



THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL (JULY SESSION)
29 JUNE – 2 AUGUST 2021

UGEC1540 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF CHINA

No. of Credits: 3

Time: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 09:30 – 12:15 (GMT +8)

Location: Online (Zoom)

Instructor: Prof. Gerald CHAN (Professor, Politics and International Relations, University of Auckland)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course that surveys key issues in Chinese politics, including the historical background of the Chinese political system, the roles of the party/state, the style of leadership, the forms of popular participation, and the distinctive features of Chinese politics. The focus of this course is political change. Classic essays by Sun Yatsen, Lu Xun, Mao Zedong and others provide students with grounding in the key problems modern China has faced, as well as the solutions it has pioneered. From that foundation, we will move on to contemporary institutions and intellectual debates over inequality, human rights, foreign relations, and the future shape of political reform in China.

Remarks:

- UGEC1540 is double-coded with GPAD1070.
- Not for Government and Public Administration Majors and CUHK students who have taken GPAD1070.
- Co-requisite: UGFH1000 or UGFN1000 (only applicable to CUHK students admitted to the 4-year curriculum).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By successfully completing this course, you should be able to

- Acquire a knowledge and understanding of the Chinese political history and contemporary politics of China;
- Explore the main theoretical, empirical, and methodological approaches to the study of Chinese politics;
- Relate these approaches to the broader field of comparative politics;
- Develop conceptual ability to analyze and explain major issues and challenges confronting China today.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK

Guo, S., ***Chinese politics and government: power, ideology and organization*** (Routledge, 2012).
ISBN: 9780415551397

READING(S)/REFERENCE(S)

- Chan, Gerald, *China's compliance in global affairs* (World Scientific, 2006).
- Chan, Gerald, *China's maritime Silk Road* (Edward Elgar, 2020).
- Chan, Gerald, *Understanding China's new diplomacy: Silk Roads and bullet trains* (Edward Elgar, 2018).

- Chan, Gerald, Pak K. Lee and Lai-Ha Chan, *China engages global governance* (Routledge, 2012).
- Chan, Lai Ha, Gerald Chan and Kwan Fung (eds), *China at 60: global-local interactions* (World Scientific, 2011).
- Dreyer, June T., *China's political system*, 10th ed (Routledge, 2019).
- Gamer, Robert E. and Stanley W. Toops (eds), *Understanding contemporary China*, 5th ed (Lynne Rienner, 2017).
- Heilmann, Sebastian, *China's political system* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017).
- Joseph, William A., *Politics in China: an introduction*, 3rd ed (Oxford University Press, 2019).
- Larus, Elizabeth F., *Politics and society in contemporary China* (Lynne Rienner, 2012).
- Lieberthal, Kenneth, *Governing China: from revolution to reform*, 2nd ed (W.W. Norton & Co., 2003).
- Liu, Guoli, *Politics and government in China* (ABC-CLIO, 2011).
- MacFarquhar, Roderick, *The politics of China: sixty years of the People's Republic of China*, 3rd ed (Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- Mitter, Rana, *Modern China: a very short introduction*, 2nd ed (Oxford University Press, 2016).
- Saich, Tony, *Government and politics of China*, 4th ed (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).

The following site offers a good starting point for searching academic materials on China studies:

<http://sun.sino.uni-heidelberg.de/igcs/ighist.htm>

The following are academic journals (in English) relevant to China studies:

- *The China Quarterly*;
- *The China Journal*;
- *The China Review*;
- *China: An International Journal*;
- *Journal of Contemporary China*;
- *Issues & Studies*;
- *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*.

GRADING WEIGHTS

Two in-class tests to test students' mastery of the knowledge learnt in this course, including the methodological approaches to and the empirical contents of the study of modern Chinese politics and government:

- (1) First in-class test (one hour), 50%, on Thursday, 15 July 2021.
- (2) Second in-class test (one hour), 50%, on Thursday, 29 July 2021.

Students should report all leave and absences, including sick leave and absences from class, to their course teacher and the Office of Academic Links. In case of illness/injury necessitating absence, a medical certificate is required as documentary evidence. A student who has been absent for a continuous period exceeding two consecutive days shall be considered to have withdrawn from the International Summer School. All fees paid will not be refunded.

