Syllabus:

*Dr. Walter “Joe” Shaw* is a retired college professor, dean and vice president. He has been particularly involved in international education and taught and consulted widely in China on a variety of educational and corporate training projects. As an OLLI facilitator he recently led a course on “The Life, Times and Legacy of Christopher Columbus”

A Special guest presenter, week 3, will be **Richard Mueller**. Richard is a 32 year veteran of the U.S. Foreign Service having served widely in Asia and particularly China. He was US Consul General to Hong Kong, 1993-1996, formative years leading up to Hong Kong’s return to China from the UK in 1997. He was involved in numerous negotiations and issues relating to China and the United States. He also served in various assignments in the Department of State working for Secretaries Kissinger, Shultz, and Baker. As a second career he was head of school of Northfield Mount Hermon School, Hong Kong International School, and Shanghai American School.

A Special guest presenter, week 4, will be **David Evans**. Dave is a retired executive with the John Deere Corporation and who worked with Deere for an extended period in China. He has had a deep interest in China for decades and is a keen observer of China modern history and economics and is the author of the blog, Global Reasoning.

**Week 1, January 14**—Early China, Including its founding by Qin Shi-Huang-di and the creation of the Terra Cotta Army, the role of Confucius, the Golden Age of the Tang Dynasty, Admiral Zheng He and his fantastic 15th century explorations and discoveries with his massive “treasure fleets”, the Mongol conquest and establishment of the Yuan Dynasty with a arrival of Marco Polo and the failed attempted invasion of Japan.

**Week 2, January 21**—No Class, Martin Luther King Day

**Week 3, January 28**—Guest presenter **Richard Mueller** will talk diplomacy during critical periods in modern China as began opening to the Western World.

**Week 4, February 4**—Guest presenter **David Evans** will share his experiences as an American businessman in China during the early days when foreign business were allowed, as well as his thoughts on China today.

**Week 5, February 11**—The Ming Dynasty and establishment of the new capital in Beijing and the wonders of the Forbidden City, the financial crisis cause by the importation of tons of silver from the New World, the Qing Dynasty and the fall of dynastic China including exploitation by Western powers through the Opium Wars, the creation of European concessions in Shanghai and on the coast, the Boxer Rebellion, and the abdication of the last emperor, Pu Yi.

**Week 6, February 18**—The creation of the Republic of China with Sun Yat-sen, the rise of the communist movement with the help of the Soviet Union, the Japanese invasion of Manchuria, the struggle between Mao Zedong and Chiang Kai shek, World War II including the “Rape of Nanjing”, the role of the US, and the exile of Chiang to Taiwan and Mao’s led the communist revolution.
Week 7, February 25—The tragic “Great Leap Forward”, the invasion of Tibet, Mao’s consolidation of power and isolation from the western world, and estrangement from the Soviet Union.

Week 8, March 4—The Cultural Revolution, the death of Mao and rise of Deng Xiaoping and Zhou Enlai, ping-pong diplomacy, diplomatic relations with the US, creation of Special Economic Zones for foreign investment, Tiananmen Square, rising tensions with the US because of the bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, the spy plane incident and finally China’s rise to economic superpower status.

Week 9, March 11—China today and what the future may hold.