CPO4541 Chinese Politics (Spring 2016)
University of Central Florida
Tue/Thu 10:30 – 11:45 AM
Psychology Building 0105

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Office hours: Tue: 13:00-14:30, Thu: 13:00-14:30, or by appointment

"Do not impose on others what you do not wish for yourself."
Confucius (Doctrine of Mean 13:3)

"So in everything do to others as you would have them do to you."
Jesus (Matthew 7:12)

Course Description

This course examines the People's Republic of China (PRC) from a variety of perspectives, culture, policy, society, economics, and foreign policy to enlighten our understanding of the politics of the most populous country today. We will have a brief review of Chinese history and tradition by focusing on its implications for contemporary Chinese politics. We will also introduce the primary political structure of the PRC: the Communist Party of China (CCP), the government, the legislature and the legal system, the central and the local political institutions. Major political developments since 1949 will be covered as well. Our survey of political events will be associated with the five leaderships represented by Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping. We will also discuss in details the political economy especially since the reform and opening up in the late 1970s. Other important issue areas that occupy China's political agenda, including political reforms, rural China, Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong, Taiwan, foreign policy, etc., will also be explored. My hope is that every member of this class will develop a basic yet comprehensive understanding of politics in China from different perspectives.

Required Books

1. Sujian Guo. 2013. *Chinese Politics and Government: Power, Ideology, and Organization*. New York: Routledge.

2. William A. Joseph (eds). 2014. *Politics in China: An Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements: Your final grade will be based on four exams and your participation. The exams will count for 90% of your final grade (exam 1-3: 20% each; the final exam: 30%). Attendance and participation is a crucial component of your learning experience. The best way to do well in the course and develop a strong grasp of the material it covers is to attend the course regularly, read and carefully consider the required materials beforehand, and be prepared to analyze and discuss those materials in class. Attendance and participation will count for 10% of your final grade.

Exams: Each exam will consist of around 20 multiple-choice or true/false questions and 3-5 short essay questions. All of them are open book exams and are not cumulative (except for the final exam which will cover contents in the whole semester). Exams will be available on Webcourses at the class time of the exam day. Scores of the exams will be released within one week of the exam day on Webcourses. The following is a sample of essay questions. These examples are meant only to give you an idea of the type and scope of the essay questions you will have to answer in exams. They are not intended as a list of questions you will answer in the actual exams.

--*Discuss the problems emerging from the economic development of the post-Mao years.*

--*Discuss the idea of "Socialism with Chinese characteristics," its main principles, and the reforms it inspired.*

--*Discuss the Opium War and the "unequal treaties" that followed it. What were the consequences of these treaties for China? How did the Chinese government respond?*

Extra Credit: You may receive an additional bonus towards your final grade, up to 5%, based on a review of a book on Chinese politics. It must be submitted before the end of the 13th week in order to be graded.

Course Correspondence and Webcourses: All correspondence with the instructor will be via email or through Webcourses. I will usually respond to your email/message within 48 hours on business days. I will also post important information or any changes of the syllabus on Webcourses.

Make-up Exam Policy: Make-up exams will be granted only in the case of an emergency and/or a university documented absence. If exam dates conflict with a religious holiday, please notify the instructor about this at the beginning of the class. I will seek to accommodate you.

Academic Activity and Financial Aid: As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity no later than **Friday, January 15**: on the course page on Webcourses, post a brief description (up to a paragraph) of why you are interested in taking this course. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid (but this academic activity is not graded and has no impact on your final grade).

UCF Disability Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the instructor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center, Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the instructor.

UCF Rules of Conduct: As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offenses. Please refer to the University's Rules of Conduct (available at: http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu) for more information on these issues. Failure to comply with university rules may subject violator(s) to appropriate action by university authorities and/or appropriate civil authorities. The penalty for students who plagiarize or cheat on an exam or an assignment will include a grade of F on that exam or assignment.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A -	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B -	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C -	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D -	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction, Definitions, and Historical Background (01/11-01/15)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 1, 2,3
2. Joseph 2014: Chapter 1

Week 2: Historical Background & Political Development I (01/18-01/22)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 4, 5
2. Joseph 2014: Chapter 2,3

Week 3: Political Development II (01/25-01/29)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 6, 10
2. Joseph 2014: Chapter 4

Week 4: Political Institutions (02/01-02/05)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 9, 11, 12

   (Optional: Joseph 2014: Chapter 6, 7)

Note: Exam 1 will be taken during the class time (10:30-11:45) on Thursday.

