

COURSE DETAIL

THE IDEA OF CHINA

Country

Hong Kong

Host Institution

University of Hong Kong

Program(s)

University of Hong Kong

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

English Asian Studies

UCEAP Course Number

110

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

THE IDEA OF CHINA

UCEAP Transcript Title

THE IDEA OF CHINA

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

This course introduces a wide range of issues in cross-cultural studies by looking at how China, as a country and a cultural phenomenon, is understood, read, studied, interpreted, and imagined in Britain from the early 18th century to the early 20th century. The texts studied are principally produced during this period of about two hundred years on a range of topics about China - from its history to its people, from its society to its politics, from its language to its aesthetics. In tracing the history of the English idea of China, the course examines such issues as how and why China has been understood and presented differently at different historical moments. The course relates some of the typical English formulations about China and their implications to the contemporary conditions of cross-cultural understanding and the on-going process of globalization. Themes to be followed throughout this course include: the formation of our knowledge about different cultural practices, the role of the cultural other in the construction of the self, the ideology of interpretation and representation, truth and fiction, consumerism and Orientalism, colonialism and modernity.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ENGL2075

Host Institution Course Title

THE IDEA OF CHINA

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

English

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