

Barnard College / Columbia University  
Office: 400 Lehman Hall  
Office hours: Tues, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Phone: 212 817 2033

Instructor: [Jennifer Holdaway](#)  
Tues, Thurs 4:10-5:25 p.m.  
202 Barnard Hall  
E-mail: [jholdaway1@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:jholdaway1@gc.cuny.edu)

## **Contemporary Chinese Politics** **Political Science V 3620y** **(Spring 2003)**

This class will provide an introduction to contemporary Chinese politics, including political institutions and dynamics, state-society relations, and China's role in the international sphere. Completion of the introductory course in comparative politics (V3452) is recommended as preparation for this class.

### **Requirements**

Students are required to complete the assigned readings before the class and come prepared to discuss them. In addition, you should keep abreast of news about China by reading the New York Times or another major newspaper (see attached sheet for China news sites on the web).

### **Grading.**

You will be graded on your knowledge of the material covered in the readings and the class lectures. Grades will be based on: class participation, 10%; surprise quizzes on the reading, 10%; take-home mid-term examination (essays, 7-8 pages), 35%; final examination (essays, 8-10 pages), 45%. Incompletes are discouraged and will be given only in the event of a documented illness or emergency. If you find you are having difficulty with the class, please discuss it with me as soon as possible.

### **Reading Assignments**

Students should purchase the following books, which are available at Labyrinth Books, as are other books from which several readings are required.

Tony Saich, *Governance and Politics of China*, Palgrave, 2001.

Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China from Revolution through Reform*, W.W. Norton, 1995.

Marc Blecher, *China Against the Tides: Restructuring through Revolution, Radicalism, and Reform*. Pinter, 1997.

Merle Goldman and Roderick MacFarquhar, eds., *The Paradox of China's Post-Mao Reforms*, Harvard University Press, 1999.

Andrew J. Nathan and Richard S. Ross, *The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress*, W.W. Norton, 1997.

All other books and all required articles are on reserve at the Columbia Starr Library and at the Barnard Library. The articles are also available online through full-text journal archives.

Students are also required to view three documentaries, available at the Library:

China in Revolution (to be shown in class on January 23), The Mao Years, and The Gate of Heavenly Peace

## Class Schedule and Reading

**Jan 21 Introduction**

No reading assignment

**Jan 23 Documentary film – China in Revolution**

Saich, Chapter 1

**Jan 28 Pre-revolutionary China**

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Chapter 1

Blecher, *China Against the Tides*, Chapter 1, pp. 1-16

**Jan 30 Nationalism and the rise of the CCP,**

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Chapter 2

Blecher, Chapter 1, pp. 16-41

**Feb 4 The Mao Years 1**

Saich, Chapter 2, pp. 23-40

Lieberthal, Chapter 3

Blecher, Chapter 2, 43-66

Documentary film: The Mao Years (view at your convenience)

**Feb 6 The Mao Years 2**

Saich, Chapter 2, pp. 40-51

Lieberthal, Chapter 4

Blecher, Chapter 2, pp. 66-88

**Feb 11 Deng Xiaoping and reform in the 1980s**

Saich, Chapter 3, pp. 52-59

Lieberthal, Chapter 5

Blecher, *China Against the Tides*, Chapter 3

**Feb 13 The 1989 protest movement and its aftermath**

Saich, Chapter 3, pp. 59-69

Documentary film, *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* (view at your convenience before class)

**Feb 18 Chinese Communist Party**

Saich, Chapter 4

Blecher, Chapter 4

Bian Yanjie, Shu Xiaoling and John R. Logan, *Communist Party Membership and Regime Dynamics in China*. *Social Forces*, March 2001, v. 79, n. 3, pp. 805-841.

**Feb 20 Political Elites and the New Leadership**

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Chapter 8

Articles from the *Far Eastern Economic Review*

**Feb 25 Central Government and legal reform**

Saich, Chapter 5

**Feb 27 Regional and Local Government**

Saich, Chapter 6

**March 4 Informal Politics and corruption**

Lu Xiaobo "From Rank-Seeking to Rent-Seeking: Changing Administrative Ethos and Corruption in Reform China," *Crime, Law and Social Change*, v. 32, n. 4 (1999), pp. 347-70.

