PSCI 405/652: Chinese Political Economy
Winter 2016
Room HH 345 Thursday 2:30-5:20

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Office Hours: Thursday 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Course Description: China’s economy has grown rapidly in the last few decades. Has the Chinese model of development been a success or a failure? What have been the major driving forces of growth? What are the obstacles for further economic reform? How sustainable is China’s economic growth in the long run? Moreover, China has become increasingly integrated with the rest of the global economy. How has the global economy shaped China’s economic development? What impact has China’s presence — through its trade, investment, and aid — had on the development of other countries? These are questions with important theoretical and policy implications.

This course will be organized around these questions. We will begin with an overview of the historical legacies of the pre-1949 era and then move onto discussing the socialist economy and the post-socialist transition. The focus will then stay on the economic reform and development since the 1970s. We will examine the interaction between politics and economics that has shaped China’s rural and urban economy in this era as well as the social and political consequences of economic development. Later the focus will shift to China’s integration with the global economy and its growing economic presence in other parts of the world.

Pre-Requisites: A minimum of 0.50 unit of PSCI; Level at least 4A.

Prior knowledge about Chinese history and politics will be very useful for the course. For students who are new to the study of China, it is highly recommended that they read one of the following two books (Kenneth Lieberthal, Governing China; or Tony Saich, Governance and Politics of China) early in the semester.

Course Objectives:
By the end of this course, students should:

- Have gained basic knowledge about the current state of Chinese economy and, particularly, the achievements and failures of China’s economic reform.
• Have developed a good understanding of how politics shapes economic policies and how economic development affects social and political development.
• Have learned basic skills in using credible sources for research on contemporary Chinese politics and economy.
• Have become well-informed about one or two specific issues in Chinese economy and foreign economic relations.

University Regulations:

Cross-listed course:
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, Student Discipline http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, Student Petitions http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70. In addition, consult Student Grievances http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, Student Appeals http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72.
Academic Integrity website (Arts): Academic Integrity
http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): Academic Integrity Office
http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

Texts:

Besides this textbook, there are articles that are also part of the reading assignments, as listed below. You can find them through the university library’s electronic databases. They are meant to either update the information offered in the main textbook or to enhance the political and comparative perspectives on Chinese political economy.

The text book is available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore.
The text book will be on 3-hour reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Assignments:

Assignment #1 (20%):
The format of this course is a seminar. Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and ready to discuss them. Beginning with the second week, students enrolled in PSCI 652 will need to submit a 2-page (double-spaced) response to the required readings, sharing your thoughts on one or two issues you find most interesting. Your response paper is due by 5 pm on the Tuesday before each class.

Assignment #2 (20%):
Also starting in the second week, we will have students enrolled in both PSCI 405 and PSCI 652 report on the optional readings. The student reporter(s) will summarize the main question(s) and argument(s) of the optional reading materials, reflect on the insights in those materials most relevant to the themes of the required readings, and pose one or two questions for the class to
discuss. The written report (3-5 pages, double-spaced) is due by 5 pm on the Tuesday before each class.

Assignment #3 (20%): 
Each student will conduct an independent research project on a topic relevant to the course and approved by the professor. You will present your research design, which explains your question(s), the significance of your project, your research methods, sources, and anticipated findings. This is not a written assignment, but it will be useful for you to write up your research design (e.g. 3-5 pages) before your presentation.

Assignment #4 (40%): 
Toward the end of the semester, students will present their completed research projects. The finalized paper will be due one week after the last class. The paper should be about 15 pages (double-spaced, plus bibliography) for those enrolled in PSCI 405, and 25 pages (double-spaced, plus bibliography) for those enrolled in PSCI 652.

Late Policy:  
There will be no make up for missed assignments or presentations except special circumstances beyond your control (e.g., illness and other types of emergencies), for which you need to submit written documentation.

Schedule: (Items with * are required; other items are optional)

Week 1 (January 7) Introduction

Week 2 (January 14) Pre-1949 legacies  
*Reading 1: Naughton: Introduction, Chapters 1 and 2.


Week 3 (January 21) Socialist economy and post-socialist transition  
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 3 and 4.


Week 4 (January 28) The rural-urban divide
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 5 and 8.


Week 5 (February 4) Rural political economy
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 10, 11, and 12.


Week 6 (February 11) Urban political economy
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 13, 14, and 15.


Week 7 (February 25) Macroeconomics and finance
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 18 and 19


Week 8 (March 3) Human dimensions of development
*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 7 and 9


**Week 9 (March 10)** The environment

*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapter 20


**Week 10 (March 17)** Integrating with the global economy

*Reading 1: Naughton: Chapters 16 and 17


**Week 11 (March 24)** “Going out”


**Week 12 (March 31)** Research presentations