

Engaging with the World: Chinese Foreign Policy Decision Making

Session 1: Bridging Chinese Foreign Policy and Western Theories of Foreign Policy (4 hours)

Purpose:

Learn to employ Western practice-based theories of foreign policy analysis to the study of Chinese foreign policy.

Key points:

1. Understand different types of theory: knowledge-oriented theory vs. policy-oriented theory
2. Introduce the different dimensions of foreign policy and their respective functions and roles in the study of foreign policy: description—analysis—evaluation—forecast.
3. Introduce the major perspectives of foreign policy analysis: individual, governmental, domestic politics, and national level of analysis.
4. Introduce the major means of applying these methods to the study of Chinese foreign policy.

Reading assignments:

Valerie Hudson, "Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory and the Ground of International Relations," in *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Vol. 1 No.1, (2005) 1, pp.1-30.

Samuel Kim, "Chinese Foreign Policy in Theory and Practice," in Samuel Kim ed. *China and the World*, (Westview Press, 1989), pp. 3-34.

Ng-Quinn, Michael. "The Analytic Study of Chinese Foreign Policy," *International Studies Quarterly* 27, no. 2 (June 1983), pp.203-224.

Questions:

How does the Chinese understanding of the concept of theories differ from that in the West?

What are major methods of foreign policy studies?

What are the major perspectives of foreign policy analysis?

Is it possible to apply Western-based theories to the study of Chinese foreign policy? If so, how?