This seminar will examine the various stages of the life of Mao: his childhood, his rise to prominence in the revolution, and his roles first as Chairman of the Communist Party and later as the undisputed ruler of the Peoples Republic. Themes for this course will include Mao’s family life and his struggles against rivals both inside and outside of the Party; this course will also consider his thoughts on peasant organizations, guerrilla warfare, intellectuals and elites, literature and art, mass will and energy, and the continuing revolution. As well, the course will analyze changing depictions of Mao both by himself and by other individuals of differing political persuasions. Readings will include Mao’s early autobiographical account, selected biographies published in the West over the past decades, and portions of Mao’s speeches and writings relevant to our themes.

**Week 1**

W Jan. 21 Introduction

**Week 2**

M Jan. 26
Review Jonathan Spence, MAO ZEDONG

W Jan. 28
Early Years, 1893-1927.
Edgar Snow, RED STAR OVER CHINA, 129-162
Philip Short, MAO, A LIFE. Chapters 1-4
Stuart Schram, MAO TSE-TUNG, 12-94

**Week 3**

M Feb. 2
Mao in Opposition, 1927-1941
SNOW, 163-181
SHORT, chapters 5-10
SCHRAM, 95-174

MAO, “Report of An investigation into the Peasant Movement in Hunan
W Feb. 4
Yanan and the War Against Japan 1937-1945
SHORT, CHAPTER 11
SCHRAM, 175-228
MAO, “On Contradiction”; “Talks at the Yenan Forum on Art and Literature”; Strategic Problems in the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla War

Week 4

M Feb. 9
Winning the Civil War and “Changing the Sky, 1945-1956
SHORT, chapter 12-13
SCHRAM, 229-254
MAO, “Two Possible Destinies”; “On Coalition Government”
SCHRAM, 255-287

W Feb. 11
FILM

Week 5

M Feb. 16
Going Alone (1956-1965)

W Feb. 18
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [I]
MacFarquhar & Schoenhals, MAO’S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 1-10

Week 6

M Feb. 23
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [II]
MAO’S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 11-14

W Feb. 25
The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [III]
MAO’S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 15-19
Week 7

M  March 2
   The Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976 [IV]
   MAO’S LAST REVOLUTION, chapters 20-25

W  March 4
   FILM

Week 8

M  March 9
   FILM

W  March 11 (No Class)

SPRING RECESS (March 14 – 29)

Week 9

W  April 1
   Confirmation of Research Topics

Week 10

Week 11

M  April 13
   Individual Conferences (Outlines and Bibliography)

Week 12

Week 13

W  April 29
   Students Presentations

F  May 15
   FINAL PAPER DUE, 4:30 PM,

   Submit paper copy to Academic Support Office in Mears Cottage