

Prof Liu Kang (Duke)

Bio:

Liu Kang is Professor of Chinese Studies, and Director of Duke Program of Research on China at Duke University. Professor Liu is Elected Member of Academia Europaea (The Academy of Europe) since 2015. He is the author of twelve books, and written widely in scholarly journals in both English and Chinese. In addition, He frequently contributes in the forms of op-eds, interviews, reviews, to American and Chinese print media and the internet media, on issues ranging from contemporary Chinese media and culture, globalization, to Marxism and aesthetics. His research covers Chinese Studies, cultural and media studies, comparative literature, political science, and international relations.

Project:

In June-July 2023 Liu Kang will conduct research and teach a block seminar at Department of East Asian Studies (Ostasiatisches Seminar), University of Göttingen, “Politics, Ideology, and Culture in China Today”. The seminar examines cultural and literary expressions and representations of modern China from the beginning of the 20th century to the present, focusing on issues of politics and ideology. It aims at unravelling the complex relationship of political, ideological formations and cultural, intellectual movements in modern China. The seminar first traces the late Qing (1880s) reformists to May Fourth New Cultural Movement (1919), and the rise of radical revolutionary ideologies, Marxism and Bolshevism, particularly Mao’s reinvention of an indigenous Chinese Marxist ideology that led to the victory of Chinese communist revolution in 1949. It then examines the central role that ideological and cultural warfare played during Mao era (1949-1976), and how Maoist legacy was debunked during the reform and opening-up era. Finally, the seminar attempts to understand the latest resurgence of Maoist ideology as the new guideline of the CCP leadership.

Dates of Stay:

June-July, 2023

