CURRENT TRENDS IN CHINA’S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES

Syllabus – Winter Term, 2020 OLLI EAST

Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:30 am
January 22, 2020
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Course Description: Weekly discussions will include the China and US relationship over the last 25 years or so, its current state of distress, and a look at what might occur in the future. We will focus on China's Belt and Road Initiative, its off-shore islands and reef militarization, China in Africa, the Trans Pacific Partnership, the demonstrations and demands from Hong Kong’s residents from China's leadership perspective, and the impact of US tariffs and other constraints on both China and the US. We will try to reach a consensus on forward projections of the US and China relationship.

Week 1: Intro and methodology, content analysis and anecdotal data, projecting into the future. Empathy

Week 2: US T-Bill Investments by China and others, MilitaryExpansionism and Belt and Road Project designed to replace US Hegemony; the current actors on stage

Week 3: Mercantile Competition and Natural Allies; The Trans Pacific Partnership; Tariffs; forced technology transfer; China in 2025
Week 4:  GNP Comparisons; growth rate slowdown The Matter of Taiwan, the Spratley’s; and Hong Kong Sovereignty.

Week 5:  China’s Limitations: Size and character of the population; Hong Kong, one territory, two systems since 1997.

Week 6:  Trade: China in Africa, Europe, South Asia and South America; The Monroe Doctrine (1883); soybeans as market indicator

Week 7:  Unemployment from China’s and US’ Perspective; China’s Labor issues.

Week 8:  Wrap-Up and Loose Ends; Revisit the projections of China in 2025