

PSCI4313 Politics of China

Spring 2021
Tuesday 4:00 pm - 6:45 pm Virtual/Remote Learning

Instructor: Dr. Karl Ho; 972-883-2017; kyho@utdallas.edu

Online Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 am to 12 noon, by appointment

Overview: The year 2020 marks the historic turning point for studying the politics and political economy of China. The COVID-19 (which started in Wuhan, China, 2019) pandemic changes the world order putting China in the stage center. It prompts revisiting and revisioning of the core questions for students studying China:

- Is China more a challenger than an ally to US?
- Is the rise of China redefining the new world order?
- How will the US-China relations unfold under the new administration?

By numbers, China is one of the most important nations in the world.

- Biggest economy by purchasing power (as of 2021)
- Largest population (1.4 billion)
- Most sizable military personnel (>2 million)
- Best and fastest economy by growth in the last four decades (~7% on average).

China is about the size of the United States, geographically. It is four times more populated compared to America, with economic and political power rising in unprecedented rates. China's rapid growth is not just in its economy but in many areas such as technologies, military and foreign influence. It is imperative to understand this rising power in context: namely, the complexity of issues and policies under this Communist regime adopting capitalist measures. This survey course prepares students to comprehend Chinese politics and policies in perspectives including political history, political systems and how the nation is in relations with the world, in particular the United States.

Students are expected to build solid knowledge of the country's political and economic developments in many aspects. This course examines the potentials and limitations of this emerging superpower and how it positions itself in the new world order. Hands-on research is *required* for each student to study the role of China in the international system and global economy given the recent developments including its ambitions in the "Belt and Road Initiative" (BRI), "Made in China 2025" and aggressive military reforms focused on technological advances and overseas expansions. Special issues especially the COVID19 pandemic, trade war with the United States from 2018 to 2020, US-led sanctions on China and the Chinese Communist Party, newest developments in cross-Straits relations (namely, Taiwan), the National Security Law and ramifications in the Special Administration Region (SAR) of Hong Kong and human rights practices in Autonomous Regions (AR) in particular Tibet and Xinjiang will be covered in this course.

Students in this course will study extensively the history, geography, political economy, public policies, economic development and foreign policies of China. At the end of the course, they will expect to achieve the following objectives.

Objectives:

1. Develop strong knowledge base of political institutions, actors and important political events in China
2. Build expertise in at least one particular area in China politics, public policy and/or political economy
3. Prepare database(s) to support research specialization

This instructor has the following expectations for members of the class:

- Bring one question to class
- Study, analyze assigned readings
- Stay informed with issues and latest events in China
- Ask research questions and propose design for projects

Since this course has an emphasis on research, students are required to familiarize with the university's policy on original academic research. At the end of the course, participants will present a research project which constitutes a major part of the final grade.

Course Modality and Expectations

Instructional Mode	Remote/Virtual Learning
Course Platform	This course will meet in Microsoft Teams at the time period list in syllabus. Click on the Teams link to access the class at class time.
Expectations	Please see expectations below.
Asynchronous Learning Guidelines	Resources are provided for asynchronous students. All materials are available for access in Teams General channel under Files. Recorded videos will be provided via Microsoft Stream service. Both synchronous and asynchronous students are to fulfill all course requirements including exercises, proposal and final project presentations. For asynchronous students who cannot present in person, please submit recorded presentations according to guidelines provided by the instructor including presentation medium format and time limit.

Required Text:

Joseph, William ed. 2019. *Politics in China. Third edition.* New York: Oxford University Press.
 Tony Saich. 2015. *Governance and Politics of China, Fourth Edition.* New York: Palgrave.

Recommended Text:

Naughton, B.J., 2018. *The Chinese economy: Adaptation and growth. Second edition.* MIT Press.
 Howell, Jude ed. 2004. *Governance in China.* Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield.
 Kang, David C. 2007. *China Rising: Peace, Power and Order in East Asia.* New York: Columbia University Press.
 Shirik, Susan L., 2007. *China: fragile superpower.* Oxford University Press.

