

SOCI2106/UGEC2883
Economic Reform and Social Impacts in China
First Term, 2020-2021
Wednesday 4:30-6:15pm
Venue: UCC C1

Instructor:

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***ONLINE teaching will be adopted until the face-to-face teaching is allowed.**

Course Description:

This course is to examine the economic reforms and its social consequences in China from different theoretical perspectives and to probe into the problems, difficulties and constraints facing China's economy and society. After taking this course, students should be able to grasp the intellectual debates about social impacts of economic reforms from a wide range of aspects, such as labour, migration, gender, environment, grassroots participation, human rights and civil society.

The grade descriptors for this course are as follows:

Grade A: Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.

Grade A-: Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.

Grade B: Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.

Grade C: Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.

Grade D: Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.

Grade F: Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirement.

本科的目的是從各種理論觀點出發，研討中國的經濟改革及其社會結果，並審視中國經濟和社會所面臨的問題，困難和限制。學習了這一課程之後，學生應該能從不同層面掌握圍繞經濟改革所帶來的社會影響的思想辯論，例如勞工，移民，性別，環境，人權，基層參與和公民社會等。本科之等級說明([grade descriptors](#))可參閱英文版科目簡介([course description](#))。

Learning Outcomes:

- Students should be able to explain the main aspects of economic reform and social impacts in contemporary China.

- Students should be able to identify the key social science concepts and theories through which the underlying forces changing China today are studied.
- Students should be able to apply the theories and methods to analyze the close interaction and dilemma between society, economy, and humanistic concerns.

Assessment:

Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting	Remarks
1: Tutorial group presentation	30%	<p>Students should form groups to present their answer to questions suggested by the instructor during tutorial meetings.</p> <p>Please sign up for the tutorial at the following link: http://cuhk.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_blw5ZYaBvd2KzFH</p>
2: Individual assignment	70%	<p>Each student should write an individual assignment based on the questions suggested by the instructor. The question can be the same with their tutorial presentation, but assignment should be written individually.</p> <p>The assignment can be in Chinese or English (about 3500 words).</p> <p>Deadline of submission: 11 December 2020</p>

Plagiarism is subject to penalties. Please pay attention to the guideline for academic honesty and citation by Sociology Department (www.cuhk.edu.hk/soc/citation.pdf) and the University (www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/)

Please upload the VeriGuide receipt of your individual assignment to Blackboard. A folder will be created before the deadline. State clearly the course code, course name, teacher's name, student's full name in English and Chinese, student ID, major subject and date on the first page of your assignment.

Late submission will result in the loss of one sub-grade per day (i.e. from B+ to B) .

Course Schedule :

*Essential reading

Week 1 – Course Introduction (9 September)

*Wang, Shaoguang (2008) “The Great Transformation: The Double Movement in China”, *boundary 2* 35(2): 15–47.

Week 2 – The Great Transformation (16 September)

* Hui, Elaine Sio-ieng (2017) Putting the Chinese State in its Place: A March from Passive Revolution to Hegemony, *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 47(1):66-92.

Saich, Tony (2011) “Chapter 2 China’s Changing Road to Development: political history, 1949 to 1978”, *Governance and Politics of China*. New York: Palgrave, pp 34–66.

Guthrie, Doug (2006) “Chapter 1: Globalization and the Economics of Radical Changes in China,” *China and Globalization*. New York: Routledge.

Week 3 – The Chinese Development Miracle (23 September)

*So, Alvin and Chu, Yin-Wah (2016) “Part I: The Chinese Development Miracle” *The Global Rise of China*. Cambridge: Polity Press, pp. 29–114

Saich, Tony (2011) “Chapter 4 China under Reform, 1978 to 2010”, *Governance and Politics of China*. New York: Palgrave, pp 67–107.

Guthrie, Doug (2006) “Chapter 2: Setting the Stage: A Primer to the Study of China’s Economic Reforms,” *China and Globalization*. New York: Routledge.

Week 4 – Regional Varieties in Development (30 September)

*Jun, Zhanga & Peck, Jamie (2014) “Variegated Capitalism, Chinese Style: Regional Models, Multi-scalar Constructions” *Regional Studies* 50(1): 52–78.

