



# Beijing & Xi'an, China

With Dr. May Farid

## Course Description:

With the political shift of the last two decades, the majority of the world's population now lives in nondemocracies. How do peacebuilders engage with these regimes and populations? This course enables students to gain firsthand insight into one of the major potential conflicts of our time, and into the inner workings of a state and population that, for better or worse, will have a decent impact on global security, climate change, and the global economy over the coming decades. Students will explore three areas during this course: China's government, society, and global impact. We will engage with policymakers and state-adjacent institutions to explore China's political system as it relates to Great Power politics, including its foreign policy, decision-making processes, and centralization of authority alongside localized discretion. Second, we will explore Chinese society and learn to disaggregate it from the state, visiting social organizations and NGOs, studying its shifting economic structures and vibrant entrepreneurship, and exploring its rich intellectual traditions of harmony and global order. Finally, we will explore China's engagement in global peace building, international aid, and foreign investment. As China's impact in SE Asia, Latin America, and Africa grows, we speak to actors across the state-society divide who are working to make this engagement more just, peaceful, and environmentally sustainable.

## Course Titles

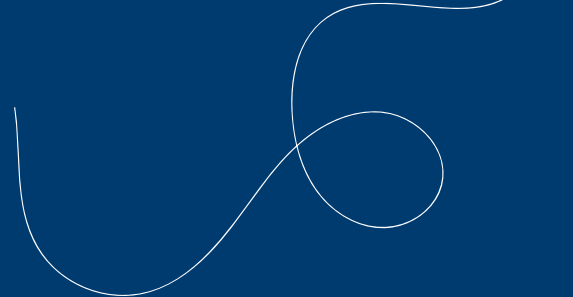
KROC 593i  
Engaging with Others:  
Peacebuilding & State-Society  
Relations in China

## Term

Spring 2026

## Travel Dates

May 9th - May 20th 2026



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