

PSCI 405/652: Chinese Political Economy

Instructor: H. Wang

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Tutorial: M 11:30-12:50

Office Hours: M and W 2:30-3:30 pm

Organization: The remote delivery of this course requires some unconventional ways for organizing our learning activities. The only synchronous meeting will be the weekly tutorial. Participation is not mandatory, but highly encouraged. If you can't join some tutorials, you will have access of the PPT slides posted after each tutorial. They highlight the main issues discussed during the tutorial. You are welcome to bring your questions to the instructor during the twice-weekly office hours.

Contact Policy: Email is the best way to get in touch with the instructor outside of scheduled office hours. Students should remember the following things when emailing:

- Students should use their official UW email accounts. To ensure student privacy, the instructor will not reply to emails sent from a non-UW account (such as Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, Sympatico, etc.).
- Students should include a subject line starting with 'PSCI 405' or 'PSCI 652'.
- Students should sign emails with their first and last name.
- Please use email for brief questions that can be answered quickly. If students want to discuss course material, assignments, or another matter in detail, they should speak with the instructor during tutorials or office hours.

Course Description: China's rapid and sustained economic growth since the late 1970s has lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty, created an expanding middle class where there was none a few decades ago, and made the People's Republic a major player in international trade, investment and innovation. It has also generated a spirited debate as to how China has been able to achieve this "economic miracle." In this course, we examine key aspects of China's economic development in recent decades, seeking a multifaceted understanding of contemporary Chinese political economy and a nuanced perspective on China's development experience. The course will begin with an overview of the historical legacies of the pre-1949 era. The bulk of our attention will focus on the economic reform and development since the 1970s.

We will analyze the interaction between politics and economics in many policy areas, concluding the course with a critical evaluation of the concept of a “Chinese development model”. The format of the course is a seminar, where student participation in discussions and involvement in independent research play an important role in the learning experience.

Pre-Requisites: PSCI 259 or 358

Prior knowledge about Chinese history and politics will be important for the course. For students who are relatively new to the study of China, it will be helpful to read an introduction text, e.g. 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.
- Developed a good understanding of how politics shapes economic policies and how economic development affects social and political development.
- Learned basic skills in using credible sources for research on contemporary Chinese politics and economy.
- Become well-informed about one or two specific issues in Chinese economy or 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, <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

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.

Texts:

We will be reading a number of articles on each topic as listed below. You can find them through the university library’s electronic databases.

Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Overview

Assignment/assessment	Date	Percentage of grade
Response to readings	11 pm Saturday before class	40
Research design presentation	Week 7	15
Research findings presentation	April 12	15
Research paper	April 19	30

Assignments/Assessments:

#1

Response to readings (40%): There is a discussion forum on LEARN for each week's topic. Your assignment is two-fold: 1) posting your questions and/or comments on the reading assignments (100-150 words), and 2) commenting on one post by another student (50-100 words).

Your response should **NOT** be a summary of the readings, but include thoughts provoked by the readings. For example, you may want to endorse or criticize an argument and explain why, compare what you have learned in these readings with information and perspectives from other credible sources, or elaborate how the readings have changed or reaffirmed your previous thinking on the topic. When commenting on others' responses, please be succinct, to the point, and courteous.

Please submit your response (both portions) by 11 pm on Saturday before the tutorials on Monday.

#2

Research design presentation (15%): You will conduct an independent research project on a controversial issue in Chinese political economy. A first step is to develop a research design, which spells out your research question(s), the theoretical or policy significance of your project, and your research methods and sources of information. You will present your design during office hours in week 7.

#3

Research findings presentation (15%): At the end of the semester, you will present the findings of your independent research in a tutorial and answer questions from the class. If you are not able to join a tutorial, you can present the findings to the instructor during office hours.

#4

Research paper (30%): The paper (12-15 pages for PSCI 405 students, and 18-22 pages for PSCI 652 students, double-spaced, including references) will be the final product of your independent research project. It should clearly state your research question(s) and the theoretical or policy significance of your project, explain your research methods and sources of information, report the main findings of your research, and discuss the contribution your project makes to the scholarly or policy debate on Chinese political economy.

Late Policy:

There will be **no make up** for missed responses to reading assignments. Late submission of papers will incur a **penalty** of 5% for each 24 hours of delay. Exceptions will only be made under special circumstances beyond your control (e.g., illness and other types of emergencies).

Schedule:

(Note: Items marked with * are required only for students enrolled in PSCI 605. Other items are required for all students.)

Week 1 (January 11) Introduction

Week 2 (January 18) Historical background

Reading 1: Landes, David S. "Why Europe and the West? Why Not China?." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20.2 (2006): 3-22.

Reading 2: Hung, Ho-fung. "Agricultural revolution and elite reproduction in Qing China: The transition to capitalism debate revisited." *American Sociological Review* 73.4 (2008): 569-588.

*Reading 3: Lin, Justin Yifu. "The Needham puzzle, the Weber question, and China's miracle: Long-term performance since the Sung dynasty." *China Economic Journal* 1.1 (2008): 63-95.

Week 3 (January 25) Rural development

Reading 1: Oi, Jean C. "Two decades of rural reform in China: An overview and assessment." *The China Quarterly* 159 (1999): 616-628.

