

Title: “China and Strategic Competition: Some Historical Foundations”

Speaker: Kristin Mulready-Stone

Date: 5 September 2023

Time: 1200-1315

Where: C-138

POC: Dr. Peter Dutton

### **SYNOPSIS:**

This lecture presents an overview of China’s history since the early nineteenth century, with the purpose of helping members of the audience better understand why Chinese President Xi Jinping and other high-level leaders in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) respond the way they do to international and domestic events. Dr. Mulready-Stone will delve into the Century of Humiliation and what that period means to both the PRC government and the Chinese people. Building on this foundation, she will present a series of photographs that visually represent the massive economic growth in China since the 1990s. Mulready-Stone will use these photos to reflect with the audience on how economic development—combined with the government’s expansion and contraction of human rights in the same period—has shaped the Chinese people’s view of freedom and China’s position in the world.

### **BIOs:**

Kristin Mulready-Stone earned her undergraduate degree in East Asian Studies from Tufts University and her PhD in the History of Modern China from Yale University. Her book, *Mobilizing Shanghai Youth: CCP Internationalism, GMD Nationalism, and Japanese Collaboration*, focuses on three youth organizations’ efforts to recruit youth to build the future of the various contenders for power in China from the warlord period in 1920 into the Second World War. Since her book came out, she has published on the YMCA’s wartime services in the greater Shanghai area during the Second World War, the Russian Revolution’s impact on the Chinese youth movement, and two chapters on the China theater in the Second World War. She has a forthcoming chapter on China’s involvement in the First World War, which mainly involved China sending 100,000 men to serve as non-combatant laborers behind the lines as support to the Allies, primarily the British and French.

Here at the Naval War College she has been the Director of the Writing Center since 2016 and of the Writing and Teaching Excellence Center since 2018. This academic year she is a Visiting Professor and the Harold K. Johnson Chair of Military History at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA, where she is teaching in the Department of Military Strategy, Planning, and Operations.