

Barnard College/Columbia University

Professor Xiaobo Lü

Tu, Th, 10:35-11:50am

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Introduction to Contemporary Chinese Politics (V3620, Spring 2001)

This undergraduate course is designed to introduce to students who have limited knowledge of China some basic aspects of political institutions and 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 global transition from authoritarianism and state socialism.

Lectures and reading are arranged with both topical coverage and chronological sequence. Grades will be based on attendance and class (including discussion) participation (10%), a take-home midterm (essays, 5-7 pages, 40%), and a take-home final (essays, 7-10 pages, 50%). We will not have formal discussion sessions but students are required to attend the additional sessions at which documentary films on China will be shown and a short discussion afterwards.

Although students are highly recommended to have taken introduction to comparative politics (V3541) courses, there are no prerequisites for this class. Some knowledge of Chinese history or culture is helpful, but not essential.

The articles that are required readings and are on reserve at Butler and/or East Asian Libraries or online. Students are expected to purchase the following required texts from Columbia Bookstore:

James Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics: an introduction*, (6th ed.). Englewood, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1999.

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

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

In addition to these three books, the following texts are highly recommended since we will read some parts of them:

Xiaobo Lü, *Cadres and Corruption: the Organizational Involvement of the Chinese Communist Party*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2000.

Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic*, (3rd ed.). New York: The Free Press, 1999.

Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Norton, 1995.

Samuel Kim, *China and the World*, Westview, 4th ed., 1998.

(Readings marked with an asterisk are required. Other readings are recommended. The required and some of the recommended readings are on reserve at the East Asian Library (Kent Hall). There will be documentary videos as additional teaching aids. Some of them will be shown in class, others at time and place to be arranged. All of them are available for your viewing in Barnard Library. These documentaries are: 1. *China in Revolution* (2 hours); 2. *The Mao Years* (2 hours); 3. *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* (2 and 1/2 hours); 4. *In Search of China* (90 minutes); 5. *China: the Wild East* (1 hour).

Useful websites:

Web Resources on Chinese Politics:

<http://www.sru.edu/depts/artsci/gov/Gbrown/ChinaWebTopics.htm>

Online News on Greater China (*Inside China Today*): <http://www.insidechina.com/>

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

General Information on China: <http://www.chinapage.com/china.html>

Bibliography on Asia: <http://bas.umdl.umich.edu/b/bas/>

Part 1: The Origins of the Revolution

1 (1/16). Introduction

No reading assignments for this session. But students are recommended to take a look at the websites, especially www.chinapage.com and *Inside China Today*.

2 (1/18). Chinese Political System in Pre-Revolutionary Societies

*Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics*, chpt 1.

*Blecher, pp.9-16.

*Lieberthal, pp.1-26.

3 (1/23). Nationalism, the Communists, and Revolution

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, chpt 1-4.

*Blecher, pp.16-42.

*Lieberthal, pp26-56.

Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China*, chpt 1 and 2, pp.1-56.

John K. Fairbank, *The United States and China* (latest ed.).

Jonathan Spence, *The Search for Modern China*.

Mary Wright, *China in Revolution*.
Joseph Levenson, *Confucian China and Its Modern Fate*.

4 (1/25). **Communist Victory and the New Regime**

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, chpt 5-10.

*Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics*, chpt 2.

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, chpt 3, pp.60-82.

Video: *China in Revolution* (120 minutes, time and place to be announced).

Part 2: Maoism and Continuous Revolution

5 (1/30). **The Soviet vs. Maoist Models of Development**

*Blecher, chpt 2.

*Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics*, chpt. 3, pp.38-66.

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, chpt 4, pp.83-121.

6 (2/1). **The Attempted Leap and Its Failure**

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, chpt. 11-14, pp.167-255.

Carl Riskin, *China's Political Economy: the Quest for Development Since 1949*, chpts. 3-6, pp38-147.

Lowell Dittmer, *Continuous Revolution*, pp.1-76.

David Bachman, *Bureaucracy, Economy, and Leadership in China: the Institutional Origins of the Great Leap Forward*.

Rodrick MacFarquhar, *The Origins of Cultural Revolution*,v2.

7 (2/6). **Politics in Command**

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, chpts 15-17, pp. 257-306.

*Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics*, chpt.9, pp.209-227.

Rodrick MacFarquhar, *The Origins of the Cultural Revolution*, v3.

Lowell Dittmer, *Continuous Revolution*, chpt 2-3.

8 (2/8). **The Cultural Revolution**

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, chpt 18-21, pp.309-432

Stanley Rosen, *Red Guard Factionalism and the Cultural Revolution in Guangzhou*.