Week 5: The Chinese Political Economy I (02/08-02/12)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 15, 16
2. Joseph 2014: Chapter 8

Week 6: The Chinese Political Economy II (02/15-02/19)

1. "Xi Jinping's 'new normal' with Chinese characteristics." *South China Morning Post*, May 14, 2014. http://www.scmp.com/business/economy/article/1511855/xi-jinpings-new-normal-chinese-characteristics
2. Eichengreen, Barry and Masahiro Kawai. 2014. "Issues for Renminbi Internationalization: An Overview." ADBI Working Paper 454. http://ssrn.com/abstract=2382420

3. Anthony Fensom. 2015. "Could China Spark the Next Global Financial Crisis?" *The National Interest*, June 9, 2015. http://nationalinterest.org/feature/could-china-spark-the-next-global-financial-crisis-13069
4. Lipscy, Phillip Y. 2015. "Who's Afraid of the AIIB: Why the United States Should Support China's Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank." *Foreign Affairs*, May 7, 2015 (Uploaded on Webcourses).
5. "Should Washington Fear the AIIB? Foreign Affairs' Brain Trust Weighs In." *Foreign Affairs*, June 11, 2015 (Uploaded on Webcourses).
6. Swaminathan S Anklesaria Aiyar. 2015. "Why US Allies Are Happy to Join China's AIIB." *The Diplomat*, June 30, 2015. http://thediplomat.com/2015/07/why-us-allies-are-happy-to-join-chinas-aiib/
7. Bert Hoffman. "China's One Belt One Road Initiative: What we know thus far." The World Bank, December 4, 2015. http://blogs.worldbank.org/eastasiapacific/china-one-belt-one-road-initiative-what-we-know-thus-far
8. Daniel Lynch. 2016. "The End of China's Rise: Still Powerful but Less Potent." *Foreign Affairs*, January 11, 2016 (Uploaded on Webcourses).

Week 7: Chinese Society I (02/22-02/26)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 13, 14
2. "Chapter 3: Changing Social Institutions" in Guthrie, Doug. 2009. *China and Globalization*. New York: Routledge (Uploaded on Webcourses).

Week 8: Chinese Society II (02/29-03/04)

1. Joseph 2014: Chapter 9, 10

Note: Exam 2 will be taken during the class time (10:30-11:45) on Thursday.

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Week 9: Spring Break (03/07-03/11)

No class

Week 10: Political Ideology (03/14-03/18)

1. Guo 2013: Chapter 7, 8
   (Optional: Joseph 2014: Chapter 5)
2. "Xi Jinping calls for a 'Chinese Dream.'" *The Telegraph*, March 17, 2013. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/china/9935609/Xi-Jinping-calls-for-a-Chinese-Dream.html
3. "Xi Jinping and the Chinese dream." *The Economist*. May 4th, 2013.

http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21577070-vision-chinas-new-president-should-serve-his-people-not-nationalist-state-xi-jinping

Week 11: Politics on China's Periphery I (03/21-03/25)

1. Joseph 2014: Chapter 15, 16

Week 12: Politics on China's Periphery II (03/28-04/01)

1. Joseph 2014: Chapter 17, 18

Note: Exam 3 will be taken during the class time (10:30-11:45) on Thursday.

Week 13: Case Study-Democracy in China (04/04-04/08)

1. O'Brien, Kevin J. and Lianjiang Li. 2000. "Accommodating 'Democracy' in a One-Party State: Introducing Village Elections in China." *The China Quarterly*, 162, pp 465-489.
2. Chapter 6, 7 in Leib, Ethan J. and Baogang He. 2006. *The Search for Deliberative Democracy in China*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (Uploaded on Webcourses).

Week 14: China's foreign policy and US-China relations (04/11-04/15)

1. Guo 2103: Chapter 17, 18
2. Mearsheimer, John J. 2014. "Can China Rise Peacefully?" *The National Interest* 25 (2014): 23-37. http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/can-china-rise-peacefully-10204
3. Ikenberry, G. John. 2008. "The Rise of China and the Future of the West: Can the Liberal Systems Survive?" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 87, No.1 (Jan.-Feb., 2008), pp.23-37 (Uploaded on Webcourses)

4. Tammen, Ronald L. and Jacek Kugler. 2006. "Power Transition and China-US Conflicts." *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, Vol. 1, 2006. Pp. 35–55.
5. Kenneth Lieberthal and Wang jisi, "Addressing U.S.-China Strategic Distrust," John Thornton Center at Brookings. March 2012. (Please read two chapters only: *Understanding Strategic Distrust: The Chinese Side* and *Understanding Strategic Distrust: The U.S. Side*). http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/research/files/papers/2012/3/30-us-china-lieberthal/0330_china_lieberthal.pdf

Week 15: Case Study—the South China Sea (04/18-04/22)

1. "Armed Clash in the South China Sea," *Contingency Planning Memorandum No. 14*, Council on Foreign Relations. http://www.cfr.org/world/armed-clash-south-china-sea/p27883
2. "What China Has Been Building in the South China Sea?" *New York Times*, October 27, 2015. http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/07/30/world/asia/what-china-has-been-building-in-the-south-china-sea.html?_r=0
3. "China Defends Test Flights in South China Sea Area." *Wall Street Journal*, January 11, 2016. http://www.wsj.com/articles/china-defends-test-flights-in-south-china-sea-area-1452518556
4. "China complains about U.S. plane straying into disputed airspace," *CNN*, December 19, 2015. http://www.cnn.com/2015/12/18/asia/u-s-south-china-sea-airspace/
5. "UN tribunal at The Hague to rule on rival claims to South China Sea islands," *The Guardian*, November 23, 2015. http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/23/south-china-sea-dispute-hague-competing-claims

Week 16: Conclusion (04/26)

We will have one class only in this week for review, conclusion and Q & A purposes at regular class time on Tuesday, April 26.

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 03, 2016, 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM on Webcourses.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion if necessary. Changes to the syllabus, if any, will be announced in class and the updated syllabus will be posted on Webcourses.