The Sociology of Contemporary China: 
In the Context of the BRICS and of Globalization

Course Outline

This discipline will bring together a series of reflections on globalization, concentrating on its South-South dimensions. The difficulties in understanding ‘the other’ stand out. This finding leads to the question of how can globalization can be carried forward without an adequate comprehension of our partners? Will such incomprehension inevitably lead to a clash of civilizations (Huntington)? The principle focus of this discipline will be sociological studies of China, carried out in that country and which emphasize recent academic production. Students will learn not only about how sociologists attempt to understand the transformations of their country, but also about the methods and theories mobilized in sociological research, and how knowledge is presented to permit dialogue with others, including those in developing countries. Students will be presented with a series of original portrayals of different social dynamics of China, its recent transformations, and with perspectives that permit the production of a more complex understanding of globalization processes. (The discipline will be offered on-line, in an original effort by the Institute of Sociology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (IS-CASS) and the post-graduate programmes in Sociology and Social Sciences, and to a selected group of advanced or interested students in the undergraduate programme in social sciences at Unicamp. CASS-Unicamp Center for Studies on China will promote a substantial number of lectures in this course, to be delivered by CASS professors in English).

Preliminary Bibliography

Part 1 - (3 aulas) 
(classes will be given in Portuguese)

Introdução
Class 1, 13th August  Globalization, Brazil & BRICS


Hermès la revue no. 79. 2017. BRICS Un espace ignoré, Paris, CNRS.


Class 2, 20th of August  China and Brazil in a world in transformation


Class 3, 27th August  Introdução à Sociologia da China


**Parte 2 – (10 lectures)**

Classes 4-13, 3rd September – 12th November

*(lectures will be given in English)*

**General Reference Books**

Contemporary China and its Sociology


Suggested Readings before start of classes

1. Social bases of contemporary china
   Demographics, Social stratification, The working class, Peasants, Consumption, Family marriage, sexuality,
   - Development & modernisation theories in China

2. Structure and change: modernization and new social actors
   State and political values, Identity and generation, Education and employment
   (LI Peilin et ali. Caps 7; (Dwyer, T. et ali. 2018. Caps 3, 6, 7).

3. Limits to development: Inequality and development
   Income inequality, Educational inequality, dimensions rural- urban, male - female, intergenerational inequalities, Environmental sustainability
   (LI Peilin et ali. Caps 6 e 7).

4. Emerging themes, Chinese sociology, digitalization and globalisation
   Chinese social thought, Globalisation, Perspectives for the future, Enterprise and entreprenurship, Internet participation and communication

Parte 3 – Conclusions (2 sessions)

17 – 24th November. Seminaires of Students (in English or Portuguese)

Evaluation – An individual or collective essay on a theme to be negotiated with the professor. (Individual essay up to 10 pages, collective up to 50 pages)