China recently passed Japan to become the second largest economy in the world, and it passed the US as the largest trading nation. How did it achieve this, from a poor socialist country just a few decades ago? How does China’s economy work, what are its strengths and weaknesses, and where is it headed? “Chinese-driven globalization” is all around us now – how is it reshaping the world?

No prerequisites (assumes no prior knowledge of economics, business, Asia, China, or Chinese, just a desire to learn, but also great for students with background in any of these areas). This comprehensive introduction is open to upper-division and graduate students in any of the social sciences, humanities, business or law who want to develop a firm understanding of contemporary China:

Development models and growth strategies ~ economic stability ~ policy-making ~ banking and finance systems ~ 5-Year Plans ~ state-owned industries ~ export industries ~ energy ~ industrial and technological upgrading ~ new food industries ~ growing consumer class ~ infrastructure and city building ~ urbanization ~ currency policies ~ resources ~ overseas investment ~ interdependence with America ~ how China’s economic expansion is reshaping the rest of Asia, Africa, the United States, and the global economy…

Fulfills the Multicultural requirement (International Cultures); Global Context for Business majors; and Applied Economics, Business and Society for GSS majors.