Environmental issues and disease crises are two key problems within China and are equally important to international relations. Of particular concern are China’s devastating water shortage that threatens to leave much of northern China without water in the next twenty years, major epidemics such as AIDS, and diabetes, pollution, and China’s long-term food security. Taking a historical perspective, this course will tease out the intertwined relationship of environment, agriculture, economic development, pollution, disease, patriotism, domestic security, and international conflict.

**Required Books:** All required books are available at the library and campus bookstore.

**D2L (Desire to Learn Electronic Reserves** [http://learn.ou.edu](http://learn.ou.edu)): **List of Required Readings.**
Rural Health Newspaper Articles


Food Safety Newspaper Articles.


Obesity & Diabetes Newspaper Articles

HIV Newspaper Articles


Economist article on air pollution


Protest Newspaper articles


Three Gorges Newspaper Articles

Water Scarcity Newspaper Articles


Water Transfer Newspaper Articles


**Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class. Each student will be allowed two unexcused absences during the semester. Whenever you are absent, please send an
email to the instructor. Absences above and beyond those two that cannot be documented with a note from a doctor (in the case of acute illness), a professor or coach (in the event of an official university-related activity such as a forensics or athletic tournament), or a C.O. (in the case of official and mandatory military duties) will result in grade penalties. If you do not take the absences and instead come to class, those points will be averaged into your grade as extra credit.

In addition to your attendance, participation will be graded. Participation is based on in-class discussion and on short writing assignments and responses. Be prepared and thoughtfully and actively participate. Being respectful and professional is expected in the classroom. TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRICAL DEVICES BEFORE CLASS.

Discussion Leadership, Debates, Papers, Exams, and Quizzes:

Discussion Leadership
You and your partners will be responsible for leading one discussion. In addition to reading the articles or book thoroughly, and working with your partners to come up with additional group discussion questions, you must do the following four things prior to your discussion. 1. Individually write a three page paper discussing the articles or book’s main points and critiquing them. 2. Find additional newspaper or research articles about the topic to see if there are other ways of looking at the issue. 3. Prepare a group introduction that is 3-5 minutes long (but no longer). 4. After 1-3 are done, meet with the instructor during office hours one week prior to your discussion. PREPARE THE WEEK BEFORE YOUR DISCUSSION.

Debates
You are required to participate in a debate on the Three Gorges Dam. Your individual contribution to the debate and your groups overall work will be graded. To prepare for the debate your group must meet separately and research your topic using both assigned and outside materials. You are required to produce one short paper as part of group work. (See papers below.) More instruction will be given later on debate preparation.

Response Papers
There are two response papers. All papers should use double space, 12 pt, with 1 inch margins. Papers should be BOTH handed in as a hardcopy and posted to the D2L drop box. Paper one (3 pages) will prepare you to be a discussion leader. Paper two (3 pages) will prepare you for the debate. Make copies of your second paper for your whole debate group.

Environment or Disease in the News:
Each student will write a 2-page double-spaced analysis of 2-4 newspaper articles about a single environmental or disease issue (articles do not have to be about China) or can compare the issue in China to another country whose topic matches the week you sign up for. On the day when you hand in your article, expect to give a couple minute report to the class on what you read, how it relates to class, and why you think it is important. Turn in a hard copy of the news articles and your paper and post your paper to D2L. Include all reference information in bibliographic format. Your analysis should NOT re-hash the article. Instead, analyze the articles and explain how they relate (or differ) from material we have discussed in class.
Paper
One paper (8-10 pages) is a research or policy paper on a Chinese environmental or disease issue of your choice. All papers must mainly use outside sources and NOT reiterate class discussions or lectures. I will give you prompts and more details about all paper assignments closer to each due date. You will be required to give a presentation of your paper at the end of class.

Plagiarism, or using other people’s words or ideas of others without properly acknowledging them, is not tolerated. Know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Refer to the university web site: http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity/ for definitions and university procedures in dealing with plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct. The consequences can range from a grade of F to expulsion from the university. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct, come see me during office hours.

Exams
You will have a midterm and final exam. It will be IDs and short and medium length essays. Bring bluebooks and a writing utensil.

Quizzes
There are four scheduled quizzes and additional pop quizzes as needed. These will be very straight forward, designed simply to motivate you to keep up with the reading. Be on time as quizzes will always be given at the beginning of class. There are no make-up quizzes unless authorized by me for an excused absence.

Extra Credit
One evening the film Great Wall across the Yangtze or another film on this issue will be shown. This 60 minute documentary is about the Three Gorges Dam. To get extra credit, attend the movie and write a one page response paper with your reactions to the movie.

Grading:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Leadership + paper</td>
<td>14 pts</td>
<td>Throughout Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debate + paper</td>
<td>14 pts</td>
<td>Paper, 11/18; Debate, 11/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper response paper</td>
<td>6 pts</td>
<td>Throughout Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>35 pts</td>
<td>10/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
<td>11/22 (Paper topic 10/7, Outline, 11/4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
<td>12/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>35 pts</td>
<td>Throughout Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes, 4x4</td>
<td>16 pts</td>
<td>Throughout Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your grade will be based on a straight scale, 90% and above = A, 80-89% = B, etc. Therefore, 180-200 points is an A, 160-179 points is a B, etc.