Lynn White, *Politics of Chaos*.

Yue Daiyun, *To the Storm: Revolutionary Odyssey of a Chinese Woman*.

Video: *The Mao Years* or *To Live* (the latter is a feature film. Time and place to be announced)

Part 3: From Revolution to Reform

9 (2/13). Origins of the Reform

*Blecher, chpt 3.

*Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp.435-465.

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, chpt 5, pp.122-153.

Lowell Dittmer, *Continuous Revolution*, pp 210-269

Harry Harding, *China's Second Revolution*.

Victor Nee & D. Mozingo, *State and Society in Contemporary China*.

E. Perry & C. Wong, *The Political Economy of Reform in Post-Mao China*.

K. Lieberthal & D. Lampton eds., *Bureaucracy, Politics, and Decision Making in Post-Mao China*.

10 (2/15). The Party, Ideology and Change

*Wang, chpt. 3.

* Lü, Cadres and Corruption, chpt. 1.

Kevin O'Brien, *Reform Without Liberalization*.

Brant Womack, ed., *Contemporary Chinese Politics in Historical Perspective*.

James Ethridges, *China's Unfinished Revolution*.

11 (2/20). Leadership and Cadres

*Wang, chpt 5.

* Lü, chpt 5.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 3.

12 (2/22). Government, Bureaucracy, and Regulation

*Wang, chpt 4.

*Blecher, chpt 4.

13 (2/27). Informal Politics and Corruption

* Lü, chpt 6.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 14.

*articles by Fewsmith, Dittmer/Lu.

Hand out midterm exam questions and topics

14 (3/1). Political Economy of the Reform

*Wang, chpt 11.

*Blecher, chpt 6.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 2.

Midterm due in class today

15 (3/6). **State and the Market: Central Dilemmas of A Reforming State**

*Blecher, chpt 7.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt. 1.

16 (3/8). **The Military and Politics**

*Wang, chpt 9.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 4.

17 (3/20). Video: *In Search of China* (90 minutes)

18 (3/22). **Decentralization, Federalism, and Economic Development**

*Wang, chpt. 7.

*Gerald Segal & David Goodman, eds., *China Deconstruct: Politics, Trade and Regionalism*, 1995, chpts.1, 3, pp.1-20, pp.59-98.

Qian and Weingast article.

19 (3/27). **State and Society in Contemporary China**

*Blecher, chpt 5 and 8.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt. 12.

Lieberthal, *Governing China*, chpt 11.

Vivienne Shue, *The Reach of the State*.

Brantly Womack, "*Transfigured Community: Neotraditionalism and Work Unit Socialism in China*" (in the reader).

Mayfair Yang, "*The Gift Economy and State Power in China*" (in the reader)

Jean Oi, *State and Peasants In Contemporary China*.

Zhang Xinxin & Sang Ye, *Chinese Lives: Oral History*.

20 (3/29). **The Reforms and Rule of Law**

*Wang, chpt 6.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt. 5.

21 (4/3). **Changing Political Culture**

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 7.

Articles by Nathan, Perry/Wasenstrom, Strand, Pye.

Lucian Pye, *the Spirit of Chinese Politics*.

Lucian Pye, *Mandarin and Cadres: China's Political Culture*.

Perry & Wasserstrom, *Popular Protest and Political Culture in Modern China*.

22 (4/5). **Political Participation, Civil Society, and Dissent**

*Wang, chpt. 10.

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 9 and 13.

* Tony Saich, "The Search for Civil Society and Democracy in China."

23 (4/10). **Democracy: Gradualism vs. Radicalism**

* Goldman and MacFarquhar, chpt 6 and 11.

Elizabeth Perry and Jeffrey Wastenstrom, eds., *Popular Protest*.

Video: *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* (time and place to be announced).

Part 4. China in the Post-Cold War World: Foreign Relations

24 (4/12). **Domestic Politics, Ideology, and China's Foreign Policy**

*Samuel Kim, ed., *China and the World*, chpts 1, 2, 3.

Thomas Robinson & David Shambough, eds., *Chinese Foreign Policy*, 1994, pp...

John Faust & Judith Kornberg, *China in World Politics*, 1995.

A. Doak Barnett, *The Making of Foreign Policy in China*, 1986.

Huan Guocong & Hao Yufan, eds., *Chinese View of the World*, 1989

25 (4/17). **China, WTO, and International Economy**

*Kim, chpt 11.

*Lardy,

26 (4/19). **China's Future Role in the World**

*Kim, chpts 7, 9.

*articles.

27 (4/24). **China and the US**

*Kim, chpt 4.

*recent articles

28 (4/28). **Review**

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