

## **GOV 2440/ASNS 2060: CONTEMPORARY CHINESE POLITICS**

**Fall 2018**

**Professor:** Christopher Heurlin

**Office:** Asian Studies, College Street 38, Room 204

**Office Hours:** 4:00-5:00 pm Monday and Wednesday

**Class Time and Location:** Tuesday and Thursday at 11:40-1:05, Searles 115

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### **Course Description**

This course examines the political, social and economic transformation of China with an emphasis on the past 30 years. Students will explore the transformation of the countryside from a primarily agricultural society into the factory of the world. Particular emphasis will be placed on economic development and how this has changed state-society relations at the grassroots. The class will explore these changes among farmers, the working class and the emerging middle class. Throughout the course students will examine not only positive aspects of the reform process but also the negative externalities of high economic growth. More importantly, the students will arrive at a more nuanced understanding of the winners and losers in economic reform.

### **Expectations**

I expect students above all to be actively involved in the learning process. This means several things. First, I expect students to attend all classes. Second, I expect students to be active in classroom discussions. Third, I expect students to have read all of the readings listed on the syllabus assigned for each class *before* coming to class. Our classroom discussions will be centered on the readings as well as the lectures. This means that doing the readings in advance is critical to your ability to participate. Fourth, I expect students to be respectful of one another's opinions and to conduct discussions in a friendly manner.

### **Readings**

The majority of the readings can be found online at blackboard. Please **PRINT THE READINGS OUT AND BRING THEM TO CLASS WITH YOU**. Classroom discussion will be centered primarily on the readings and it is therefore vital that you bring your readings with you. We will also be using two books, Walder's *China Under Mao* and Hillman's *Patronage and Power*.

### **Grading**

Students will be evaluated in the class on the basis of several exams, a paper and classroom participation. The majority of the grade is comprised of two exams, a mid-term exam and a final exam. These exams will cover material from both lectures and readings. The lectures in this class will complement, not duplicate, the readings. This means that lectures will at times expand on the arguments made in the readings, but at other times will challenge the readings and offer competing explanations. Students will also write a short research paper. Finally, students will be graded on their participation in class. These grades will include not only whether or not students showed up for class, but the degree to which they participated in classroom discussions. Students should not expect an “A” in participation just for showing up.

Participation: 15%

Research Paper: 25%

Mid-Term Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

### **Accommodations**

Students that need special accommodations should notify me at the beginning of the term so that I can prepare reasonable accommodations for them. In order to receive these accommodations the students should follow the procedures set forth by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs.

### **Honor Code**

All students are required to abide by the Bowdoin Academic Honor Code. Academic dishonesty is something I take very seriously and will treat in accordance with the Code. According to the Honor Code, “Academic Dishonesty” includes but is not limited to (1) the receiving, giving, or using of any unauthorized assistance on quizzes, tests, written assignments, examinations or laboratory assignments; (2) references to sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in preparing papers, constructing reports, solving problems or carrying out other academic assignments; (3) inadequate citation of sources; (4) acquisition, without permission, of tests, computer files or similar material which would give the student an unfair advantage on an assignment or examination; (5) submission of academic work not a student’s own original effort; (6) use of the same work for multiple courses without prior knowledge of the receiving instructors; (7) depriving learners of access, including computer access, to library information through intentional monopolization, mutilation, defacing, unauthorized removal of books or other materials from College libraries, or purposeful failure to return library materials on a timely basis; (8) unauthorized altering of academic records (transcripts, grading sheets, Course Registration Cards, etc.); (9) fabrication of research data.

### **Readings by date**

Each reading should be completed BEFORE class on the dates indicated, as we will be discussing these readings in class. All readings are available on Blackboard