If in-class, on-campus activities cannot be arranged due to Covid-19, then the tests will be arranged online as well.

GRADE DESCRIPTOR

A: Demonstrates the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China) with an outstanding performance on all required assignments and learning outcomes.

A-: Demonstrates the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China) with a very good overall performance on all required assignments and learning outcomes.

B: Demonstrates the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China) with a good overall performance on all required assignments and learning outcomes, or high performance on some required assignments and learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall good performance.

C: Demonstrates the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China) with satisfactory performance on the majority of required assignments and learning outcomes, possibly with some weakness.

D: Demonstrates the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China) with barely satisfactory performance on a number of required assignments and learning outcomes.

F: Fails to demonstrate the ability to comprehend and apply the subject knowledge of the course as stated in the course description (key issues in Chinese politics, including: historical background of the system; roles of the party/ state; style of leadership; forms of popular participation; distinctive features of Chinese politics; debates over inequality, human rights, and the future shape of political reform in China). Unsatisfactory performance on a number of required assignments and learning outcomes, or failure to meet specified assessment requirements.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION & FEEDBACK

The completed tests will be collected in class by the lecturer. Feedback of the first test will be given to or discussed with students in class shortly after marking is done, anticipated to be within a week.

If tests are arranged online, then the feedback will be online as well, to be delivered individually unless the feedback relates to generic student performance.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topics	Readings/Assignment
1	1 <i>Tue, June 29</i>	Introduction	In this first meeting, the lecturer will introduce the course, make necessary course arrangements, and answer any queries that students may have at this beginning stage.
	2 <i>Wed, June 30</i>	Approaches to the study	In this first lecture, we shall discuss the various approaches that scholars use to study Chinese politics. We shall try to answer the following questions, among others: (1) Why study approaches? (2) What are the approaches used by scholars? (3) How to assess the relevance of these approaches? (4) Analysing the analysts (5) What is the relationship between theory and practice? <u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapter 2. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapters 1-2. • Gamer, chapter 1. • Joseph, chapter 1. • Liu, chapter 1. • Larus, chapter 1.
2	3 <i>Tue, July 6</i>	The Communist Party	(1) What is the Chinese Communist Party? (2) Why is it so powerful in China? (3) How does the Party exercise control in China? (4) What have been the major changes in the Party's structure and functions? (5) What are the consequences of such changes? <u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 9 and 10. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapter 4. • Joseph, chapter 6. • Liu, chapter 3. • Saich, chapter 4. • Lietherthal, chapters 6-7.
	4 <i>Wed, July 7</i>	The government	(1) What is the government structure of China? (2) How is governance exercised? (3) What is the relationship between the Party and the government? (4) What is the relationship between the central government and the local government? (5) How effective is China's governance? <u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 9 and 10. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liu, chapter 4. • Saich, chapter 5. • Larus, chapter 4. • Dreyer, chapter 6.
	5	The military	(1) What is the military structure of China?

	Thu, July 8		<p>(2) What is the role of the military in Chinese politics? (3) Military modernisation: How far? How fast? (4) What is the domestic function of the military? (5) Is China's military a threat to others?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapter 9. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saich, chapter 5. • Larus, chapter 9. • Heath, Timothy R., et al, <i>The PLA and China's rejuvenation</i> (Rand, 2016) • Shambaugh, David, <i>Modernizing China's military</i> (U of California Press, 2002).
3	6 Tue, July 13	The legislature	<p>(1) What is China's legislature? (2) What is the relationship between the legislature and the Party and government? (3) From the rule of man to the rule of law? (4) Between the rule of law and the rule by law (5) What is the prospect of China's legal reform?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 11 and 12. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liu, chapter 6. • Saich, chapter 5. • Dreyer, chapter 8. • Zou, Keyuan, <i>China's legal reform</i> (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2006).
	7 Wed, July 14	Politics	<p>(1) What is the nature of Chinese politics? (2) What is the role of the Constitution? (3) What have been the changes and continuities of Chinese politics? (4) Why political reforms are so difficult to carry out in comparison with economic reforms? (5) What does the future hold for political reforms?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapter 10. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapters 4-6. • Gamer, chapter 4. • Lieberthal, chapters 3-5. • Larus, chapter 5.
	8 Thu, July 15	Economics [Test 1]	<p>(1) What does the rise of China tell us about the Chinese economy? (2) From socialist economy to capitalist economy or 'privileged' capitalism: What has changed? What has not? (3) Economic reform in China: What triggers the changes? (4) What are the consequences of economic changes? (5) China's political economy: trends, pitfalls and potentials</p>

