Course Description:
This course examines diverse ethnic cultures and identities in China, and the ethnic relations between the political center and its margin in history as well as its contemporary changes in China. The course consists of lectures and tutorials. The lectures are designed to introduce the topics to the students. In each tutorial, we will discuss various readings. Student participation and presentations during tutorials are emphasized in order to accelerate students’ intellectual development. Some media recourses will be introduced in the lectures.

Major objectives:
It is necessary for our students to understand culture and society in Mainland China. The main purpose of this course is to help students to better understand the relationship between Chinese state and ethnic minorities, ethnic diversity, cultures and social institutions of ethnic minorities in China, which is elaborated as follows: (1) learn the historical and cultural context between the state center and its margin in China; (2) learn anthropological approaches to analyze ethnic relations in Chinese political culture; (3) understand the nation state building under cultural diversity in China; and (4) understand cultural diversity and the changing ethnic relations in contemporary China.

Assessment of student learning:
Continual assessment counts for 50% of the marks. Of this 50%, 25% is due to one field trip report, while the remaining 25% comes from tutorial presentations, and participation. The final exam counts for 50%.

Texts and main references:

February 6. Week 1. Introduction (I) the center and the margin
Dreyer, June Teufel,
No Tutorial this week (In Add/Drop period).

February 13. Week 2. Ethnic minorities as Manyi (I)
Dreyer, June Teufel,
No Tutorial this week (In Add/Drop period).

February 20. Week 3. Ethnic minorities as Manyi (II)
Dikotter, Frank,
Tutorial: February 20. Organization of presentation teams.

February 27. Week 4. Case of Ethnic Minorities and their culture
Films: 1. *Tisese: A Documentary on Three Mosuo Women;*
2. *A Lake of Romance.*
Tutorial: XXXX. No Tutorial this week, doing some homework about field trip.

March 5. Week 5. Nation state building after 1911.
Rossabi, Morris,
Beall, Goldstein,
Tutorial: March 5. Frank Dikotter, “Race as Culture: Historical Background” in *The discourse of Race in Modern China.* Chapter 1, pp. 1-30.

Dreyer, June Teufel,
1976. *China’s forty millions: minority nationalities and national integration in the

Beall, Goldstein


Film: Fading Reindeer Bell

Goldstein Beall,


Gladney, Dru C.


April 2. Week 9. Minorities in Northwest China (II).

Wang, Jianmin


April 16. Week 10. Minorities in Southwest China (I).

Goldstein Beall,


April 23. Week 11. Minorities in Southwest China (II).

Film: A Student Village. (100 Mins.)

Shanshan Du,
2002. “Husband-wife dyads in the life cycle”, in Chopsticks only work in pairs:


Field trip to Shenzhen on November 17, 2012.

May 7. Week 12. Minorities in Southwest China (III).
Film: The Folk Song on the Plain. (70 Mins.)

Gladney, Dru C.

Sautman, Barry


Harrell, Stevan,

Tutorial: Final review.

The date of the final exam is based on the university schedule.