

# PSCI 490/652 : Chinese Political Economy

Fall, 2013

HH 345, Monday 9:30-12:20

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**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 301

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

**Course Description:** Political economy is about the interaction between politics and economics. In this class we study the economic transformation in contemporary China, paying particular attention to the political context of economic development and the political consequences of economic reform. We will cover a wide range of topics, from agriculture and industry to the fiscal and the financial system. We will examine the sources of China's rapid economic growth in the last few decades, the challenges China faces in sustaining its development, the political and institutional obstacles for further reform, and the impact of economic changes on Chinese politics and society. We will also briefly explore China's foreign economic relationship and its place in the global economy.

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

Students with some knowledge about Chinese history or politics will be more comfortable with the course materials than those who are new to the subjects. For students who would like to catch up quickly, it will be useful to read one of the following two books (Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China*; or Tony Saich, *Governance and Politics of China*).

## **Course Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students should:

- Have developed broad knowledge about the state and reform of contemporary Chinese economy.
- Understand how politics has shaped and been shaped by economic change in China.
- Have learned about credible sources for research on contemporary Chinese politics and economy.
- Have in-depth understanding of one or two specific issues in Chinese political economy.

## 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, <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, <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>. In addition, consult <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, <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

### Academic Integrity website (Arts):

[http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** <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.

### **If you are using Turnitin in your course:**

**Turnitin.com:** Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo> for more information.

### **Texts:**

Loren Brandt and Thomas Rawski, *China's Great Economic Transformation*, Cambridge University Press, 2008. (Required)

There will be articles assigned in addition to the book, as listed below. You can find them through the university library's electronic databases. On average, the reading assignment for each class amounts to a little over 100 pages.

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

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

### **Assignments:**

#### *Assignment #1:*

The format of this course is a seminar. Students are expected to actively participate in the discussion of the reading assignments and to respond productively to other students' research projects. Your in-class participation will constitute 20 percent of your course grade.

#### *Assignment #2:*

Beginning with the second week, we will have students review the reading assignments (a chapter in the text book or an article) for that week. In the review you should summarize the main question(s) and argument(s) of the chapter or article, and present your thoughts about the issues you find most interesting in the chapter or article. Each student will do two to three such reviews during the semester. This is not a written assignment. You will be graded on the basis of your oral presentation. But it will be helpful for you to prepare your review in written form before your presentation. Your reviews will account for 30 percent of your course grade.

*Assignment #3:*

Each student will conduct an independent research project on a Chinese political economy topic approved by the professor. During the semester, students will take turns presenting their research designs in class. Your research design should spell out your research question(s), the significance of your project, your research methods, sources, and preliminary or anticipated findings. You need to submit a 3-page summary of your research design (including a bibliography) the day before your presentation. Your presentation and research design will account for 20 percent of your grade.

*Assignment #4:*

Toward the end of the semester, you will present your completed research project. Your finalized paper will be due on Monday, December 2, 2013, one week after our last class. The paper should be about 15 pages (double spaced, including bibliography) for those enrolled in PSCI 490, and 20 pages (double-spaced, including bibliography) for those enrolled in PSCI 652. Your presentation and research paper will constitute 30 percent of your grade.

**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:**

**Week 1 Introduction**

**Week 2 Chinese Reform and Development Theory**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 1-2

Reading 2: Lu, Xiaobo. "Booty socialism, bureau-preneurs, and the state in transition: Organizational corruption in China." *Comparative Politics* (2000): 273-294.

**Week 3 Chinese Transition in Comparative Perspective**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 3-4

Reading 2: Marsh, Christopher. "Learning from your comrade's mistakes: the impact of the Soviet past on China's future." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 36.3 (2003): 259-272.

**Week 4 Discussion of Research Projects**

**Week 5 Demography, Labor Market, and Education**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 5-7

**Week 6 Environment, Science and Technology**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 8-9

Reading 2: Yang, Guobin. "Environmental NGOs and institutional dynamics in China." *The China Quarterly* 181.1 (2005): 46-66.

### **Week 7 Private Sector and Rule of Law**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 10-11

Reading 2: Tsai, Kellee S. "Capitalists without a Class Political Diversity among Private Entrepreneurs in China." *Comparative Political Studies* 38.9 (2005): 1130-1158.

### **Week 8 Fiscal and Financial Systems**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 12 and 14

Reading 2: Woo, Wing Thye, and Wei Zhang. "Combating the global financial crisis with aggressive expansionary monetary policy: same medicine, different outcomes in China, the UK and USA." *The World Economy* 34.5 (2011): 667-686.

### **Week 9 Agricultural and Industrial Development**

Reading: Brandt and Rawski chapters 13 and 15

Reading 2: Eaton, Sarah. "Political Economy of the Advancing State: The Case of China's Airlines Reform." *China Journal* 69 (2013): 64-86.

### **Week 10 Globalization and Structural Transformation**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 16-17

Reading 2: Wang, Hongying, "Addressing China's Role in the Current Global Imbalance", forthcoming.

### **Week 11 Uneven Development**

Reading 1: Brandt and Rawski chapters 18-19

Reading 2: Chan, Chak Kwan. "Re-thinking the incrementalist thesis in China: A reflection on the development of the minimum standard of living scheme in urban and rural areas." *Journal of Social Policy* 39.04 (2010): 627-645.

### **Week 12 Conclusion**

Reading: Brandt and Rawski chapter 20