Course Description: This course introduces a cataclysmic movement that brought the People’s Republic of China to the brink of anarchy: The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (1966-1976). The first part looks at historical precursors, including rebellion in the imperial era, political movements in the Republican Era, Communist campaigns and purges, as well as the Great Leap Forward famine that cost tens of millions of lives. Paying equal attention to elite politics at Mao Zedong’s “court” and the lived experiences of ordinary citizens, the second part focuses on the evolution of the turmoil, once Mao had called for “bombarding the headquarters” of his own party state, discussing the Red Guards, the worker rebels in Shanghai, local power seizures, factional warfare, military crackdowns, the “Gang of Four,” the “coup attempt” by Lin Biao, and finally the return to order. The third part begins with the reception of the movement abroad, and focuses on its afterlives, including the quasi-pluralist lessons drawn in the immediate aftermath, the role of Cultural Revolution legacies in decisions such as the violent crackdown on the Tiananmen protesters in 1989, and memory politics under Xi Jinping. No language requirement.

Class Participation:
Students are required to attend class and participate actively during sections. Every week by noon on Monday, students will post short responses (100-200 words) to the readings of this week to the course website, posing questions or raising issues they would like to address in section. Any student who has to miss a class should communicate with the instructor beforehand.

Grades:
Student work will contribute to the final grade in the following proportions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation (online and sections)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis of a primary document (1,500-2,000 words, due Oct 22)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm examination (Nov 12)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper (4,000-4,500 words, due by Registrar's deadline)</td>
<td>35%</td>
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To be fair to all students in the class, the final paper deadline is firm. Late papers turned in without an extension will be penalized 1/3 of a grade to 1 full grade, depending on the circumstances.

Collaboration & Academic Honesty:
Collaboration is vital to academic research and will be encouraged throughout the class. You must credit others for any ideas or evidence that they contribute to your project in your citations. Any instances of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be reported to the Honor Council.

Language of Instruction: This course is taught in English and has no other language requirement. Please consult instructor for additional resources in other languages, especially in Chinese.

Weekly readings:

9/3  Introduction & overview

**PART I: PRECURSORS AND ORIGINS**

9/10 Deep precursors

9/17 Communist precursors: Yan'an rectification, land reform, and Hundred Flowers

9/24 The Great Leap Forward

**PART II: “TEN YEARS OF CHAOS”**

10/1 “Bombard the headquarters:” The first weeks of the movement

10/8 Student Red Guards

8/14/19

10/15 Worker rebels and factional warfare
• Walder, A. 2015. China under Mao. Read chapter 11 “Collapse and Division” (pp. 231-262).

10/22 Collective killings and military violence

10/29 Intellectuals and sent-down youth

11/5 Return to order, Mao’s death and the end of the Gang of Four

PART III: RECEPTION AND AFTERLIVES

11/12 International reception

11/19 Official verdict and societal impact

8/14/19 3

11/26  Afterlives

12/3  Legacies today