Lu Xiaobo, "Booty Socialism, Bureaupreneurs, and the State in Transition: Organizational Corruption in China," *Comparative Politics*, v. 32, n. 3 (2000), pp. 273-294.

**March 6 Formal Political Participation (Hand out midterm exams)**

Saich, Chapter 7, 164-184

Goldman and MacFarquhar, Chapters 5, 6

Minxin Pei, "Chinese Civic Associations: An Empirical Analysis," *Modern China*, Vol. 24, No.3. July 1998, pp. 285-318.

**March 11 Protest, dissent and repression**

Saich, Chapter 7, 184-193

Teresa Wright, "The China Democracy Party and the Politics of Protest in the 1980s and 1990s." *China Quarterly*, 2002, 906-926.

Human Rights Watch, China Report.

**March 13 Economic Policy 1 (Midterm exams due)**

Saich, Chapter 9, pp. 212-222

Goldman and MacFarquhar, Chapters, 1,2

Nicholas R. Lardy, "Sources of Macroeconomic Instability in China;" and Peter Bottelier, "How Stable is China? An Economic Perspective" in Shambaugh, *Is China Unstable?*

**March 18 Spring break – no class**

**March 20 Spring break – no class**

**March 25 Economic Policy 2**

Saich, Chapter 9, pp. 222-239

Goldman and MacFarquhar, *Paradox*, Chapters 8-12

Chapters by Solinger and Bernstein in David Shambaugh, *Is China Unstable?*

**March 27 Social Policy 1**

Saich, Chapter 10, pp. 241-254

Articles

**April 1 Social Policy 2**

Saich, Chapter 11, pp. 254-271

Articles

**April 3 Political Culture**

Goldman and MacFarquhar, Chapter 7

Yali Peng, "Democracy and Chinese Political Discourses." *Modern China*, Vol.24, Issue 4 (October 1998), 408-444

**April 8 Democratization**

Articles in by Brzezinski, Chen, Harding, Metzger, Oksenberg, Scalapino, Waldron, Wang, Zhao, and Nathan, in the *Journal of Democracy*, 1998, vol. 9, no. 1, pp. 1-64

**April 10 Decentralization, federalism, and separatism**

Joan Teufel Dreyer, "The Potential for Instability in Minority Regions," in Shambaugh, *Is China Unstable?*

Michael C. Davis, "The Case for Chinese federalism." *Journal of Democracy*, Vol.10, No.2, (April 1999) pp.124-37.

**April 15 Nationalism**

Townsend, "Chinese Nationalism," and Friedman, "A Democratic Chinese Nationalism?" in Jonathan Unger, ed., *Chinese Nationalism*.

Suisheng Zhao, "We Are Patriots First and Democrats Second: the Rise of Chinese Nationalism in the 1990s," in Friedman and McCormick, *What if China Doesn't Democratize?*

**China's Foreign Policy**

**April 17 Background and context**

Nathan and Ross, *The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress*, Chapters.1, 2, and 7  
Saich, Chapter 11

**April 22 China in Asia**

Nathan and Ross, *Great Wall*, Chapters.3, 5, and 6

**April 24 Greater China**

Nathan and Ross, *Great Wall*, Chapters 11 and 12

**April 29 China and the WTO**

Nathan and Ross, *Great Wall*, Chapter 8

Joseph Fewsmith, "The Political and Social Implications of China's Accession to the WTO," *China Quarterly*, vol. 167, September 2001, pp. 573-591.

**May 1 China and the US**

Nathan and Ross, *Great Wall*, Chapters.4 and 10

Friedman and McCormick, *What if China Doesn't Democratize*, Chapters 9-11

**May 6 Looking to the future**

Saich, Chapter 12

**May 9 Final Exams due**