The University of Toronto
Department of Political Science
JPA 331Y: Issues in Contemporary Chinese Politics
Fall Term 2014

Lectures: Tuesday 12-2pm
Venue: Sidney Smith 1085
Instructor: Professor Lynette Ong
Office Hours: Tuesday 3-5 pm at Sidney Smith Hall, Office #3053. Other times by appointment ONLY
Contact Information: Lynette.Ong@utoronto.ca; Tel: 416-978 6804

Course Description:

This course covers topics of interest for those who want to gain an enhanced understanding of the politics of China, beginning from the Republican period, Communist takeover in 1949 through to the reform period of the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s. The emphasis in the pre-reform era is on defining historical events, namely the famine caused by the “Great Leap Forward” and social disturbance during the Cultural Revolution. In the post-reform period, the course places an emphasis on understanding the politics behind the reform, and how the reform affects the dynamics of state-society relations. The course will also address aspects of China’s diplomacy related to its growing economic power.

I use Blackboard Academic Suite to communicate with students enrolled in the course. It is the students’ responsibility to check the course site on blackboard regularly to obtain updated information on the course.

Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class tests</td>
<td>25% (x2)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>2 December 2014; 31 March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Essays</td>
<td>25% (x2)</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>18 November 2014; 17 March 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the term essays, if there was a class on the due date, the essays are to be handed in class. Otherwise, they are to be handed in to the department by 5pm.

In-Class Test: Tests will be conducted during the final lectures of the terms. Format to be ascertained.

Term Essay: A list of essay topics will be announced. To write the term essay, understanding the “required readings” is a bare minimum, the “recommended readings”
are useful. All sources must be properly cited. I have no preference for citation style as long as you are consistent throughout. A list of references should be provided.

**Word limit:** The major essay has 10% +/- margin.

**Handing in work:** You are strongly advised to keep draft work, hard and/or soft copies of your essay until the marked work have been returned. All essays and assignments should be typewritten, preferably in Times New Roman, font 12, double-spaced. The Department of Political Science does *not* accept assignments submitted by email or fax.

All good essays need to have sound and logical arguments that are effectively communicated and supported by adequate evidence. Communication and presentation of ideas can count as much as the ideas at times! Therefore, writing style, grammar, footnotes and referencing (no preference on what style you use as long as you are consistent throughout an essay) should be used appropriately. I encourage you to consult with Writing Labs of the UofT and at your affiliated Colleges. Make appointments early in the term to avoid peak period of essay submission!

**Plagiarism (for further information, see university handout)**

Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be dealt with according to UofT’s formal rules and regulations. Plagiarism includes failing to cite sources or to cite them accurately and/or failing to place within quotation marks material taken from a source, regardless of whether the material is acknowledged with a citation. **Resubmitting work for which credit was previously obtained is also considered plagiarism.** For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto’s policy on Plagiarism at [http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html](http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html)

**Late penalty:** A penalty of three percentage points per day (Saturday, Sunday or public holiday each counted as one day) applies for the first seven days. After this seven-day period, papers will no longer be accepted. For instance, if you were originally assigned 75% but were five days late, your final grade will be 60%.

**Required Readings:**

You have to complete the “required readings” before attending the lectures. A course pack containing all required readings except journal articles is available for purchase from the UofT bookstore.

All journal articles (marked @) are available for download from the UofT electronic library. Go to [http://www.library.utoronto.ca/home/](http://www.library.utoronto.ca/home/). Click on the tab “e-journals” and search the journal title, e.g. Washington Quarterly, and then choose the appropriate link that provides you full text access to the desired article.

For those of you interested in general readings about political economy of modern-day China check out these two excellent books written by veteran journalists intended for general audience.


**Week 1 (9 Sept): Introductory Lecture**

Housekeeping. No reading.

**Week 2 (16 Sept): The Republican era and Communist Rise to Power**

*Required:*
June Teufel Dreyer, “China’s Political System: Modernization and Tradition”, 8th ed. (Boston, MA: Longman), Chapter 3: Reformers, Warlords, and Communists (pp.47-65) & Chapter 4: The Communist Road to Power (pp.66-84)

*Recommended:*


**Week 3 (23 Sept): Establishment of the PRC, the Anti-Rightist Campaign, and the Great Leap Forward**

*Required:*


*Recommended:*


*Students are strongly encouraged to take notes during the screening.*

Week 5 (7 Oct): The Cultural Revolution

**Required:**


**Recommended:**


“Morning Sun” produced by Carma Hinton and Geremie Barme (117 mins)


**Required and recommended readings:**


Map of Tiananmen victims: http://www.massacremap.com/ Maps with 1) locations where all known June 4 victims were killed in 1989; 2) locations of hospitals where bodies of the victims were found in 1989.

PBS The Tank Man: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tankman/


Harvard Tiananmen Symposium: http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~tiananmen/?page_id=15

**Week 7 (21 Oct): Elite Politics**

*Required:*


*Recommended:*


**Week 8 (28 Oct): Formal Political Institutions**


**Required:**


**Recommended:**


**Week 9 (4 Nov): Political Economy of Rural Reform**

**Required:**


**Recommended:**


**Week 10 (11 Nov): State-Peasants Relations**

**Required:**


**Recommended:**


18 Nov: November Break—No Class

Week 11 (25 Nov): Political Economy of State-owned Enterprise Reform

*Required:*


*Recommended:*


Week 12 (2 Dec): In-Class Test
2014-15 Winter Term (TENTATIVE)

Week 13 (6 Jan): Political Economy of Financial Reform

Required:


Week 14 (13 Jan): State-Urban Worker Relations

Required:


Recommended:


Week 15 (20 Jan): Short Lecture on Internal Migration followed by Screening of “Up the Yangtze” (85 mins)

Required:

Recommended:


Week 16 (27 Jan): Fiscal Reform and Changing Central-Local Relations

Required:


Recommended:


Week 17 (3 Feb): Civil Society & the Middle Class

Required:
@Kang, X. and H. Han, 2008, Graduated Controls: The State-Society Relationship in Contemporary China. Modern China 34, 36-55.


Recommended:


**Week 18 (10 Feb): Contentious Politics and State’s Responses**

**Required:**


**Recommended:**


**17 Feb: Reading Week—No Class**

**Week 26 (26 Feb): Screening of Qiugang Warriors**

Week 20 (3 Mar): Domestic Sources of China’s Foreign Policy

Required:


Recommended:

Week 21 (10 Mar): China’s Environmental Problems and Climate Change Challenges

Required:


Week 22 (17 Mar): The Taiwan Issue

Required:

@Shelley Rigger, “Taiwan’s Rising Rationalism: Generations, Politics, Taiwanese Nationalism”, Policy Studies 26, East-West Center Washington DC.

Recommended:


**Week 23 (26 Mar): Implications for China’s Rise for East Asia**

**Required:**
@Medeiros, Evan S. and Taylor M. Fravel, 2003, China's New Diplomacy. *Foreign Affairs* 82, 22.

@Denny Roy, "Southeast Asia and China: Balancing or Bandwagoning?," Contemporary Southeast Asia, 27, 2, 2005. 305-322.

**Recommended:**


**Week 24 (31 Mar): Final in-class test**