Program: CET Shanghai  
Course Code / Title: (SH/POLI 345) Cosmopolitanism in China  
Total Hours: 45  
Recommended Credits: 3  
Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Political Science / East Asian Studies, Ecology, Museum Studies, Chinese Language and Literature  
Language of Instruction: English  
Prerequisites / Requirements: None

Description
This course follows the cosmopolitan, or the “citizen of the world,” on a tour through contemporary China. Because the cosmopolitan sees the world as a single polity conforming to a universal ethics guided by shared human nature, and because China’s modern history is punctuated by encounters with and reactions to foreign cultures, the course pays visits to collateral concepts relevant to both cosmopolitanism and China, including globalization, multiculturalism, and nationalism. Social phenomena under discussion is hardly limited to the expressly social or political but also concerns itself with ecology as well as the multinational culture industry of the Chinese art gallery and museum.

Objectives
At the end of this course, students will be able to:
- demonstrate literacy in cosmopolitanism and its relevant concepts.
- apply such concepts to contemporary China and other cities and nations.
- discourse clearly, meaningfully, and persuasively, in class and in writing, on the theories and practical applications studied.

Course Requirements
Students are expected to attend each class and field-based course component, as outlined in the CET Attendance Policy. Students are to read all assigned materials before each class session and thoughtfully write and actively share in class discussions. Readings average 50-80 pages per week. There will be at least two field classes to study the history and politics of Shanghai’s museum culture and other sites of the ecological or multicultural cosmopolitan.

Graded assignments include a midterm essay paper of approximately eight pages, a 20-minute presentation to the class, and a final take-home essay paper of approximately ten pages. Detailed directions for each assignment will be provided.
Syllabus of Record

Grading
The final grade is determined as follows:

- Midterm essay  30%
- Presentation  20%
- Preparation and participation  10%
- Final term essay  40%

Readings


Meissner, Werner. “China’s Search for Cultural and National Identity from the Nineteenth Century to the Present.” *China Perspectives* 68 (Nov-Dec 2006): 41-54.
Syllabus of Record


Outline of Course Content

Topic 1: Cosmopolitanism; critical and theoretical frameworks
- History of the idea
- Twentieth- and twenty-first-century incarnations
- Foundational and touchstone thinkers and readings

Topic 2: Multiculturalism and China
- China’s cosmopolitan history
- Modern developments
- Localized universality; or, how many nations under one flag?
Syllabus of Record

Topic 3: Anti-cosmopolitanism and nationalism
• The anti-cosmopolitan premise
• Twenty-first-century parochial populism worldwide
• Han race, Chinese nation; reactions to the cosmo-polity

Topic 4: Cosmopolitanism in application: The cultural artifact and its museum
• The cosmopolitan origins of the museum
• Transcultural collection, appropriation, and preservation of artifacts
• The international culture industry of China: the gallery and museum

Topic 5: Cosmopolitanism in application: Ecology, a cosmopolitan imperative
• Ecology and the history of international cooperation
• Contemporary environmental issues blurring border and nation
• Cosmopolitanism as an eco-ideal.
• Global challenges, Chinese challenges