

ECON3370: BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF CHINA

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Course Description

This course develops, from an economic perspective, an understanding of the basic conditions of the Chinese economy and Chinese society, the underlying forces behind the Chinese economic development, the political architecture of China, as well as some key aspects of China's consumer market. We also examine the key challenges and opportunities that complex business environment has provided for Chinese firms, including state-owned enterprises, private firms and foreign invested firms.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, students

1. Will be able to understand the economic, political and social background of China's economic reform.
2. Will be able to compare, contrast and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of China's business environment.
3. Will be able to apply the theories introduced in class to the analysis of business environment in China.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Students' knowledge of China's economic reform and business environment will be measured by class discussion and a final exam. (LO1, LO2)
2. Students' ability to apply the economic theories on China's business environment will be measured by class discussion and a group project. (LO3)

Indicative Contents

1. Reforms
 - Key economic reforms
2. Firms
 - State owned enterprises
 - Private firms
3. Trade and Foreign Investment
 - International trade
 - Inward foreign investment
 - Outward foreign investment
4. Government and Law
 - Political structure
 - Legal environment
5. Society and Culture
 - Social environment
 - Business culture

Teaching Mode

- All class meetings will be conducted online.
- All classes will be delivered synchronous for both virtual exchanges and CUHK students.
- Back-up plan: a mixed teaching mode may be resumed when the pandemic stabilizes. In a mixed teaching mode, face-to-face and online teaching will be conducted simultaneously.
- When face-to-face final exam is not possible, an online exam will be conducted.

Assessment

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|---------------------------------|------------|
| Class attendance and discussion | 20% |
| Group project and presentation | 40% |
| <u>Final exam</u> | <u>40%</u> |
| Total | 100% |

Required Readings

There is no required textbook for this course. Reading materials can be downloaded and printed from the Blackboard.

Supplementary Readings

- Arthur R. Kroeber (2016) *China's Economy: What Everyone Needs to Know*, Oxford University Press.
- Barry Naughton (2018) *The Chinese Economy: Adaptation and Growth*, 2nd edition, The MIT Press

Group Project

You are expected to form a group and pursue a project on a topic related to China's economy. The project studies an economic phenomenon, or a policy implemented or currently under consideration. All groups need to make an in-class presentation.

After the presentation, you need to submit a softcopy of the report via VeriGuide at the end of the term. The deadline of submission is **December 10, 2020**. Late submission will have 20% of the mark deducted per 24-hour period. A report submitted more than 4 days (96 hours) after the due time will receive a zero mark.