

EU-CHINA RELATIONS: BUSINESS AS UNUSUAL?

Year 2022/2023
Spring semester

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Dr. Langlois-Berthelot has worked for 10 years in the fields of security and defence with a growing focus on technology and the financing of technology. He is currently the head of *Société de Recherche et d'Applications Techniques* and he is pursuing a comparative research (EU/China/USA) at the Freeman Spogli Institute (Stanford University) as part of the project ASIE (Anticipation, Strategy, Innovation, Emulation) of Defense Innovation Agency and Ecole Polytechnique. He has notably taught for SciencesPo, ESSEC, EMSST, IHEDN and INSP.

Jan Stormann is an alumni of SciencesPo, LSE, INSP and Sorbonne-CELSA. He has taught at SciencesPo (Nancy Campus) with Dr. Langlois-Berthelot and he is currently advising the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on geopolitical issues after several years of work with the start-up Storyzy.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Describe here your course:

Relations between Europe and China have always been complex. Since the economic opening of China, these relations have strengthened and made the main European economic powers particularly dependent on China.

However, political and geopolitical disagreements have always been a structural problem between the two privileged economic partners. With the increasingly marked tensions following the Covid 19 crisis and China's positioning in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the privileged relationship seems to deteriorate.

EU and China are facing a major challenge: reinventing their relations.

Type of course

Lecture course with seminars (either with methodological seminars or reading seminars)

Lecture course

Seminar course : reading seminar / exploratory seminar

O Workshop : major workshop / artistic workshop

Language of instruction

O French

English

PEDAGOGICAL OBJECTIVES

In this section, please specify the objectives of your class.

In the end of the course the student will be able to:

1°) Develop an advanced understanding of the strategic relations between the EU and China both on economic and geopolitical levels

2°) Develop the main methods of strategic analysis

3°) Understand how to put geostrategic news into historical perspective

Please specify the different exercises and pedagogical formats you want to improve student's learning (lecture, debate, group work, workshop...):

Lectures, Debate, Group Work

COURSE GRADE SYSTEM

To validate the course, the student is expected to pass the following assignments (at least three grades):

1°) **Oral evaluation:** a 2 or 3 student team selects a subject from a defined list and presents it for 20 minutes.

2°) **Reading report:** the student selects a book in a list then, explains the main topic of the book in a 5-6 pages report.

3°) **Mid-term group work :** During week 8, Groups of 5-8 students have to prepare a note together on a subject related to the course. They use the methodology learned in the previous courses and show their ability to write a strategic note in the right fashion and under limited time. The groups present their notes during the second hour of the course.

4°) **Final Exam :** Individual oral examination on a subject studied during the course. Open-books/courses is allowed. 15 minutes preparation, 15 minutes restitution.

All grades have the same coefficient.

DETAILED OUTLINE

Session 1: Introduction: China-EU relations: times of crisis? (Langlois-Berthelot)

Historical background of the EU-China relations

Session 2: Economic cooperation between EU and China since the end of the Cold War (Langlois-Berthelot)

Session 3: The development of a sustainable relationship despite the continuous geopolitical disagreements since Tiananmen Square Protest (Langlois-Berthelot)

China: The crucial business partner of EU ?

Session 4: Multi-level trade cooperation between the EU and China (Langlois-Berthelot)

Session 5: Science and Technology cooperation (Stormann)

Session 6: Investment strategies of the EU and of China (Stormann)

Session 7: Future business cooperation endangered? (Stormann)

Apprehending the EU-China relation in the global geopolitical

Session 8 : Systemic frictions: Different aims, different political systems and different allies/ Group Work (Langlois-Berthelot)

Session 9 : Rising tensions, Ukraine and Taiwan (Stormann)

Session 10: "There will be no war with China" (intervention of Pr. Lindemann Ecole Polytechnique (to be confirmed), (Langlois-Berthelot & Stormann)

Conclusion and Final Perspectives

Session 11: Conclusion and Final Perspectives (Stormann)

Session 12: Final Exam (Langlois-Berthelot & Stormann)

REQUIRED READING

- Cotula, Lorenzo. "EU–China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment: An Appraisal of its Sustainable Development Section." *Business and Human Rights Journal* 6, no. 2 (2021): 360-367.

- Jones, C. (2021). Understanding the Belt and Road Initiative in EU-China relations. *Journal of European Integration*, 43(7), 915-921.

(A longer list could be provided to the students during the first class)