

# School of Management Fudan University

## IMBA Program Course Outline

### Does China or Doesn't China? – Chinese Economy and its Impact on the World (JHS630077) Spring, 2025

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Faculty Name: Wang Xiaozu Email: wangxz@fudan.edu.cn Office: 206 Siyuan Building Phone: 25011089 Consultation times: to be arranged  Teaching Assistant Name: Yimeng (吴逸萌) Email: <a href="mailto:wuym21@m.fudan.edu.cn">wuym21@m.fudan.edu.cn</a>	
COURSE DESCRIPTION	
Reglobalization is rapidly reshaping the world, and the Chinese economy is a major driver of this change. Because events in China have global repercussions, it's essential for business leaders to understand the Chinese economy and incorporate that understanding into their strategic planning. This course provides a comprehensive overview of China's current economic challenges and opportunities. With a diverse, international group of participants, you'll gain fresh insights and perspectives on the Chinese economy. Through critical analysis and shared discussion, you'll develop a nuanced understanding of China's economic system, moving beyond common media biases. Furthermore, case studies of Chinese companies will provide practical insights into how to collaborate and compete effectively with Chinese companies in the Chinese market or globally. This course is valuable for anyone with a professional interest in China, as well as those who are simply curious about the country.	
COURSE OBJECTIVES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the historical and cultural context of China's economic development;</li> <li>2. Experience many different perspectives on Chinese economy and Chinese companies through readings, case studies and discussions;</li> <li>3. Develop a holistic analytical framework and form independent judgment on economic events in China;</li> <li>4. Understand the international strategies of Chinese companies;</li> <li>5. Develop skills for formulating strategies for international companies to engage the Chinese market or seek Chinese partners;</li> </ol>	
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	
Course Learning Outcomes	Aligned Program Learning Objectives
CLO1. Understand the historical and cultural context of China's economic development;	PLO3, PLO4, PLO7
	PLO2, PLO3, PLO4

CLO2. Experience many different perspectives on Chinese economy and Chinese companies;		PLO2, PLO3, PLO4		
CLO3 Understand international strategies of Chinese companies;		PLO2, PLO3, PLO4, PLO9		
CLO4. Develop a holistic analytical framework for interpreting economic indicators in China;		PLO2, PLO3, PLO4, PLO9		
CLO5. Develop skills for formulating strategies for international companies to engage the Chinese market or seek Chinese partners;				
TEACHING				
Course Teaching and Learning Activities		Contact Hours	Study Load (%)	
1. Lectures, including an introduction to the historical and social context of economic development, theories of economic growth, and discussions of current economic issues.		10	30%	
2. Group discussions and presentations		8	20%	
3. Case discussions of the whole class		18	50%	
Total		36	100%	
Assessment Methods	Brief Description	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcomes	
1. Class participation	Attendance, active engagement	60%	CLO1-5	
2. Case presentation	present one assigned case	40%	CLO1-5	
Total		100%		
COURSE SCHEDULE				
S/N	Date	Course Content	Course Reference	Case to be presented next week
1	2025/02/18	Economic Development with Chinese characteristics	Zhu (2021), Allison et. al. (2022), assigned articles	
2	2024/02/25	Current issues of Chinese economy	assigned articles	
3	2024/03/04	Chinese financial system	assigned articles	SHEIN
4	2024/03/11	Innovative China: Towards Sustainable Growth	assigned articles	TikTok
5	2024/03/18	China’s green growth initiatives	assigned articles	Midea

6	2024/04/01	China and the world	Assigned articles	Alibaba
7	2024/04/08	Class discussions		NIO

## OTHER COURSE MATERIALS

### Course contents

1. Economic growth with Chinese characteristics
  - Key features of Chinese economic system and its historical and social context.
  - How Chinese economic growth fits the textbook economic growth models, and how not, and its implications for economic growth.
  - The ascendance of Chinese economy and its global impact
2. Current issues of Chinese economy
  - An update of the current state of Chinese economy
  - The current challenges (demographical trend, housing market, international trade, geopolitical tensions, etc.)
3. Chinese financial system
  - Banking and financial markets in China
  - The resilience and (in)efficiency of Chinese financial system
  - Internationalization of Renminbi and China's place in global financial system
  - What do Chinese financial markets mean for international investors?
4. China's innovations & green growth
  - An overview of Chinese research and development capabilities in global perspective
  - China's environmental and energy policy and its implications for economic growth
  - The development of Chinese green technologies
  - China's role in the combat of global warming
  - Product innovations and business model innovations of Chinese companies
5. China and the world
  - China perspective: How should China grow with the world?
  - Global perspective: How to take advantage of the opportunities offered China and meet the challenges posed by China?

### Cases:

1. Shein: What is the Future of Fast Fashion?
2. TikTok and Kuaishou: A Tale of Two Short Video-Sharing Apps from China to the Globe
3. Midea: The Digital Transformation Of A Home Appliances Giant
4. Alibaba's Innovation-Driven Approach to Intellectual Property Rights Governance
5. NIO: A Chinese EV Company's Global Strategy

### References:

1. Tian Zhu, *Catching Up to America: Culture, Institutions, and the Rise of China*, Cambridge University Press, 2021.
2. Graham Allison, Nathalie Kiersznowski, Charlotte Fitzek, [The Great Economic Rivalry: China vs the U.S.](#), Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, 2022.

Additional audio, video and reading materials will be distributed in class.

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The University Regulations on academic honesty will be strictly enforced. Academic dishonesty and plagiarism will NOT be tolerated.

Attendance is required. Being more than 30-minute late is counted as absent. Being absent for 3 times or more will automatically result in Fail.

Open and free exchange of ideas is encouraged in class. Everyone can raise questions during the class. All are welcome to bring the most up-to-date and/or interesting topics to class discussions. Your contribution to class discussion is part of your grade.

#### **ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION**

There are 5 study groups. There is one group assignment: Presentation + write-up of one assigned case.

1. Case writeup: Each group will submit one case writeup on the assigned case. The write-up should, at minimum, address the assigned questions.
2. Case presentation: Each group will make a 25-minute presentation about one assigned case and answer questions from the class. Each group member should present. All group members should participate in the presentation.

Contribution and performance of group work will be peer-reviewed at the end of the course.