

## COURSE DETAIL

### CHINA AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

**Country**

China

**Host Institution**

Peking University, Beijing

**Program(s)**

Peking University

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science International Studies Asian Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

124

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CHINA AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CHINA INTL LAW

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

## **Course Description**

The history of modern China is deeply intertwined with international law. Starting from the early 19th century, the European-originated international law made its way to the China-centered East Asian tributary system through military conquests and treaties. Over the past two centuries, international law has profoundly shaped the transformation of China in terms of building of a modern state and the national identity. The more recent decades have seen China's increasingly active engagement with international law in terms of dispute settlement and treaty negotiation. Yet international law is still underappreciated in understanding China's foreign relations, often being reduced to no more than legalistic cover for realpolitik by international relations scholars. Academic research on China's foreign policy is largely devoid of serious legal analysis into China's engagement with international law. This course sits at the intersection of international law and international relations and bears four goals in mind. First of all, the course prepares the students for understanding the fundamental concepts of international law. The second objective is to examine China's initial encounter with the Eurocentric concepts and practices of international law and its lingering legacy. Third, it aims for surveying China's contemporary engagement with various international legal regimes in a historical and contextualized way. Rather than highlighting China's uniqueness in the international legal system, the course encourages comparative inquiries into China's position on and practices of international law. Last, the course invites the students to empirically re-examine popular impressionistic discourses about China and international law by making extensive use of primary sources and incorporating competing perspectives.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

02432429

### **Host Institution Course Title**

CHINA AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

School of International Studies

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