

University of Toronto
Department of Political Science

POL 302Y
State and Society in 20th Century China

Summer, 2020
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Course Content and Format

This course will examine China's efforts to reconstitute its political institutions following the collapse of the imperial system in 1911. Particular attention will be paid to the clash between competing conceptions of political development and the rival political movements and forces that espoused them. The search for an effective and stable political order in the face of external pressures and internal fragmentation will receive extended discussion. The failed effort to create legitimate and popularly grounded political institutions will be a major focus of the course. A secondary focus will explore the impact of rapid economic, social and cultural change on the political system. The course will be organized in a lecture format, though class discussion will be encouraged.

Grades will be based on *three term tests. Tests #1 and #2 will be weighted at 37.5% each and Test #3 at 25%.*

All readings will be posted on Quercus in **Modules** by date and topic.

Topics and Readings:

May 4 The Rise of China: Historical Perspectives and Course Overview

1. Martin Jacques, When China Rules the World, Chapter 3 ("China's Ignominy")

May 5 China's Traditional Order and the Problem of Change

1. Lieberthal, Governing China, Chapter 1, pp.3-19.
2. Henrietta Harrison, Inventing China, Chapter 1
3. Video: *Pacific Century* Part I.

May 6 Revolution and Reform

1. Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, pp. 1-26.
2. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China and After, 3-51.
2. Lieberthal, Governing China, pp.19-26

- May 7 **Alternative Visions: The Republic and the May 4th Movement**
1. Lieberthal, Governing China, pp. 27-31.
 2. Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, pp.27-52.
 3. Chen Duxiu, "Call to Youth."*
 4. Video ("China in Revolution")
- May 11 **The CCP and the KMT (GMD): 1921-1937**
1. Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, Chap. 3 & Chap. 5.
 2. Kenneth Lieberthal, Governing China, 31-39
 3. Mao Zedong, "Analysis of Classes in Chinese Society" (1926)
- May 12 **The CCP: From Yanan to 'Liberation': A Peasant Revolution?**
1. Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 82-108; 140-208.
 2. Video ("China in Revolution: II)
- May 13 **The CCP in Power: The Early Years**
1. Kenneth Lieberthal, Governing China, 60-77; 86-99.
 2. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China and After, Chapter 5-6.
 3. Mao Zedong, "On People's Democratic Dictatorship." (1949)
 4. Video ("The Mao Years:I)
- May 14 **Term Test # 1 (No class Scheduled)**
- May 18 **Victoria Day: Public Holiday**
- May 19 **The First Five Year Plan and the 'Great Leap'**
1. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China and After, Chapter 11-13.
- May 20 **The Cultural Revolution and the End of the Mao Era**
1. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China and After, Chapters 17, 19.
 2. Phillip Pan, "The Cemetery"
- May 21 **The Deng Era Takes Shape: Economic Reform and Market Socialism**
1. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China, Chapter 24
 2. Kenneth Lieberthal, "The Reform Era" 123-148.

3. Video ('Born Under the Red Flag'-I)
- May 25 **Political Reform and Democratization in the Deng Era**
1. Maurice Meisner, Mao's China and After, Chapter 25
 2. .Video "Born Under the Red Flag: Part II)
- May 26 **Party and State Institutions in Flux**
1. Cheng Li, "China's Communist-Party State."
 2. Richard McGregor, The Party:Chapter 1 ("The Red Machine")
- May 27 **Political Leadership in Flux**
1. .Cheng Li, "The Battle for China's Top Nine Leadership Posts" (2012)
 2. Evan Osnos, "Born Red" New Yorker, (Xi Jinping bio)
 3. Daniel Bell and Eric Li "Meritocracy"
 4. Susan Shirk, "Return to Personalistic Leadership,": Journal of Democracy, 2016
- May 28 **Test # 2 (No Lecture Scheduled)**
- June 1 **Ideology and Value Change in Contemporary China**
1. Daniel Bell, "From Marx to Confucius: Changing Discourses on China's Political Future," Dissent, 2007.
 2. Anne Marie Brady, Marketing Dictatorship, Chapter 1.
 3. Rebecca MacKinnon, "Networked Authoritarianism" Journal of Democracy (2011)
- June 2 **State and Society in Flux**
1. Ian Johnson, "The Death and Life of China's Civil Society," 2003.
 2. Gilboy and Read, "Political and Social Reform in China," 2008
 3. Andrew Nathan, "The Puzzle of the Chinese Middle Class."
 4. Video (China from the Inside)
- June 3 **Towards a 'Rule of Law?'**
1. Randall Peerenboom, China's Long March to the Rule of Law, Ch. 1-2.
 2. Fu and Cullen, "China's Rights Defender Lawyers".
 3. Video ("The Story of Qiu Ju")
- June 4 **Intellectuals, Artists and Dissent in China**

1. Evan Osnos, “The Han Dynasty”
2. Evan Osnos, “Ai Weiwei in Profile”
3. Feng Chen, “Liu Xiaobo and Charter 2008”
4. Video (“Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry”)

June 8 **China Challenges the World**

1. Ian Johnson, “Will China Become Supreme?”
2. Frank Pieke, Knowing China, Chapter 6
3. Video (China from the Outside)

June 9 **Chinese Nationalism and the Problem of the Periphery**

1. Andrew Nathan and Andrew Scobell, China’s Search for Security, Chapter 8.

June 10 **Whither China**

1. Minxin Pei, “CCP Rule: Fragile or Resilient?”

June 11 **Term Test #3**