

Political Change in China

Spring 2020

Course Number: 01:790:386
Class Time: Mon & Wed 2:15 pm-3:35 pm
Classroom: Hickman 130
Office hours: by appointment

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Course Overview

This course is designed to introduce to students who have limited knowledge of China some basic aspects of political institutions and reform processes as well as major events in Chinese political life under the communists since 1949, focusing on the post-Mao reform period since 1978. It examines economic and political development in China--their causes, patterns, consequences, and implications--in a broader context of transition from state socialism. In this class, we will apply some concepts and theories in comparative politics in analyzing Chinese politics. By taking this class, students are expected to gain substantial knowledge about contemporary Chinese politics and acquire some basic ability to apply such knowledge to relate to and analyze current affairs concerning China.

Prerequisites

Students may take this course without prerequisites, however, previous background in the study of comparative politics or political economy and some knowledge of modern China will be helpful.

Requirements and Evaluation

Lectures and reading are arranged with both topical coverage and chronological sequence. Grades will be based on attendance and class participation (25%), a mid-term essay (20%), midterm exam (in-class, 25%), and a final essay (30%).

Topics for the mid-term essay will be posted at Sakai on March 6 and the essay is due on March 13. Topics for the final essay will be posted at Sakai on April 23 and the essay is due on April 30.

Reading Materials

Required textbooks are available for purchase at the university bookstore; they can also be ordered from Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble (bn.com) where less expensive copies are often available. For the other readings, articles will be posted on Sakai; books will be put on reserve at Douglass Library Undergraduate Reserve.

Required Textbooks

Saich, Tony 2015. *Governance and Politics of China*. 4th Edition. Macmillan.

Liberthal, Kenneth. 2004. *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform*. 2nd edition. New York Norton.

Recommended Textbooks

Goldman, Merle; MacFarquhar, Roderick. 1999. *The Paradox of China's Post-Mao Reforms*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Barry Naughton, 2007. *The Chinese Economy: Transitions and Growth*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

There will be documentary videos as additional teaching aids. Some of them will be shown in class. The recommended documentaries, available online at Rutgers Digital Library, are:

1. *China in Revolution* (1989)
2. *The Mao Years* (1994)
3. *Born Under the Red Flag* (1997)
4. *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* (1996)

Useful websites

Online News on China: <http://www.china.org.cn/>

Finding News about China online: <http://chinanews.bfn.org/>

China Digital Times: <http://chinadigitaltimes.net/>

Self-Reporting Absence Application

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

Academic Integrity

In accordance with Rutgers University policy on Academic Integrity, you are expected to fully comply with the school's policies. Please see: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require accommodation should review the following statement from the Office of Disability Services (<https://ods.rutgers.edu/>).

COURSE OVERVIEW

Week1	Introduction
PART I	The Maoist Legacy and the Impetus to Reform
Week 2	China's Revolution in Modern History
Week 3	The Mao System and Maoist Legacy
PART II	The Process of Reform
Week 4	Succession and Change in a Leninist System
Week 5	Rural Reform and Industrialization
Week 6	SOEs and Urban Reform
Week 7	The Rise of the Private Sector
Week 8	Midterm exam
PART III	Consequences of Economic Reform and Political Change
Week 10	Institutional Foundation of Economic Growth
Week 11	State-Society Relations under the Reform
Week 12	Democratization and the Rule of Law
Week 13	Inequality and Dislocation from Economic Reform
Week 14	Political Participation and Protest
Week 15	New Problems in Continuing Reform
Week 16	Final review and exam

Topics and Readings

(Readings marked with an asterisk are required. Other readings are recommended.)

Week 1 (1/22) Introduction: Why China? What to know about Chinese politics?

*Lieberthal, pp.1-28.

*Tony Saich, pp. 1-28.

Part I. The Maoist Legacy and the Impetus to Reform

Week 2 (1/27, 29) China's Revolution in Modern History

*Lieberthal, pp.28-56, 59-83.

MacFarquhar, R. 1991 "The succession to Mao and the end of Maoism", in MacFarquhar, R. and Fairbank, J.K. (eds.) *The Cambridge History of China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 303–401.

Week 3 (2/3, 5) The Mao System and Maoist Legacy

*Lieberthal, pp.84-122.

*Tony Saich, pp. 29-44.

Andrew Walder, "Some Ironies of Maoist Legacy in Industry," *The Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs*, January 1981, pp. 21-38.

Barry Naughton, 2007. *The Chinese Economy: Transitions and Growth*. Cambridge: MIT Press, pp. 55-78.

Part II. The Process of Reform

Week 4 (2/10) China on the Eve of Reform: Succession and Change in a Leninist System

* Lieberthal, pp.123-167.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp. 47-75.

Lowell Dittmer, "Bases of Power in Chinese Politics: The Fall of the Gang of Four," *World Politics*, No. 31 (October 1978), pp. 26-60.