Videos:

- Williams, Sue & Will Lyman. 2007. *China a century of revolution (Full screen version)*, PBS documentary on China's revolution from 1911 to 1976. Zeitgeist. China: A Century of Revolution (‡)
- Hinton, C., Barmé, G., Gordon, R., Crowley, J., Balfour, J., Carnochan, D., & Adler, M. (2006, August 3). *Morning sun (89點鐘的太陽, Ba jiu dian zhong de tai yang)* . Long Bow Group. (On the Cultural Revolution and Mao's red guards) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDrvOOSTJks>) (‡)
- Under the Dome, made by Chai Jing on air pollution in China (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWAJWwjxa-mNeiTvOQulxxSJ8-rb33Uq_)
- Gordon, Richard and Carma Hinton. The Gate of Heavenly Peace
 (Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Gtt2JxmQtg>
 Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0lgc4fWkWI>)
- Lewis, Jonathan. 2006. *China from the Inside.* Arlington, VA: PBS Home Video, 2006. (PBS documentary on contemporary China) (‡)
 (Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZxQ8Sg5x30>
 Part 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc7d_KNtTDc
 Part 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB6rM8Pekic>
 Part 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUicsAvniuY>)

Note: YouTube links could be changed. Conduct own search using English or Chinese Title.

(‡) Available at McDermott Media Library

On-line resources:

CIA World Factbook on China, Macau and Hong Kong
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

APSA Style Manual for Political Science Revised 2018 edition:

<https://mk0apsaconnectbvy6p6.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/43/2018/11/Style-Manual-for-Political-Science-2018.pdf>

Participation: Full attendance of all classes is required and imperative. Attendance however is not enough. All class members have to actively participate in class preparation and discussion. Participation entails full preparation for class including research of class materials, completion of assigned readings and full involvement in class discussion. Only medical emergency (with documentation) is considered excused absence. If you have a special medical condition, please contact the instructor in the first week and special arrangements can be made. All students are required to join a four-member group to work on a group project. The group will also participate in a class conference at semester's end to present the project and discuss another group's presentation. Participation is responsible for 10% of the final grade.

Grading and Requirements:

Quizzes:

There will be 5 quizzes focusing on the assigned readings and lecture notes. Dates of these short tests will not be announced and the results are responsible for 30 percent of the final grade.

Group Project:

Collaborative research is important part of this class. Each student must join a group composed of four members to work on a group project and final presentation in [PechaKucha](#) style (20 slides in 10 minutes). The final project must be between 25-30 pages in length. Originality is the first quality the instructor demands. Please read carefully the University's policy about cheating and plagiarism. Due dates of the proposal and progress reports are listed on the schedule below. No late submission will be accepted. Proposal of the paper must be consulted with and subject to the instructor approval. It constitutes 10% of the final grade. The group project reports account for 20% of final grade. The final group project, with in-class presentation, is responsible for 30 percent of the final grade.

In summary, grade structure is as follows:

Participation:	10%
Quizzes:	30%
Proposal	10%
Group Project Progress report I:	10%
Group Project Progress report II:	10%
Project and presentation:	30%

Document guideline:

All documents in this class must adhere to the following general guidelines:

- Submit electronic document to instructor's email in PDF format (not Word or GoogleDoc):
 - With group number and content on file name:
 - E.g. group04_progressreport1.pdf, group10_finalproject.pdf
 - on letter size paper
 - one inch on all margins
- NO submission using link to cloud or online drive (e.g. Google drive, box.com)
- 12-point font

Tentative Schedule (This schedule is subject to changes):

Week	Date	Content	Assigned readings	Due
1	1/19	At Stake: Biden, Xi, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the world		
2	1/26	Political History: I: a. 1949-76, b: 1978-1997	Joseph 1, 2, 3	Group formed, coordinator elected
3	2/2	Political History II: c. 1997-2012, d: 2012-present	Joseph 4, Saich 3	
4	2/9	Communist movement and CCP	Joseph 5, 6; Saich 4	
5	2/16	Central and local governments	Saich 5, 6	Proposal
6	2/23	Demography and Urban-rural relations	Joseph 9, 10, 14; Saich 8	
7	3/2	Economy	Joseph Ch. 8, Saich Ch. 9	
8	3/9	Society	Saich Ch. 7, 10; Joseph 15	
9	3/16	<i>Spring break</i>		
10	3/23	Project presentation I		Progress Report I
11	3/30	Environment and Public Health	Joseph 12, 13	
12	4/6	Greater China I: Taiwan	Joseph Ch. 19	
13	4/13	Greater China II: Hong Kong and Macao	Joseph Ch. 18	
14	4/20	Greater China III: Tibet, Xinjiang	Joseph Ch. 16, 17	Progress Report II
15	4/27	Foreign Relations: BRI	Saich Ch. 11, TBA	
16	5/4	Group meeting with instructor (by appointment)		
17	5/11	Final presentations		Final Report

COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's COVID-19 resources for students and instructors of record. Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

The instructor will record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the [eLearning Current Students](#) webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please go to [Academic Support Resources](#) webpage for these policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to [UT Dallas Syllabus Policies](#) webpage for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.