The emergence of China as a world power is dramatically changing fields ranging from global history to interdisciplinary studies. The Colloquium brings together three noted scholars who approach the subject of "China and the World" historically, but with new theoretical and conceptual approaches. The morning session is devoted to trade and material culture utilizing a visually oriented approach. The afternoon session is devoted to intellectual history and the impact of the Cultural Revolution seen through the lens of intellectuals in France.

Session I: 9:30-11am

"Visualizing Asia: From Canton trade to the Boxer Rebellion."
Peter Perdue, Professor, Department of History, Yale University

"Visualizing Cultures" is a path-breaking project at MIT initiated by John Dower, Shigeru Miyagawa and Peter Perdue among others, combining digitally accessible units of images with scholarly commentary on social, political and cultural history of East Asia. Perdue has just been awarded the Association of Asian Studies 2011 Buchanan Prize for the “compellingly contextualized” commentary on the Canton trade system.

Comment: Audience

Session II: 11:30-1pm

"China, Food, and the World of Goods in the Long Eighteenth Century"
Joanna Waley Cohen, Collegiate Professor and Chair, Dept. of History, New York University

Arguing that food was a crucial element of eighteenth-century luxury consumption both within China and in terms of the forging of international connections, this paper builds on recent research that has suggested how the spread of certain consumable commodities gave rise to new experiences of sociability and of the pursuit of pleasure that, while subject to local adaptations, were part of a distinctively early modern culture that transcended geographic limitations.

Comment: Professor Robert Hellyer, Department of History, Wake Forest University

Session III: 2-3:30pm

"Dreaming in Chinese: French Intellectuals, the Cultural Revolution, and the Legacy of the 1960s."
Richard Wolin, Professor of History and Comparative Literature, City University of New York

During the mid-1960s to early 1970s, French students and intellectuals identified profoundly with China’s Cultural Revolution and sought to draw analogous political lessons for their own country. What is important about the French Maoist episode is that at work was a process of cross-cultural political translation or grafting: Maoist ideas such as going to the people, “On Contradiction”, “the mass line”, were transposed to French circumstances producing new and imaginative grassroots social movements: feminism, ecology, and gay rights.

Comment: Professor Vasant Kaiwar, History Department, Duke University

RSVP by Wednesday, October 19 via email: ddhunt@duke.edu or by phone 919-684-2604.
The annual Triangle East Asia Colloquium is co-sponsored by APSI at Duke University, NCSU and UNC. The 2011 TEAC is additionally supported by a Department of Education Title VI grant through APSI, The Office of the Provost, Center for European Studies, and Department of History, Duke University.