

## **China's Development at 30: Background, Institutions, & Processes**

### **Course objectives:**

This course on China's development aims at understanding the operation of the present Chinese political economy and its multi-dimensional implications.

What is China like today, how does it operate politically and economically? How do Chinese people think and act as reflected in their political and economic behavior? How has the country changed after 1949, and how is it changing today? To answer these questions, the best approach is to look at the factors that shape Chinese politics, over time and now.

We first study the revolutionary setting as of 1921 when the Communist Party came to be, along with the 28-year-long revolution that brought the Party to power in 1949. We then follow up with a look at the significant--and changing--features of the post-1949 Chinese political and economic institutions. After the midterm examination, we shift attention to examine the political, economic, legal and social implications of China's development under the reform and opening policy since 1979.

Our goal will be to develop conceptual tools for making sense of ongoing political economy in China today. We can do this by building a perspective for understanding the country on the basis of its modern history, its political ideology, and the Party's motives for embarking on the reform after the late 1970s. In particular, we will be attentive to China's governmental institutions, leadership methods, political belief systems and procedures of policy making and implementation. In addition, we will examine the Chinese forms of popular participation in political economy, both in the recent past and, undergoing transition, in the present.

### **Class time, place:**

Friday, 2-4 pm.  
商館260101

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Friday, 4-5 pm.

Students who cannot come at those times can email me ([chentitus@gmail.com](mailto:chentitus@gmail.com)) to set up an appointment at another time.

### **BOOKS:**

All of the assigned readings are in the coursepack or available in NCCU library.

**EVALUATION WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING EXERCISES:**

1) Participation (10% of the grade).

You must attend each session on time, finish the weekly assigned readings before the class, ask questions and try your best to answer questions from the teacher and students.

Your preparedness and participation in class will also affect your grade, particularly if you are on the border between grades.

2) A midterm exam of essay questions and short answers (40% of the grade).

3) A final paper of 8-10 pages (50% of the grade).

You must write an original paper. **Your paper must refer to at least 10 class readings and lectures, and give footnotes to them, showing how your reading in these books and articles has given you greater understanding of China's development.** I will specify the topics of the final paper during the class on 11/26.

**The paper is DUE ON THE LAST OF THE CLASS, and I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE PAPERS.**

**READING ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS SCHEDULE**

Date	Subjects	Readings
9/17	Introduction	No readings
	Theme I: the road leading to deep reforms	
9/24	Rise of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese civil war	Kenneth Lieberthal, <u>Governing China</u> , (2003), 39-56; *David Goodman, <u>Social and Political Change in Revolutionary China</u> (2000), ch. 5
10/1	From totalitarianism to Tiananmen	Tony Saich, <u>Governance and Politics of China</u> (2004), ch. 2-3
	Theme II: features of Chinese politics, 1949-1980	
10/8	The Party structure	Tony Saich, <u>Governance and Politics of China</u> , ch. 4; Ken Lieberthal, <u>Governing China</u> , pp. 208-214
10/15	The governmental apparatus	Tony Saich, <u>Governance and Politics of China</u> , ch. 5; ch. 6, pp. 188-208
10/22	Ideology & economy	Susan Shirk, <u>The Political Logic of</u>

		<p><u>Economic Reform in China</u> (1993), pp. 23-37; June Teufel Dreyer, <u>China's Political System</u> (2000), pp. 135-144; Wang Lixin and Joseph Fewsmith, "Bulwark of the Planned Economy," in <u>Decision-Making in Deng's China</u>, eds. by Carol Hamrin and Suisheng Zhao (1995), pp. 51-65.</p>
10/29	The legal-judicial order	<p>June Teufel Dreyer, <u>China's Political System</u> (2000), ch. 8; Stanley Lubman, <u>Bird in a Cage: Legal Reform after Mao</u> (1999), ch. 4</p>
11/5	<p>Reform and opening</p> <p><b><u>Topics of final paper submitted.</u></b></p>	<p>Tony Saich, <u>Governance and Politics of China</u>, ch. 9; Susan Shirk, <u>The Political Logic of Economic Reform in China</u> (1993), pp. 38-51, 129-145.</p>
	Theme III: Chinese political economy in flux	
11/12	Central-local relations	<p>Zhiyue Bo, "The Provinces: Training Grounds for National Leaders or a Power in Their Own Right?" in <u>China's Leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</u>, eds. by David M. Finkelstein and Maryanne Kivlehan (2003); Andrew H. Wedeman, <u>From Mao to Market: Rent Seeking, Local Protectionism, and Marketization in China</u> (2003), ch. 2-3; Minxin Pei, <u>China's Trapped Transition</u> (2006), ch. 4.</p>
11/19	Midterm exam	No readings
11/26	Administrative reform	<p>Dali L. Yang, <u>Remaking the Chinese Leviathan</u> (2004), ch. 2, 5-6;</p>
12/3	Party renewing	<p>John P. Burns, "The Chinese Communist Party's Nomenklatura System as a Leadership Selection Mechanism: An Evaluation," in <u>The Chinese Communist Party in Reform</u>, eds. by Kjeld Erik Brodsgaard &amp; Zheng Yongnian (2006); Maria Edin, "remaking the Communist Party-State: The Cadre Responsibility System at the Local Level in China," in <u>Bringing the Party Back In</u>, eds. by Kjeld</p>

		Erik Brodsgaard & Zheng Yongnian (2004); David Shambaugh, <u>China's Communist Party: Atrophy and Adaptation</u> (2008), ch. 6-7.
12/10	Accountability & anti-corruption: CCP legitimacy at stake	Melanie Manion, <u>Corruption by Design</u> (2004), ch. 3-4; Dali L. Yang, <u>Remaking the Chinese Leviathan</u> , ch. 7;
12/17	State-society relations I: state-business relations	Kellee S. Tsai, <u>Capitalism without Democracy: the Private Sector in Contemporary China</u> (2007), ch. 1; Bruce Dickson, <u>Wealth in Power: the Communist Party's Embrace of China's Private Sector</u> (2008), ch. 1, 3.
12/24	State-society relations II: rights consciousness, legal regimes	Merle Goldman, <u>From Comrade to Citizen</u> (2005), ch. 8; Randall Peerenboom, <u>China Modernizes</u> (2007), pp. 83-99, 104-126, 195-216;
12/31	State-society relations III: disputes, protests, & state responses	Mary E. Gallagher, "Use the Law as Your Weapon!" Institutional Change and Legal Mobilization in China," in <u>Engaging the Law in China: State, Society, and Possibilities for Justice</u> , eds. by Neil J. Diamant, Stanley B. Lubman, and Kevin O'Brien (2005); Ching Kwn Lee, <u>Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt</u> (2007), ch. 1; Yanfei Sun and Dingxin Zhao, "Environmental Campaigns," in <u>Popular Protest in China</u> , ed. by Kevin O'Brien (2008).
1/7	<b>Final paper due in class</b>	No readings

**NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. YOU WILL HAVE TO LOSE 20 POINTS IF YOU DO NOT TURN IN YOUR PAPER ON January 7 (at the last class).**