Reading 2: Sargeson, Sally (2013) 'Violence as development: land expropriation and China's urbanization', *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 40 (6).

*Reading 3: Kan, Karita, (2019) 'A Weapon of the Weak? Shareholding, Property Rights and Villager Empowerment in China', *The China Quarterly*, 237, pp.131-152.

Week 4 (February 1) The state sector

Reading 1: Chan, Anita, and Jonathan Unger. "A Chinese state enterprise under the reforms: what model of capitalism?" *The China Journal* 62 (2009): 1-26.

Reading 2: Li, Chen. "Holding "China Inc." Together: The CCP and The Rise of China's Yangqi." *The China Quarterly* 228 (2016): 927-949.

*Reading 3: Chen, Ling, and Barry Naughton. "An institutionalized policy-making mechanism: China's return to techno-industrial policy." *Research Policy* 45, no. 10 (2016): 2138-2152.

Week 5 (February 8) The private sector

Reading 1: Lardy, Nicholas. "Private sector development," in Garnaut, Ross, Ligang Song, and Cai Fang, eds. *China's 40 years of reform and development: 1978–2018*. ANU Press (2018): 329-344.

Reading 2: Dickson, Bruce J. "Integrating wealth and power in China: the Communist Party's embrace of the private sector." *The China Quarterly* 192 (2007): 827-854.

*Reading 3: Huang, Dongya, and Minglu Chen. "Business Lobbying within the Party-State: Embedding Lobbying and Political Co-optation in China." *The China Journal* 83, no. 1 (2020): 105-128.

Week 6 (February 22) Labor

Reading 1: Fan, C. Cindy. "The elite, the natives, and the outsiders: Migration and labor market segmentation in urban China." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 92.1 (2002): 103-124.

Reading 2: Ngai, Pun, and Jenny Chan. "Global capital, the state, and Chinese workers: the Foxconn experience." *Modern China* 38.4 (2012): 383-410.

*Reading 3: Lee, Ching Kwan. "Precarization or empowerment? Reflections on recent labor unrest in China." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 75.2 (2016): 317-333.

Week 7 (March 1) Social policies

Reading 1: Zhu, Huoyun, and Alan Walker. "Pension system reform in China: Who gets what pensions?." *Social Policy & Administration* 52.7 (2018): 1410-1424.

Reading 2: Huang, Xian. "Four worlds of welfare: Understanding subnational variation in Chinese social health insurance." *The China Quarterly* 222 (2015): 449-474.

*Reading 3: Leisering, Lutz, Tao Liu, and Tobias ten Brink. "Synthesizing disparate ideas: How a Chinese model of social assistance was forged." *Global Social Policy* 17.3 (2017): 307-327.

Week 8 (March 8) Macroeconomic policy and finance

Reading 1: Su, Fubing, and Ran Tao. "The China model withering? Institutional roots of China's local developmentalism." *Urban Studies* 54.1 (2017): 230-250.

Reading 2: Allen, Franklin, et al. "The IPO of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and the 'Chinese Model' of privatizing large financial institutions." *The European Journal of Finance* 20.7-9 (2014): 599-624.

*Reading 3: Chen, Muyang. "State Actors, Market Games: Credit Guarantees and the Funding of China Development Bank." *New Political Economy* (2019): 1-16.

Week 9 (March 22) The environment

Reading 1: Kostka, Genia. "Command without control: The case of China's environmental target system." *Regulation & Governance* 10.1 (2016): 58-74.

Reading 2: Moore, Scott M. "Modernisation, authoritarianism, and the environment: the politics of China's South-North Water Transfer Project." *Environmental Politics* 23.6 (2014): 947-964.

*Reading 3: Urban, Frauke, Yu Wang, and Sam Geall. "Prospects, politics, and practices of solar energy innovation in China." *The Journal of Environment & Development* 27.1 (2018): 74-98..

Week 10 (March 29) Foreign trade and investment

Reading 1: Liu, Ming-Hua, Dimitris Margaritis, and Yang Zhang. "The Global Financial Crisis and the Export-Led Economic Growth in China." *The Chinese Economy* 52.3 (2019): 232-248.

Reading 2: Smart, Alan, and Jinn-Yuh Hsu. "The Chinese diaspora, foreign investment and economic development in China." *The Review of International Affairs* 3.4 (2004): 544-566.

*Reading 3: Ye, Min. "Fragmentation and mobilization: Domestic politics of the belt and road in China." *Journal of Contemporary China* 28, no. 119 (2019): 696-711.

Week 11 (April 5) A "Chinese development model"?

Reading 1: Huang, Yasheng. "Debating China's economic growth: The Beijing consensus or the Washington consensus." *Academy of Management Perspectives* 24.2 (2010): 31-47.

Reading 2: Breslin, Shaun. "The 'China model' and the global crisis: from Friedrich List to a Chinese mode of governance?" *International Affairs* 87, no. 6 (2011): 1323-1343.

*Reading 3: Ferchen, Matt. "Whose China model is it anyway? The contentious search for consensus." *Review of International Political Economy* 20.2 (2013): 390-420.

Week 12 (April 12) Research findings presentations

