, 10:15-11:30

- 发展带来的挑战 II: 农业、渔业-水质、土壤污染 (Farms and Fisheries: Sustainability in Sustenance)
- Research, your personal experience and open floor interaction

Preparation & Assignment
Course lecture #6

Wednesday, 8:30-10:00

- 发展带来的挑战 III: 温室效应; 海水上升; Building Sustainable Urban Environment including People and Culture

Wednesday, 10:15-11:30

- Research, your personal experience and open floor interaction

Preparation & Assignment
Course lecture #7

Fieldwork interview – Economic Growth and Environmental Integrity: How Does Qingdao Maintain It?

Thursday, 8:30-10:00

- 发展带来的挑战 III: 沙尘暴
- Fieldwork Roundtable Presentations – Economic Growth and Environmental Integrity: How Does Qingdao Maintain It?

Thursday, 10:15-11:30

- Weekly Recap Roundtable Discussion – Fieldwork Interviews
Hutai in Qingdao
Qingdao History
Economic Growth and Environmental Integrity

Preparation & Assignment
Course lecture #8

Week 3

Monday, 8:30-10:00

- 发展带来的挑战 IV: 臭氧层的耗损与破坏 (The Environmental Challenge of Economic Growth)

Monday, 10:15-11:30

- Research, personal experience and open floor interaction

Preparation & Assignment
Course lecture #9

Tuesday, 8:30-10:00

- 生物多样性; 人类与环境的现状和未来

Tuesday, 10:15-11:30

- 环保你我他 (The Ethics of Sustainability – what happened and will happen? How can you and I help?)

Preparation & Assignment
Course lecture #10

Wednesday, 8:30-10:00

- Roundtable discussion – The ethics of sustainability

Wednesday, 10:15-11:30

- Recap and review of all topics
-

Thursday, 8:30-10:00

- Summary & Discussion

Thursday, 10:15-11:30

- Final presentation Preparation

Friday, 8:30-10:00

- Student Final Presentations

Friday, 10:15-11:30

- Student Final Presentations

Final Paper due 5:00PM!

ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #1: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION	
ML Learning Outcome 1 : Demonstrate oral and aural proficiency in the target language	CHIN 3696: Students will demonstrate oral proficiency at the Intermediate low ACTFL level through classroom discussion and on related field trips
ML Learning Outcome 2: Demonstrate effective presentation skills in the target language	CHIN 3696: Students will demonstrate the ability to present their final paper in a 15 minute format with minimal notes
ML Learning Outcome 3: Demonstrate writing proficiency in the target language	CHIN 3696: Students will produce a final paper project at the Intermediate-Low level on the ACTFL scale
ML Learning Outcome 4: Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target Language	CHIN 3696: Students will demonstrate comprehension of authentic written texts drawn from web-based team research of syllabi topics
ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #2: INTERCULTURAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE	
ML Learning Outcome 5: Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a <i>specific</i> target-language country or region	CHIN 3696: Students will learn to successfully research and discuss topics related to environmental sustainability in China and drawn from classroom discussion, internet research, and field trip observation
ML Learning Outcome 6: Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s)	CHIN 3696: Students will display the ability to analyze issues of environmental sustainability from a Chinese perspective
ML Learning Outcome 7: Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context	CHIN 3696: Students will display the ability to analyze and compare environmental sustainability from the Chinese cultural context in comparison to their home culture