

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY
PSCI 222
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2004

- 1. POWER TRANSITION THEORY SUGGESTS THAT CHINA IS IN THE PROCESS OF SURPASSING THE UNITED STATES IN MILITARY-POLITICAL POWER, AS GERMANY SURPASSED GREAT BRITAIN IN THE YEARS BEFORE WORLD WARS I AN II. IT FURTHER PREDICTS THAT THE US AND CHINA (LIKE GERMANY AND GREAT BRITAIN) ARE HEADED TOWARD AN INTERNATIONAL WAR WITH EACH OTHER. IS THE ARGUMENT PERSUASIVE?**

- 2. WHAT, ACCORDING TO THE RAND CORPORATION (WHICH PRODUCED THE FIRST ASSIGNED READING ON CHINA, ENTITLED “DETERMINANTS OF CHINESE NATIONAL SECURITY BEHAVIOR) ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT POLICY GOALS OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA? DO YOU AGREE WITH THE RANKING OF CHINA’S PRIORITIES PROVIDED BY THE RAND CORPORATION?**

- 3. WHAT IS THE CURRENT PLAN THE US GOVERNMENT HAS FOR DEALING WITH CHINA IN THE DECADES TO COME? WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO THAT PLAN? IS CURRENT US POLICY OPTIMAL, OR NOT?**

- 4. WILL THE UNITED STATES ABANDON TAIWAN? SHOULD IT?**