

# PSCI 358: Political Change in Greater China

Fall, 2013

RCH 308, Thursday 9:30-12:20

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**Instructor:** H. Wang

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**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 301

**Office Hours:** Thursday 1:00-3:00 pm

**Course Description:** Political change in China is an important subject to understand for practical and theoretical purposes. For students interested in careers in the policy and the business world, it is easy to see the vital and still growing role of China (or Greater China, which also includes Hong Kong and Taiwan) in international politics and global economy. What happens in China and to China is not only a matter of interest to that country but also to the rest of the world. For students interested in political science theories, the study of China provides ample opportunities to test existing theoretical propositions and generate new concepts and hypotheses. The goal of this course is to provide you with a historically- and theoretically-informed understanding of political change in China.

The first part of the course takes a historical approach and examines the political change in China in the modern era. The second part of the course focuses on contemporary political development and problems. Our main focus will be on the politics of the People's Republic of China, including political institutions, political participation, political economy, and foreign relations. We will also briefly discuss political change in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

**Pre-Requisites:** Level at least 3A.

## Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Have a general idea about the political history of China from the imperial era to the present.
- Be well-informed about the evolution of the political system of the People's Republic of China (PRC) as well as major political events and leaders.
- Have developed a good understanding of contemporary political development and political economy in the PRC.
- Some knowledge about the political events and systems in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

## 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](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:**

Fairbank, John King, *The Great Chinese Revolution*, Harper and Row, 1987. (Required)  
Saich, Tony, *Governance and Politics of China*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2011. (Required)

Texts are available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore.  
Texts are also on 3-hour reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

In addition, we will use a number of articles, which you can find through the University's library.

## **Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:**

### **Assignments:**

#### *Assignment #1:*

You should attend each class and complete the assigned readings before each class. You should use "LEARN" to post your comments and/or questions on 5 reading assignments by noon the day before class. Your attendance throughout the semester and total posted comments will each constitute 10 percent of your course grade.

#### *Assignment #2:*

Each student – in consultation with the professor – will choose a political personality and present a biography of the person to the class. The presentation (5-7 minutes) should highlight the main political activities and impact of the person. Your presentation will be 10 percent of your course grade.

#### *Assignment #3:*

You will carry out an independent research project on a topic approved by the professor. It could have a historical, policy or theoretical focus. You will be asked to present your research in class (5-7 minutes) and write a paper on the basis of your research (15 pages, double-spaced). The paper is due on December 5, one week after our last class.

The presentation of your research and the research paper will constitute, respectively, 10 and 20 percent of your course grade.

## **Tests & Examinations:**

### *Final Examination:*

There will be a close-book final exam (two hours) at the end of the semester. Your grade for the exam will account for 40 percent of your course grade.

The date will be determined by the university scheduler. **Please note: Student travel plans are not an acceptable reason for granting an alternative examination time.**

## **Late Policy:**

There will not be makeup for missed assignments or exams except special circumstances beyond your control (e.g., illness and other types of emergencies, for which you need to submit written documentation).

## **Schedule:**

### **Week 1 Introduction**

### **Week 2 Late Imperial China**

Reading: Fairbank chapters 1-5

### **Week 3 Transformation**

Reading: Fairbank chapters 6-9

### **Week 4 Discussion of research projects**

### **Week 5 The Republic of China**

Reading: Fairbank, chapters 10-14

### **Week 6 The People's Republic of China**

Reading: Fairbank chapters 15-17, Saich 1-3

### **Week 7 Recent Political Development**

Reading: Fairbank, chapters 18-19, Saich, chapter 4

### **Week 8 Political Institutions**

Reading: Saich, chapters 5-7

### **Week 9 Political Participation**

Reading: Saich, chapters 8-9

**Week 10 Political Economy**

Reading: Saich, chapters 10-11

**Week 11 Foreign Relations and Future Challenges**

Reading 1: Saich, chapter 12-13

Reading 2: Wang, Hongying, and Erik French. "China's Participation in Global Governance from a Comparative Perspective." *Asia Policy* 15.1 (2013): 89-114

**Week 12 Taiwan and Hong Kong**

Reading 1: Chu, Yun-han, and Jih-wen Lin. "Political development in 20th-century Taiwan: State-building, regime transformation and the construction of national identity." *The China Quarterly* 165.1 (2001): 102-129

Reading 2: So, Alvin Y. "'One Country, Two Systems' and Hong Kong-China National Integration: A Crisis-Transformation Perspective." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 41.1 (2011): 99-116