Week 4 (2/12) Rural Reform and Industrialization

* Tony Saich, pp. 267-275.

* Oi, Jean C. 1992. "Fiscal Reform and the Economic Foundations of Local State Corporatism." *World Politics*, Vol.45, No.1:99-126.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp. 30-44.

Naughton, Barry. 1994. "Chinese Institutional Innovation and Privatization from Below." *American Economic Review*, Vol.84, No.2, pp. 266-270.

David Zweig, 1986. "Prosperity and Conflict in Post-Mao Rural China," *The China Quarterly*, No. 105 (Mar.), pp. 1-18.

Week 5 (2/17, 19) Cracking the Iron Rice Bowl: SOEs and Urban Reform

*Tony Saich, pp. 44-64, 257-267.

*Lieberthal, pp.246-272.

Andrew Walder, 1989. "Factory and manager in an Era of Reform," *The China Quarterly*, Vol. 118, pp 242-264.

Garnaut, Ross, Ligang Song, and Yang Yao. 2006. "Impact and Significance of State-Owned Enterprise Restructuring in China." *China Journal*, No. 55, pp. 35-63.

Week 6 (2/24, 26) The Rise of the Private Sector

*Tony Saich, pp. 244-257.

*Tsai, Kellee S. 2005. "Capitalists without a Class: Political Diversity among Private Entrepreneurs in China." *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 38, No.9, pp. 1130---1158.
Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp. 241-282.

Feng Chen, 2006. "Privatization and its Discontents in Chinese Factories," *The China Quarterly*, No.185, pp. 42-60.

Dickson, Bruce J. 2008. *Wealth into Power: The Communist Party's Embrace of China's Private Sector*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2-3.

Week 7 (3/2) CLASS CANCELLED

Week 7 (3/4) Guest lecture on China's land ownership and reform by Prof. Meina Cai from Department of Political Science, University of Connecticut

Background reading for the guest lecture:

Anne Haila. 2016. *Urban Land Rent: Singapore as a Property State*. pp. 69-72. Blackwell.

John Friedmann. 2005. *China's Urban Transition*. Chapter 2. University of Minnesota Press.

Week 8 (3/9, 11) Mid-term Review and In-class Midterm Exam (Mid-term Essay due)

Week 9 (3/12, 15) Spring Break-NO CLASS

Part III. Consequences of Economic Reform and Political Change

Week 10 (3/23, 25) Institutional Foundation of Economic Growth

* Tony Saich, pp. 85-115, 154-190.

* Lieberthal, pp.171-205, 206-242.

Montinola, Gabriella; Qian, Yingyi; Weingast, Barry R. 1995. "Federalism, Chinese Style: The Political Basis for Economic Success in China." *World Politics* no. 48 (1):50-81.

Cai, Hongbin and Daniel Treisman. 2006. "Did Government Decentralization Cause China's Economic Miracle?" *World Politics*, Vol. 58, No. 4, pp. 505-535.

Week 11 (3/30, 4/1) State-Society Relations under the Reform

* Tony Saich, pp. 191-211.

* Lieberthal, pp.295-304.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp. 100-128.

Tsai, Lily. 2007. "Solidary Groups, Informal Accountability, and Local Public Goods Provision in Rural China." *American Political Science Review*, Vol.101, No. 2, pp. 355-372.

Week 12 (4/6, 8) Democratization and the Rule of Law

*Tony Saich, Chapter pp. 116-153.

*Mary E. Gallagher, 2002. "Reform and Openness: Why China's Economic Reforms Have Delayed Democracy," *World Politics* No. 54, pp. 338-72.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp.76-99, 129-144.

Andrew J. Nathan, 2009. "China Since Tiananmen: Authoritarian Impermanence," *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 20 (3), pp. 37-40.

Andrew J. Nathan, 2003. "China's Changing of the Guard: Authoritarian Resilience," *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 14 (1), pp. 6-17.

Week 13 (4/13, 15) Inequality and Dislocation from Economic Reform

* Tony Saich, pp. 276-312, 224-243.

* Lieberthal, pp.305-314.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp.220-240.

Huang, Xian. 2013. "The Politics of Social Welfare Reform in Urban China: Social Welfare Preferences and Reform Policies." *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, No. 18 (1):61-85.

Week 14 (4/20, 22) Political Participation and Protest

* Tony Saich, pp. 211-223.

Goldman and MacFarquhar, pp.145-219.

O'Brien, Kevin and Lianjing Li. 2000. "Accommodating 'Democracy' in a One-Party State: Introducing Village Elections in China." *The China Quarterly*, No. 162, pp. 465-489.

Andrew Walder and Gong Xiaoxia, 1993. "Workers in the Tiananmen Protests," *Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs*, No. 29(Jan.), pp. 1-30.

Week 15 (4/27, 29) New Problems in Continuing Reform

* Tony Saich, pp. 313-374.

* Lieberthal, pp.315-336.

Week 16 (5/4) Final review