

**SOCIOL 1141 Contemporary Chinese Society**  
**Section Syllabus**  
**Spring 2024**

Teaching Fellow: Yinan Wang ([yinanwang@g.harvard.edu](mailto:yinanwang@g.harvard.edu))

Office Hours: Thursdays 9:00am-11:00am (<https://calendly.com/yinanwang/office-hours>) or by appointment

Sections: Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm @WJH 601; Fridays 10:30-11:30am @ CGIS S050

**Section Goals**

1. To clarify key concepts in lectures and readings
2. To apply the major theoretical approaches discussed in lectures and readings to China empirics. I encourage you to come to section prepared with questions.
3. To help you work on your exams and the final research paper.

**Attendance and Participation**

Section attendance is mandatory. Your attendance and participation in section count 25% towards your final grade. You are allowed two unexcused absences before missing section will start to impact your grade.

<i>Grading Scale</i>		<i>Grading Criteria</i>
✓ +	<b>Excellent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offer thoughtful comments</li><li>• Demonstrate that you have synthesized and grasped the important themes discussed in the lecture</li><li>• Ask for clarifications and pose thoughtful questions</li><li>• Listen attentively to your peers</li><li>• Assumes good faith</li></ul>
✓	<b>Good</b>	
✓ -	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	
0	<b>Did not attend section.</b>	

*\*Respect: There are many ways to interpret the course readings in class and many competing views on the topics we will discuss, and I hope we will debate many contrasting viewpoints. To facilitate good discussion, please keep in mind that we are debating ideas, not each other as individuals. This type of debate might take the form of "I disagree" instead of "you are wrong." Please keep the difference in mind so that we can engage in useful and vigorous discussion!*

**Assignments**

We will review course materials before each mid-term exam. To help you write your final paper, there are two assignments.

- **Please let me know your research question for your final paper by April 12<sup>th</sup>.**

- **Each student will give an 8-min presentation about their final paper on April 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> or April 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Email Communication**

Email is the best way to reach me. I ask that you allow me 24 hours to respond to any weekday email; emails received over the weekend should receive a response on Monday. In return, I expect the same of you.

### **Other Support**

I am more than happy to speak with you individually or in small groups about course assignments, readings, and other materials; that's what my office hours are for! However, I cannot provide assistance on any assignment during the 24 hours before it is due.

### **Weekly Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Content</b>
Week 3 (Feb 8/Feb 9)	The Chinese State
Week 4 (Feb 15/Feb 16)	Market economy & 1 <sup>st</sup> midterm review
Week 5 (Feb 22/Feb 23)	No section (no class due to exam)
Week 6 (Feb 29/Mar 1)	Migration
Week 7 (Mar 7/Mar 8)	One-child policy
Week 8 (Mar 14/Mar 15)	No section (spring break)
Week 9 (Mar 21/Mar 22)	Urbanization, Labor & 2 <sup>nd</sup> midterm review
Week 10 (Mar 28/Mar 29)	Labor
Week 11 (Apr 4/Apr 5)	Inequality & Gender
Week 12 (Apr 11/Apr 12)	Online contention & discussion on final projects
Week 13 (Apr 18/Apr 19)	Student presentation
Week 14 (Apr 25/Apr 26)	Student presentation