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## FACULTY | M. TAYLOR FRAVEL

**M. Taylor Fravel** is Associate Professor of Political Science and member of the Security Studies Program at MIT. Taylor is a graduate of Middlebury College and Stanford University, where he received his PhD. He has been a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University, a Predoctoral Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University, a Fellow with the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program and a Visiting Scholar at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He also has graduate degrees from the London School of Economics and Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. In March 2010, he was named Research Associate with the National Asia Research Program launched by the National Bureau of Asian Research and the Woodrow Wilson International Center.

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## Research

Taylor studies international relations,

with a focus on international security, China, and East Asia. He is the author of *Strong Borders, Secure Nation: Cooperation and Conflict in China's Territorial Disputes* (Princeton University Press, 2008) and co-editor of *Rethinking China's Rise: A Reader* (Oxford University Press, 2010). He is currently completing a book-length study of major change in China's military doctrine since 1949, entitled *Active Defense: Explaining the Evolution of China's Military* (under advanced contract with Princeton University Press). He is also studying the relationship between material capabilities and political influence in China's rise as a great power. His research has been supported by various organizations, including the National Science Foundation, the United States Institute of Peace, and the Smith Richardson Foundation.

## Recent Publications

“Maritime Security in the South China Sea and the Competition over Maritime Rights,” in Patrick Cronin and William Rogers, eds., *Cooperation from Strength: The United States, China and the South China Sea* (Center for New American Security: Washington, DC, 2012) (PDF of [chapter](#) or [book](#))

“China’s Strategy in the South China Sea,” *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, Vol. 33, No. 3 (December 2011) [[PDF](#). Email me for an [off-print](#)]

“Economic Growth, Regime Insecurity, and Military Strategy: Explaining the Rise of Non-Combat Operations in China,” *Asian*

Security, Vol. 7, No. 2 (Fall 2011)  
([PDF](#))

“Beyond the Moat: The PLAN’s Evolving Interests and Potential Influence,” in Phillip Saunders *et al.*, eds., *The Chinese Navy: Expanding Capabilities, Evolving Roles* (National Defense University Press, 2011) (with Alex Liebman)  
(PDF of [article](#) or [book](#))

“China Views India’s Rise: Deepening Cooperation, Managing Differences,” in Ashley Tellis, Travis Tanner, and Jessica Keough ed., *Strategic Asia 2011–12: Asia Responds to Its Rising Powers—China and India* (Seattle: National Bureau of Asian Research, 2011)  
[PDF of [article](#), [book](#), or [email](#) me for an off-print]

“China’s Assertive Behavior – Part Two: The Maritime Periphery,” *China Leadership Monitor*, No. 35 (Summer 2011) with Michael D. Swaine. ([PDF](#))

## Subjects

17.950 Territorial Conflict  
17.407/17.408 Chinese Foreign Policy: International Relations and Strategy ([Syllabus](#))  
17.433/17.434 International Relations of East Asia  
17.418 Field Seminar in International Relations ([Syllabus](#))  
17.THT Thesis Research Design Seminar