Warning: To pass this class you MUST complete the research paper, the midterm, and the final. Not completing one of these assignments is an automatic F in the course.

Disabilities and Special Circumstances:
If you have any disabilities or need for special accommodation in some way, you have a right to equal opportunity to learn. Please come see me early in the semester or ask the Office of Disability Services (URL: http://www.sa.ou.edu/ods/ or E-MAIL: ods@ou.edu, or PHONE: 325-3852) to contact me so that we can make appropriate arrangements.

COURSE SCHEDULE
Week 1: Introduction to the course and geography
Reading: *D2L: Cyranoski (envir + hlth); Veeck, 15-35 (skim).
M 8/24: Introduction, China’s geography I
W 8/26: Geography II, Traditional health care

Week 2: Inheritance from the Past
Reading: *D2L: Bray, 728-54; Economy, 27-46.
M 8/31: Traditional Views of Health and Medicine
W 9/2: Map Quiz, Traditional views of the Environment

Week 3: Western medicine comes to China
Reading: Challenges, Preface, 1-56; *D2L: Yip, 395-415.
M 9/7: LABOR DAY – NO CLASS
W 9/9: Missionary medicine: Western medicine in China

Week 4: Chairman Mao takes the helm
Reading: Challenges, 57-102; *D2L: Bray, 719-38; Economy, 46-57; Ye, 272-85; Atwill; Foolish Old Man.
M 9/14: Maoist health care – a great success
W 9/16: Maoist environmental impact – a great disaster – DISCUSSION

Week 5: A little problem with Economic Development
Reading: Challenges, 103-181; D2L: Lieberthal, 3-8; Qiu, 149; Economy, 184-197.
M 9/21: Reform era structural impediments to health care and environmental management
W 9/23: Quiz on Challenges, Book DISCUSSION(Chapter 5 discussed week 12)

Week 6: Rural health: the thing that was forgotten
Reading: D2L: Rural health np articles; Hsiao, 53-68; Liu Wei, 1-5; Yip, 1120–30
M 9/28: Causes of the current rural health crisis
W 9/30: Possible solutions to rural public health

Week 7: When the mouth is happy and the stomach is sad
Reading: *D2L: Ye, 137-144; Xin, 1310-1311; Jacobs; Tam, 5-36; Food Safety NP articles.
M 10/5: Food culture
W 10/7: Food safety – DISCUSSION PAPER TOPIC + 3 REF. IS DUE

Week 8: The problem with having too much
Reading: Dream, 1-124; *D2L: Yach, 317; Normile, 422-424; Obesity & Diabetes np articles.
M 10/12: Chronic diseases: obesity, smoking, and diabetes – China’s newest epidemic
W 10/14: Midterm
Week 9: *Sex can be scary*
Reading: *Dream*, 127-199; *D2L: HIV NP articles: Jun, 13-33; Lu, 609-611.
M  10/19: STDs and AIDS in China
W  10/21: AIDS

Week 10: *From the Eyes at the Bottom: Dealing with an unknown plague*
Reading: *Dream*, 203-341.
M  10/26: Quiz on *Dream*. DISCUSSION of *Dream*, first half
W  10/28: DISCUSSION of *Dream*, second half

Week 11: *Unimpeded Economic Development – the problematic results*
Reading: *Struggle*, 1-107; *D2L: Air Pollution, 1-2; Zhang, 1110-19.
M  11/2: Air Pollution
W  11/4: Water Pollution  OUTLINE OF PAPER + THESIS STATEMENT DUE

Week 12: *Pollution and Protest*
Reading: *Challenges*, 103-134; *Struggle*, 108-162; *D2L: Jun, 143-160; Protest np articles: Pulver, 92-94.
M  11/9: Environmental protest and NGOs (DISCUSSION – Jun + np articles)
W  11/11: Quiz on *Struggle*, DISCUSSION of *Struggle*

Week 13: *Humans’ meddling with water*
Reading: *River*, Ch. 5; *D2L: Pearce, 131-139; Economy, 213-219; Three Gorges np articles.
M  11/16: Dams and Irrigation – the benefits
W  11/18: Dams and Irrigation – the problems  Debate Response Paper due

Week 14: *Debating Dams*
Reading: None!
M  11/22: Debate on the Three Gorges Dam  RESEARCH PAPER IS DUE
W  11/26: THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

Week 15: *Water Scarcity – China’s greatest long-term threat*
Reading: *D2L: Water scarcity np articles; Larson, 1-5; Schiller, 124-131; Li, 1462-63; (Wed) Luoma, 1-4.
M  11/30: Climate change, water scarcity, and desertification
W  12/2: Solutions: Reforestation

Week 16: *Solutions? Moving and saving water*
Reading: *D2L: Water transfer np article; Liu, 899-910; (Wed) Barrionuevo, 1-4.
M  12/7: Solutions: The South-North Water Transfer Project
W  12/9: Solutions: Alternative ways of addressing the water crisis

**Final Exam**: Thurs. 12/17, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Hester Hall 148