



# IGCC

UC INSTITUTE ON GLOBAL  
CONFLICT AND COOPERATION

## Developments in Chinese Defense and Strategic Innovation and Industrial Base and Policy Issues

May 19 - 22, 2026, Washington, D.C.

**The Executive Training Course on Developments in Chinese Defense and Strategic Innovation Base and Policy Issues** examines the relationship between national security, defense modernization, technological innovation, industrialization, and China's rise as a world power. Of central interest is how China is mobilizing and applying its economic, political, strategic, corporate, financial, intellectual, industrial, and scientific capabilities in conjunction with leveraging external resources to achieve its grand ambition of catching up technologically with the world's advanced military powers within the next 1–2 decades.

The course will incorporate the most recent developments taking place in China's defense, dual-use, and strategic science, technology, innovation, and industrial domains.

**Day 1 (Beginner Introduction):** This one-day introductory course is required for those with little to no knowledge about Chinese political, security, strategic, and defense science, technology and industrial matters. Sessions will provide basic information and perspectives on:

- History of the development of the Chinese defense innovation and industrial systems from the 1950s to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- Introduction to the nature, organization, and functions of the Chinese political, economic, national security, and military systems.
- Introduction to Chinese grand strategic thinking on science, technology, and innovation

**Days 2 – 4 (Intermediate & Advanced Topics):** The remainder of the training course will focus on:

- Xi Jinping's 'Military Strengthening' strategic thinking and its role in guiding the development and implementation of military strategy and weapons development.
- The militarization of the Chinese state and economy
- Military-civil fusion and the emergence of National Strategic Integration
- The development and reform of the Chinese defense industrial base.
- Examining key strategies and plans for defense science, technology, and innovation such as five-year plans, 995 program, and long-term development strategies.
- Mobilizing the Chinese system to support the development of high priority programs.
- Economic and financial dimensions of this ambitious techno-security transformation, including the use of market-based funding sources.
- The nature and impact of the anti-corruption crackdown on the PLA and defense industrial establishment.

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The course will be led by [Tai Ming Cheung](#), director of the [University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation](#) and a professor at the University of California San Diego. Dr. Cheung has written numerous books and articles dealing with Chinese defense innovation, military modernization, science and technology policy, and political economy of security issues.

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**Application Deadline: March 13, 2026**

For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://ucigcc.org/training/sitc/>