

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

INTA 8803FW. Government and Politics of China

(Graduate students)

Spring 2012

Instructor: Dr. Fei-Ling Wang

Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 15:05-16:25

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 16:30-18:00 or by appointment.

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1. Course Description

This course aims at introducing the main aspects of government and politics in China -- the People's Republic of China (PRC). The emphasis will be a historical and comparative description of the governmental institutions, political culture, political party -- the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), leadership, ideology, and other critical issues of policy-making in that country. A central question especially deserves our attention: how different is China's politics?

There is no special requirement for this course except a willingness to read, think, and learn. The class will be organized as a seminar with a clear emphasis on having an extensive classroom participation of the students.

An effort of following the current events in the PRC is strongly encouraged. Publications such as *The New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Asian Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post* as well as the web-based major news services are good sources for up-to-date information of China.

2. Course Requirements

Requirement	Marks	(%)
Participation/Attendance	100	10
Quizzes	100	10
First test	200	20
Group Project	100	10
Reading Reports	200	20
Paper	300	30
Total	1,000	100

The group project will be a research project exploring one aspect of the Chinese politics by the students organized in groups. Each group should select a research topic to be approved by the instructor by Week 4. Sample topics are: China's political parties; leading factions inside the CCP; the political role of Chinese military; corruption of the Chinese officials, etc.. Under the coordination of the group leader, each group should conduct a collective research and write a group report. Finally, each group is expected to make an oral presentation of no longer than 15 minutes to the class, followed by a 10-minute Q & A session. A written report of the group project (3 pages, single space or 5 pages, double space) is due on the day of the presentation. The group leaders are expected to report any free-riding activities that may take place in the groups.

The quizzes will be “pop-up” written exercises answering short questions about the required readings.

Reading Report: You are required to write one (2-3 pages, single space) reading report each about McGregor, Saich, and Wang. The report should be a critical summary of the book. No outside reading or research is needed. You are required to make a 10-minute oral presentation of one of your reports to the class on the specific due day.

Research Paper: You are required to write a research paper addressing one aspect of Chinese politics. Your paper topic must be submitted with a brief justification to the instructor by Week 4. It should have 15 double-spaced pages, excluding bibliography and cover page. The completed paper is due on April 24 (Each student is required to also submit an electronic copy of the paper).

Participation/attendance is the instructor portion of your grade. It will be based on the quality and the quantity of your participation in class discussions and the Q&A sessions of the group project. The class will be a mixture of informal lecture and relaxed discussion. All views are welcome and those who participate actively will be rewarded appropriately. We all learn from each other's insights.

3. Class materials:

Required:

William A. Joseph ed., *Politics in China: An Introduction*, New York, Oxford University Press, 2010.

Richard McGregor: *The Party: The Secret World of China's Communist Rulers*, Harper, 2010, (McGregor)

Fei-Ling Wang, *Organizing Through Division And Exclusion: China's Hukou System* Stanford University Press, 2005, (Wang)

Recommended:

Tony Saich, *Governance and Politics of China*: Third Edition, Palgrave Macmillan 2011, (Saich)

Handout readings to be posted on T-Square

5. Course Outline:

Week 1	(1/10, 1/12)	Introduction: The study of Chinese politics Joseph xiii, 3-30
Week 2	(1/17, 1/19)	Imperial China Joseph 37-47
Week 3	(1/24, 1/26)	Chinese Revolution (1911-1949) Joseph 47-61
Week 4	(1/31, 2/2)	Mao Zedong Era Joseph 63-101 Movie: <i>To Live</i> (1994) directed by Zhang Yimou (Group Project topic due 2/2) (Paper topics due 2/2)

Week 5	(2/7, 2/9)	The Reform Era Joseph 103-125
Week 6	(2/14, 2/16)	Ideology and Chinese Politics Joseph 129-162 (Reading Report on McGregor due 2/14)
Week 7	(2/21) (2/23)	Review and Study First Test
Week 8	(2/28, 3/1)	The CCP-PRC state Joseph 165-190
Week 9	(3/6, 3/8)	Political Economy Joseph 192-218 <i>2008 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony</i> (http://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XMTgxNjA3MzU2.html)
Week 10	(3/13, 3/15)	The <i>Hukou</i> System Wang 32-112; Handouts. (Reading Report on Wang due 3/13)
Week 11	(3/20, 3/22)	No class – enjoy the spring break!
Week 12	(3/27, 3/29)	Rural and Urban Joseph 225-247, 250-267
Week 13	(4/3) (4/5)	Politics, Social Policy and Arts Joseph 269-311 No-class: Review and Study Movie: <i>Bachelor</i> (2010) directed by Hao Jie
Week 14	(4/10, 4/12)	The Peripheral and Sectoral Joseph 315-380
Week 15	(4/17) (4/19)	Preparation for Group Presentations Group Presentations
Week 16	(4/24) (4/26)	Rise of China: Issues and Prospects Hangout reading (Reading Report on Saich due 4/24) Paper due by email