



## **Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2023/2024**

**TEACHING COMMITMENT:** 54 hours

**COURSE TITLE**

**Economy and Society in Contemporary China**

**TEACHING PERIOD**

2nd term

**SCIENTIFIC AREA**

Sociology

**LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH**

English

**COURSE SUMMARY**

The "Economy and Society in Contemporary China" course builds on other courses within the China & Global Studies concentration offered by the Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Scienze Internazionali, with the aim of providing disciplinary knowledge and skills for the critical study of China's political, social and economic development.

Specifically, the Economy and Society in Contemporary China course helps students better understand China's economic development since the beginning of the reforms era in the late 1970s, the interplay of economic development and ecological sustainability, and social factors affecting economic development and environmental protection.

While introducing new knowledge and concepts aimed at encouraging critical analysis and problematisation of the socioeconomic development of contemporary China, key historical, social and cultural dynamics will also be reviewed, in order to ensure full participation and understanding by all students, regardless of their background.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

The Economy and Society in Contemporary China course aims to:

- (a) help students develop a critical understanding of China's economic development and environmental governance, as well as the interaction between the country's economic development and environmental condition in different policy areas;
- (b) enable students to compare and contrast the Chinese and Western interpretations of China's economic development and environmental governance. Students will develop an ability to analyse critically how the differences in interpretations and perspectives might affect the understanding of China's economic development and environmental governance;
- (c) help improve the students' capacity to present (both orally and in written form) their views on key issues regarding China's economic development and environmental governance, by means of classroom activities and written assignments.

## **TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES**

N/A

## **LAB ACTIVITIES**

Students will be involved in the 15th edition of the TOChina Spring Seminars, run in collaboration with the courses of International Relations of East Asia and International Political Economy and Political Economy of East Asia, and in partnership with the "OrizzonteCina" scientific quarterly (the only ANVUR-listed scientific journal in the Italian language covering China in the social sciences).

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE**

The scholar selected as Visiting Professor undertakes to participate in one conference for the discussion and dissemination of the results of the ongoing "Future Stakeholders" research project, coordinated by the TOChina Centre of the Dept. of Cultures, Politics, and Society (approved by UniTO's Comitato di Bioetica in October 2021 and whose results will be available in the Fall of 2023).

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## **VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE**

The Visiting Professor should have a robust scientific background in the social sciences, preferably Sociology and/or Political Science, and should manifest an appreciation for inter-disciplinary research in investigating the complex interweaving of China's domestic politics, economic policies and socio-cultural transformations within a shifting global context. His/her qualifications should include consistent previous experience in lecturing at the university level, preferably for graduate courses attended by an international class of enrolled students. The Visiting Professor is expected to be fluent in English.

## **CONTACT REFERENT**

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