

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

INTA 3230. Government and Politics of China
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*, *The Economist*, and *South China Morning Post* as well as the web-based major news services are good sources for up-to-date information about China.

2. Course Requirements

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

The first and the second tests will be "in-class" written exams primarily in essay format. The examination will be drawn from all aspects of the course: readings, lectures, and classroom discussions.

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

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.

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. As far as attendance is concerned, more than two unexcused absence will be penalized.

3. Course Materials:

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

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

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)
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
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.
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)	Politics, Social Policy and Arts Joseph 269-311
	(4/5)	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)	Preparation for Group Presentations
	(4/19)	Group Presentations
Week 16	(4/24)	Rise of China: Issues and Prospects Hangout reading
	(4/26)	Study Session
Final Week		Second Test