Lim, Kean Fan & Horesh, Niv (2017) “The Chongqing vs. Guangdong developmental ‘models’ in post-Mao China: regional and historical perspectives on the dynamics of socioeconomic change.” *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy* 22(3): 372–3

Elfstrom, Manfred (2019) A Tale of Two Deltas: Labour Politics in Jiangsu and Guangdong, *British Journal of Industrial Relations* 57(2) · March 2019 DOI: 10.1111/bjir.12467

Week 5 – Guest talk by a former labour NGO staff (7 October)

Week 6 – Globalization and Labour Standard (14 October)

* Chan, Anita (2003) A "Race to the Bottom": Globalisation and China's labour Standards. *China Perspectives*. March April: 41–49.

Pun, Ngai (2005), "Global Production, Company Codes of Conduct and Labour Conditions in China: A Case Study of Two Factories". *China Journal*, July: 101–113.

Xu, Yi & Chan, Chris K. C. (2018). "Conductive activism: Anti-sweatshop campaigns across Hong Kong and mainland China". *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 48(1): 88–112.

Week 7 – Workers' Protests and Class Formation (21 October)

* Chan, C.K.C. (2012) Class or citizenship? Debating workplace conflict in China. *Journal of Contemporary Asia*. 42(2): 308 – 327.

Lee, Ching Kwan (2007) *Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Chapter 1

Chen, Feng (2003) "Between the state and labour: The conflict of Chinese trade unions' double identity in market reform." *The China Quarterly* 176:1006–1028.

Week 8 – Guest talk by an environmental NGO staff (28 October)

Week 9 – Pollution and Environmental Protests (4 November)

* Johnson, Thomas (2010) "Environmentalism and NIMBYism in China: promoting a rules-based approach to public participation" *Environmental Politics* 19(3): 430–448.

Jian, Lu, and Chris King-Chi Chan. (2016) "Collective Identity, Framing and Mobilisation of Environmental Protests in Urban China: A Case Study of Qidong's Protest." *China: An International Journal* 14(2): 102–122.

Ho, Peter (2001) "Greening without conflict? Environmentalism, NGOs and civil society in China." *Development and Change*, 32 (5): 893–921.

Week 10 – State and Society Relations (11 November)

* Fu, Diana and Distelhorst, Greg (2017) Grassroots Participation and Repression under Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping. *The China Journal* 79: 100–122.

White, Gordon, Howell, Jude and Shang, Xiao Yuan (1996) *In Search of Civil Society: Market Reform and Social Change in Contemporary China*, Oxford: Clarendon Press. (Chapter 1)

Unger, J. and Chan, A. (1995) "China, Corporatism and the East Asian Model." *The Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs* 33: 29–53.

Week 11 – Family, Gender and Feminism (18 November)

* Fincher, Leta Hong (2014). *Leftover Women: The Resurgence of Gender Inequality in China*. London: Zed Books. (Chapter 3)

Fincher, Leta Hong (2018). *Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China*. London: Verso. (Chapter 1 and 7)

Clemens, Walter C. (2019) "Three Facets of Woman Power in China, 1644 to 2019." *Asian Perspective* 43(2): 417-427.

Week 12 – China’s Global Impact and Its Limits (25 November)

* Starrs, Sean Kenji. (2018) "Can China Unmake the American Making of Global Capitalism?" in Leo Panitch and Greg Albo, (eds.) *Socialist Register 2019: A World Turned Upside Down?* New York: Monthly Review Press.

Lee, Ching Kwan. (2017) *The Spectre of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. (Chapter 1)

Hung, Ho-fung. (2019) "Chinese State Capitalism in Hong Kong" in Lui Tai-lok, Chiu Stephen W.K. & Ray Yep (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*. Oxon; New York: Routledge.

Week 13 – Conclusion and consultation (2 December)

Lecturer will give a concluding remark on the course; students can consult on their assignments.

Recommended Textbook:

Guthrie, Doug (2006) *China and Globalization*. New York: Routledge. [Electronic version available in library; reserved in CC Library]

So, Alvin and Chu, Yin-Wah (2016) *The Global Rise of China*. Cambridge: Polity Press [reserved in CC Library]