

# CHINA CROSSROADS

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## Training the Next Generation of China Experts in the U.S.: Notes from the Trenches

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The Covid-19 pandemic dramatically accelerated the already-visible trend of declining American student interest in China. By some measures, that interest is starting to rise again, but areas of concern still outweigh more hopeful indicators. What are the present contours of the problem, a few years removed from the dismantling of pandemic controls? And what may be necessary for securing future American expertise on China that is commensurate to the growing importance and challenges of the bilateral relationship?

[Neysun A. Mahboubi](#) is Director of the Penn Project on the Future of U.S.-China Relations at the University of Pennsylvania, where he teaches various courses related to Chinese history, law, and policy, and hosts the China Studies podcast. He is also a Non-Resident Senior Fellow with the Asia Program at the Foreign Policy Research Institute. Previously he was a Research Scholar of Penn's Center for the Study of Contemporary China, where he remains affiliated. His primary academic interests are in the areas of administrative law, comparative law, and Chinese law, and his current writing focuses on the development of modern Chinese administrative law. He frequently comments on Chinese law and policy developments and U.S.-China relations for various media outlets. He has taught also at Princeton University's School of Public & International Affairs, the University of Connecticut School of Law, and Yale Law School.

*[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).*