



## Global Curriculum Program

### Introduction to Chinese Government, Politics and Policy

**Instructor:** ZHANG, Xin

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**Language of Instruction:** English

**Contact Hours:** 52 course hours. One course hour is 45 minutes.

**Recommended Credit:** 3

#### **Course Description:**

This is an introductory course on contemporary Chinese politics, government and international relations. This course examines China from a variety of perspectives to enlighten our understanding of China today. All through the course, we will try to tackle the following questions: To what extent did the communist and revolutionary legacy affect reform-era politics and policy in China? Can China still be characterized as a communist state, or is it something else? Why has China been able to achieve such significant economic growth in the past three decades? Will economic liberalization inevitably lead China onto a political path predicted by modernization theory? On the international arena, is China really an emerging superpower or is it a developing country facing significant internal challenges that preclude its continued rise? What is the impact of a rising China on world order?

#### **Required Texts:**

- Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2004. *Governing China: from revolution through reform*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Lanteigne, Marc. 2009. *Chinese foreign policy: an introduction*. London; New York: Routledge.

#### **Course requirement:**

Attendance is mandatory. Active participation in class discussion is expected for all students. Assignments include two essays, one midterm exam and one presentation.

#### **Presentation:**

Every student is expected to follow current events in China closely. From the second week, in every class discussion, we will have students give brief presentation on a recent event in the greater China region that is related to our course material. The assignment is meant to not only give students incentives to explore the linkage between the past and the present, between theory and reality, but also help students to build up their own tool kit for their future independent study of China. For this project as well as our study of China in general, the Internet has provided us with enormous possibilities. Although it is not required, I highly recommend that you find your own, stable way to access material outside the “wall”.

#### **Field trip and movie screening:**



The instructor will arrange one field trip to sites in Shanghai. Several movies, both feature films and documentaries, most of which are also available online beyond the “wall”, will be assigned as supplementary material to our readings.

**Schedule of the course:**

1. Introduction: basic facts about China

- Naughton, Barry. 2007. *The Chinese economy: transitions and growth*. Chapter 1 “The geographic setting”

2. Traditional value and the end of the last dynasty

- Lieberthal, Chapter 1 “The legacies of imperial China”
- Lucian Pye, *China: An Introduction*, Chapter 3 “The Confucian tradition”
- Ch’ien Lung (Qian Long), “A Reply to George III, King of England” (1793)

3. Republican period, communist revolution, rise of the PRC

- Lieberthal, Chapter 2 “The Republican era”
- Mao Zedong, “Report on an Investigation into the Peasant Movement in Hunan” (1927)
- Naughton, Barry. 2007. *The Chinese economy: transitions and growth*. Chapter 2 “The Chinese Economy before 1949”

4. Maoera: 1949-1978

- Lieberthal, Chapter 3 “The Maoist system: ideas and governance”; Chapter 4 “The Maoist era”

5. Government structure and party state

- Lieberthal, Chapter 6 “The organization of the political power and its consequences: the view from the outside”; Chapter 7 “The organization of the political power and its consequences: the view from the inside”

6. Initiation of reform and reform strategy

- Lieberthal, Chapter 5 “The reform era”, Chapter 9 “Economic development”

7. State-society relations

- Lieberthal, Chapter 11 “State and society”
- Unger and Chan “China, corporatism and East Asian model” (1994)
- Richard Baum, “The Limits of Consultative Leninism” (2005)

8. Consequence of reform

- Lieberthal, Chapter 10 “China faces the future”
- In-class midterm

9. China and the outside world

Lanteigne, Chapter 1 “Who makes Chinese foreign policy today?”; Chapter 2 “China in the world economy”; Chapter 3 “Multilateralism and international institutions”

10. Foreign policy strategies and relations with major powers



- Lanteigne, Chapters 4 “Strategic thinking and the roles of the military”; Chapter 5 “The United States views China (and China views the United States)”

11. China’s peripheral diplomacy

- Lanteigne, Chapter 6 “China’s peripheral diplomacy”
- Richard Baum, “The Taiwan-China Tangle”

12. China’s relations with developing countries

- Lanteigne, Chapter 7 “Moving beyond Asia: China’s cross-regional diplomacy”
- Eric Farnsworth, “The New Mercantilism: China’s Emerging Role in the Americas” (2001)
- Li Anshan, “China’s New Policy to Africa” (2008)

**Course Grading Criteria**

**Grade Range (%)**

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	70-76
D	60-69
F	0-59