Mao Zedong and Chiang Kai-shek were two important political leaders of 20th Century China. They were vicious enemies in the civil wars. They became unreliable allies fighting against their common enemy Japan during World War Two. When Japan surrendered in 1945, the Chinese expected that their country would embrace peace and democracy while the two leaders could share power. Mao Zedong, the leader of the Communist Party, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Patrick Hurley, flew to Chongqing in Southwest China to participate in a series of negotiations with Chiang Kai-shek, the leader of the Nationalist Party. Mao and Chiang even made a plan for the future of their country. Professor Liu will trace the Mao-Chiang talks, offer his interpretation of the nearly two-month long negotiations, and provide his view on their impacts upon postwar China.

Dr. Dayu Liu, Hunan University of Science and Technology
Thursday, March 16, 2017
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
D-1-141 MAK, Allendale Campus

Dr. Dayu Liu is a professor at Hunan University of Science and Technology, Xiangtan, Hunan Province. He earned his Ph.D from Nanjing University in 2007. From 2008 to 2011, he did his postdoctoral research at Zhejiang University. In 2009, he did research at Stanford University. Also, he was invited to do research at Academia Sinica and Chengchi University in Taiwan where he retrieved archival sources for his books. Dr. Liu's scholarship targets 20th century China with a special focus on the evolution of political systems and political modernization. He published two books: The Study of Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Centralized Politics (1931-1937) (Zhejiang University Press, 2012), and The Study of Institutional Changes of the Executive Yuan of the National Government (1928-1937) (Social Sciences Academic Press, 2012). He also published more than forty journal articles. In addition, he co-authored a few other books. Currently, he is a visiting scholar at Grand Valley State University (2016-17).