# Teach Mob – Visiting Professors

## Academic year 2014/2015

### 2nd term

**COURSE TITLE**  
History of contemporary China

**Scientific area**  
History and Institutions of Asia

**Department of Cultures, Politics and Society**

**Language used to teach**  
English

**Course summary**

The course of History of Contemporary China is offered within the Laurea Magistrale in Scienze Internazionali / Global Studies - China profile. This postgraduate course, highly innovative in the Italian context, is especially designed for students from either a Political Science background or a China Studies one, who look for advanced training on contemporary China’s politics, foreign policy and political economy. In light of the crucial historical roots of the major current trends in the Chinese polity, the course of History of Contemporary China is devoted to contextualizing and problematizing critical junctures in China’s history such as Imperial decline (1842-1911), Warlord China (1911-1927), Republican China (1927-1949), early and high Maoism including the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution (1949-1976), the first Dengist phase (1949-1989), the Tian’anmen crisis and its socio-political aftermath.

**Learning objectives**

Students who successfully complete the course are expected to be able to proficiently engage with China’s ongoing quest for its own version of modernity, critically evaluating the transformations - and underlying instances of continuity - in the Chinese society and polity from the Opium wars (beginning in 1839-42) to Deng’s reform and opening up era (through to 1997). Students should know how to contextualize and problematize the “China story” (Zhongguo gushi) projected by the Chinese Party-State, and place it in a wider discursive context - including discourses of resistance - within China, and internationally.

**Tutorship activities**

The candidate will ideally give advice for high-quality Master’s level (Laurea Magistrale) dissertations on China’s contemporary history, given his proximity to primary sources, and his extensive field-work research experience in China. It is expected that, besides his institutional teaching schedule, he would be able to engage students in training seminars for field research and mapping of archival sources. Significantly, the candidate would be expected to closely cooperate with other China-relevant courses in the Laurea Magistrale in Scienze Internazionali, such as International Relations of East Asia; International Political Economy and Political Economy of East Asia.
Visiting Professor Profile
The ideal candidate is a highly qualified scholar with an extensive international experience whose research focuses on Modern Chinese history and politics and Chinese nationalism.

Contact person at the Department
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