			<u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 15 and 16. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapter 7. • Gamer, chapter 5. • Joseph, chapter 8. • Kroeber, Arthur, <i>China's economy</i> (OUP, 2016). • Liu, chapter 5. • Larus, chapter 7.
4	9 Tue, July 20	Society	(1) What are the traditional features of Chinese society? (2) How do political (revolutionary) changes affect the society? (3) How do economic changes affect the society? (4) What have been the changes to the civic awareness of the general public? (5) What has been the growth of civil society and how does it evolve in the current political climate? <u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 13 and 14. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liu, chapter 5. • Saich, chapters 8 and 10. • Dreyer, chapter 12. • Lieberthal, chapter 11. • Larus, chapter 6.
	10 Wed, July 21	The environment	(1) What is the origin of China's environmental awareness? (2) What is the scale of China's environmental degradation? (3) How does China balance environmental protection with economic growth? (4) What are the problems? (5) What are the prospects? <u>Essential Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreyer, chapter 11. <u>Recommended Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gamer, chapter 9. • Joseph, chapter 12. • Lieberthal, chapter 10. • Matthews, John A, <i>The greening of capitalism</i> (Stanford UP, 2014). • Shapiro, Judith, <i>China's environmental challenges</i>, 2nd ed (Polity, 2016).
	11 Thu, July 22	Human rights	(1) What is China's understanding of human rights? (2) How does China balance human rights with community rights? (3) How best to assess China's human rights performance? (4) What is China's view on humanitarian intervention?

			<p>(5) In what way does the lack of grass-root awareness hinder the development of human rights in China?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Svensson, Marina, <i>Debating human rights in China</i> (Rowman & Littlefield, 2002), chapter 1. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wan, Ming, <i>Human rights in Chinese foreign relations</i> (U of Pennsylvania Press, 2001), chapters 1-2. • Kent, Ann, <i>China, the United Nations, and human rights</i> (U of Pennsylvania Press, 1999). • Chan (2006), chapter on human rights. • China's white papers on human rights (available online).
5	12 Tue, July 27	Foreign policy	<p>(1) What is Chinese foreign policy? (2) What are China's core national interests? (3) How to study Chinese foreign policy? (4) Who makes foreign policy in China? (5) What is China's Belt and Road Initiative?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 17 and 18 <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chan (2018), chapters 1 & 2. • Gamer, chapter 7. • Liu, chapter 7. • Lanteigne, Marc, <i>Chinese foreign policy</i>, 4th ed (Routledge, 2019). • 'Vision and actions on jointly building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road' (available online)
	13 Wed, July 28	Global governance	<p>(1) What is global governance? (2) How does China engage global governance? (3) Is China a rule-taker or a rule-maker in global affairs? (4) Is China a responsible power in the international community? (5) China and the world: what is new?</p> <p><u>Essential Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guo, chapters 17 and 18. <p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saich, chapter 11. • Larus, chapter 10. • Chan, Lee and Chan. • Chan (2006). • Kennedy, Scott and Shuaihua Cheng (eds), <i>From rule takers to rule makers: the growing role of China in global governance</i> (Bloomington and Geneva: RCCPB & ICTSD, September 2012) (available online).
	14 Thu, July 29	Conclusion/ summing up [Test 2]	<p><u>Recommended Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larus, chapter 11. • Lieberthal, chapter 12. • Saich, chapter 12.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

- In the case of group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible and liable to disciplinary actions should there be any plagiarized contents in the group project, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed directly or indirectly to the plagiarized contents.
- For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. A user manual of VeriGuide can be found at: https://academic.veriguide.org/academic/documents/VeriGuide_Academic_Student_User_Manual_CUHK.pdf.

Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers.

Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submission. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.