Chinese society is currently undergoing social transformations so rapid and far-reaching that they have few historical precedents. This is the cumulative result of three interrelated processes: modernization, globalization, and transition to a post-socialist society. Consequences of these transformations are at once to be observed on the surface, such as growing social stratification and inequality, as well as hidden below, e.g. value-change and the search for new social identities. Classes offered in this sub-module analyze these issues either in the form of an overview of different aspects of China’s society (such as modernization and social change, social differentiation and inequality, shifting social identities).

**Intended learning outcomes**

Students familiarize themselves with current social trends and developments in China. This is achieved on the basis of critical reading of primary and secondary academic sources on Chinese society in Chinese and English. Students systematically train the critical assessment and evaluation of research findings, relevant theories and empirical methodologies in this field. Classroom discussions of texts impart debate skills while the written term paper allows for students to exercise writing an academic exposition based on properly selected sources.

**Courses**

S (2)
Module taught in: English and Chinese

**Method of assessment**

a) oral examination of one candidate each (approx. 15 minutes) or b) written examination (approx. 60 minutes)
Language of assessment: English and Chinese creditable for bonus