

Course Code and Title:

EAST 504 Advanced Topics in Chinese Studies 2

A Comparative Study of Political Jargon and Diplomatic Language in Chinese and English

中英文政治术语和外交辞令的比较研究

Instructor Contact Information:

Bill R. Wang

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Office location: 253, SH680

Class Meeting:

Class meets weekly in person or online (to be determined on a weekly basis)

Course Description:

This advanced independent study course is designed for students aiming to deepen their proficiency in Chinese, with a focus on understanding specialized political and diplomatic language. Students will explore the lexicon and syntactical patterns used in political rhetoric and diplomatic discourse through a translanguaging and comparative approach. The course will facilitate a nuanced understanding of the complex and sometimes ambiguous meanings and implications embedded in specialized verbal expressions and rhetorical styles, which are influenced by historical contexts and cultural traditions. Reading materials will be selected from original sources in both Chinese and English, including newspapers, internet resources, and social media.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Have mastered frequently used Chinese terms, expressions, and rhetorical styles in political and diplomatic contexts.
2. Be capable of reading and interpreting authentic Chinese texts related to politics and diplomacy with a sophisticated understanding of the culturally and politically encoded messages.
3. Develop an intercultural and critical thinking perspective on political and diplomatic issues concerning China through class readings and discussions.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. **Class Discussions:** 30%
Active participation in discussions will be evaluated based on engagement, contribution, and understanding of the course material.

2. **Written Assignments:** 40%

Four assignments will assess students' ability to analyze and apply concepts from the course to specific texts and contexts.

3. **Research Report:** 30%

A comprehensive research report will require students to conduct an in-depth analysis of political or diplomatic language, demonstrating their understanding and ability to synthesize course content.

Course Requirements:

- Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions.
- Completion of all written assignments and the research report by the specified deadlines.
- Engagement with selected readings and materials from both Chinese and English sources.

Required Texts and Materials:

- A selection of articles from Chinese and English newspapers, internet resources, and social media (provided by the instructor).