			<b>Part 1: The Mao Era (1949-1978)</b>
Thurs	Aug	30	<b>Introduction</b>
Tues	Sept	4	<b>Lieberthal</b> - "The Maoist System" in <i>Governing China</i> <b>Walder</b> - –“The Socialist Economy” in <i>China Under Mao</i>
Thurs	Sept	6	<b>Walder</b> –"Great Leap" in <i>China Under Mao</i> <b>Koss</b> – “Can the CCP Disobey? The Great Leap Famine” in <i>Where the Party Rules</i>
Tues	Sept	11	<b>Walder</b> - "The Chinese Cultural Revolution” in <i>Cambridge History of Communism</i>
			<b>Part 2: The Deng Era (1980s)</b>
Thurs	Sept	13	<b>Saich</b> - “China Under Reform, 1978-2003” (partial: 57-75) in <i>Governance and Politics of China</i> ; <b>Li</b> - "China's Communist Party-State" in Joseph's <i>Politics in China</i> ;
Tues	Sept	18	<b>Fewsmith</b> - "The Emergence of Rural Reform" in <i>Dilemmas of Reform in China</i> ; <b>Kelliher</b> – “The Creation of Family Farms” in <i>Peasant Power in China</i>
Thurs	Sept	20	<b>Shirk</b> – “Chinese Political Institutions and the Path of Economic Reforms” in <i>The Political Logic of Economic Reform in China</i> <b>Naughton</b> - “Market Transition” in <i>Chinese Economy</i> ;
Tues	Sept	25	<b>Walder</b> – “Organized Dependency and Cultures of Authority in Chinese Industry” <i>Journal of Asian Studies</i> , 1983, Vol. 43. No. 1. <b>Perry</b> - "From Native Place to Workplace" in <i>Danwei</i>
Thurs	Sept	27	<b>Zhao</b> - “A Brief History of the 1989 Movement” in <i>The Power of Tiananmen</i> <b>RESEARCH QUESTION DUE</b>
Thurs	Oct	4	<b>Perry</b> - “Casting a Chinese Democracy Movement” in <i>Popular Protest and Political Culture in Modern China</i> ; <b>Zhao</b> – “Ecologies of Student Movements” <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 1998, Vol 103. No. 6.
			<b>Part 4: The Jiang Era (1990s)</b>
Thurs	Oct	11	<b>Oi</b> – “The Role of the Local State in China’s Transitional Economy” <i>China Quarterly</i> , 1995, No. 144 <b>Ong</b> – “The Local Government-Led Path to Rural Decay” in <i>Prosper or Perish</i>
Tues	Oct	16	<b>McGregor</b> - "The Keeper of the Files" in <i>The Party</i> ; <b>Whiting</b> - "Cadre evaluation system at the grassroots" in Naughton and Yang’s <i>Holding China Together</i>
Thurs	Oct	18	<b>Bernstein and Lu</b> - “Taxation Without Representation” <i>China Quarterly</i> , 2000, No. 163

Tue s	Oct	2 3	<b>EXAM</b>
			<b>Part 5: The Hu Era (2000s)</b>
Thu rs	Oct	2 5	<b>Hillman</b> – “Political Competition in Two Townships” in <i>Patronage and Power</i>
Tue s	Oct	3 0	<b>Lee</b> – “Unmaking of Mao’s Working Class in the Rustbelt” in <i>Against the Law</i>
Thu rs	No v	1	<b>Fewsmith</b> - "Hu Jintao Takes Over" (partial) in <i>China Since Tiananmen</i> ; <b>Naughton</b> - "China's Left Tilt" in Li's <i>China's Changing Political Landscape</i> <b>THESIS STATEMENT DUE</b>
Tue s	No v	6	<b>Lee</b> – “The Making of New Labor in the Sunbelt” in <i>Against the Law</i> <b>CLASSROOM SIMULATION: LABOR POLITICS IN CHINA</b>
Thu rs	No v	8	<b>Hsing</b> – “Peasant Relocation and Deterritorialization” in <i>The Great Urban Transformation</i> ; <b>Lee and Zhang</b> – “The Power of Instability,” <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 2013, Vol. 118, No. 6
Tue s	No v	1 3	<b>Heurlin</b> – “Social Stability and the Petitioning System’s Role in Agenda Setting” and “Protest and the Political Mediation approach in Provincial Policy Making” in <i>Responsive Authoritarianism in China</i> <b>PEER REVIEW IN CLASS</b>
Thu rs	No v	1 5	<b>Huang</b> - "What's Wrong with Shanghai?" in <i>Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics</i> <b>RESEARCH PAPER DUE</b>
			<b>Part 6: The Xi Era (2010s)</b>
Tue s	No v	2 0	<b>Shirk</b> – “The Return to Personalistic Rule” <i>Journal of Democracy</i> Vol. 29, No. 2, (2018): 22-36 <b>Fu and Distelhorst</b> – “Grassroots Participation and Repression under Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping” <i>China Journal</i> Vol. 79, (2018): 100-122
Tue s	No v	2 7	<b>Reny</b> – “Compliant Defiance: Informality and Survival Among Protest House Churches in China” <i>Journal of Contemporary China</i> Vol. 27, No. 111 (2018) <b>Koesel</b> – “The Rise of a Chinese House Church” <i>China Quarterly</i> No. 214 (2013): 572-589
Thu rs	No v	2 9	<b>Robertson</b> – “Censorship in China” in <i>Censored: Distraction and Diversion Inside China’s Great Firewall</i> <b>Repnikova</b> – “Restrictions on Critical Journalism” in <i>Media Politics in China</i>
Tue s	De c	4	<b>Feng and Su</b> – “Communist Resilience” in Bandelj and Solinger’s <i>Socialism Vanquished, Socialism Challenged</i> <b>Perry</b> – “‘Sixty is the New Forty’ (Or is It?)” in Kirby’s <i>The People’s Republic of China at 60</i>
Thu rs	De c	6	<b>Nathan</b> – “Foreseeing the Unforeseeable” <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , 2013, Vol. 24, No. 1. <b>Pei</b> – “Is CCP Rule Fragile or Resilient?” <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , 2012, Vol. 23, No. 1.

			<b>Chen</b> – “The Rising Cost of Stability” <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , 2013, Vol. 24, No. 1.
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