Course Code: Pubpol 751.001
Professor: Peng LIU (Patrick)
Time: Friday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Classroom: 1210 Weil
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Office Hour: Friday 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Course Description

As an emerging power both in regional and global scopes, China’s economic growth miracle since 1980s has attracted oversea people’s attentions, which has fostered a new term “The China Model”. Is China a potential superpower or merely a fragile giant? Why does China maintain its communist state after market economy reform? What is the prospect of China-US relationship in the future?

If you want to know the answers for those interesting questions, you must know more knowledge and information about China’s political system and its foreign policy. Actually China’s political system and its foreign policy-making process differ a lot with the United State which deserves to be studied and learned. Therefore, it is important for US students to understand Chinese politics and foreign policy to build and enhance strategic Sino-US relationship.

This is a graduate-level course to help US students understand politics and foreign policy of contemporary China. It will stress on the structure, function and trend of Chinese government and politics in post-Mao era. Specific topics include the formal structure of political power, central-local relations, policy-maker and policy-making, state, market and society, Chinese foreign policy, China-US relationship and its future.

The objective of this course is to enhance students’ knowledge accumulation in Chinese politics and foreign policy, help course-takers understand Chinese politics and foreign policy more profoundly and objectively. By taking lectures and participating in group discussions during this course, the course-takers are expected to obtain an overall picture and basic knowledge about Chinese politics and foreign policy which can help them to understand contemporary China more comprehensively.

Grading

Students who enrol in this course will be evaluated according to their performances in the course attendance/participation, discussion question and a final research paper. The instructor will allocate a series of readings for students’ course
preparation before class. And the students are required to make presentations and discussions based on those readings. The grade for the course will consist of the following weights:

**Class Attendance 20%**
As a basic requirement for this course, you are requested to attend all the classes punctually. If you have any other emergent reasons, just write to me to ask for a leave in advance. However, you are only permitted to be absent no more than two classes, otherwise you will be requestes to retake this course next semester.

**Class Participation/Discussion 30%**
While there will be some lecture in this course, the primary format of this course is discussion. You must attend class and be active participants in class discussions by asking questions, answering questions, sharing thoughts about course readings, offering opinions or even debating with each other. This portion of your grade will be based on your participation and the quality of your contribution to discussion.

**Final Policy Paper: 50% (preliminary proposal included)**
By the end of this session, you are required to submit a final policy paper, which will be written on a topic developed by you in consultation with professor. The policy paper is due by October 20th and it takes 50% of the total grade and further instructions will be available at the first weekly meeting.

To write the policy paper, you need to imagine yourself a policy analyst in an organization (i.e., US federal government, one specific international organization, Chinese government) and provide policy recommendations to certain issues by thorough analysis. A preliminary proposal for the policy paper is due by the beginning of our fifth meeting (October 3rd). You are encouraged to confirm your proposal with me as early as possible. The proposal can be very brief and in the style of outline. But you should define the policy problem, clarify your position, review/evaluate the current literature/policy, identify key players, and try to develop policy alternatives. The final paper shall not be preceded without instructor’s approval to preliminary proposal.

**Textbook (Required)**


**Reference Books (Not Required but Recommended)**


**Class Schedule:**

**Week 1: September 5th**  
**Introduction and Mao’s China**

1. Suisheng Zhao, “The China Model: Can It Replace the Western Model of Modernization?”
2. Barry Naughton, “China’s Disctinctive System: Can it Be a Model for Others?”
6. Frederick C. Teiwes, “The Chinese State during the Maoist Era”
7. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 1&2

**Week 2: September 12th**  
**The Formal structure of Political Power**

8. Huang Yanzhong, “The State of China’s State Apparatus”
11. Adam P.Liff & Andrew S.Erickson, “Demystifying China’s Defence Spending: Less Mysterious in the Aggregate”
12. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 4, 5

**Week 3 September 19th**  
**Central-local Relationship**

15. Ciqi Mei & Margaret M.Pearson, “Killing a Chichken to Scare the Monkeys? Deterrence Failure and Local Defiance in China”
17. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 6
Week 4: September 26th Policy-makers and Policy-making
18. Andrew Mertha, “Fragmented Authoritarianism 2.0: Political Pluralization in the Chinese Policy Process”
22. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 9-10

Week 5 October 3rd State, Market and Society
24. Chung-min Tsai, “Regulating China’s Power Sector: Creating an Independent Regulator without Autonomy
25. Xiaoguang Kang & Heng Han, “Graduated Control: the State-Society Relationship in Contemporary China”
29. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 8

Week 6 October 10th Chinese Foreign Policy
30. Qingmin Zhang, “Towards an Integrated Theory of Chinese Foreign Policy: Bring Leadership Personality Back In”
32. Niklas Swanstorm, “Sino-Russian Relations at the Start of the New Millennium in Central Asia and Beyond”
33. Tony Saich’s Textbook, Chapter 11
34. Bates Gill’s Textbook, Chapter 1-4

Week 7 October 17th China-US relationship and Its Trend
36. Richard Bernstein and Ross H. Munro, “The Coming Conflict with China”
37. John Mearsheimer, “The Rise of China will Not be Peaceful at All”
39. Peter Hays Gries, Qingmin Zhang, H. Michael Crowson and Huajian Cai,

40. Gonzalo Sebastián Paz, “China, United States and Hegemonic Challenge in Latin America: An Overview and Some Lessons from Previous Instances of Hegemonic Challenge in the Region”

41. Bates Gill’s Textbook: Chapter 5 and 6

Other Useful Resources

- Contemporary China: A Book List
  http://www.princeton.edu/~lynn/chinabib.pdf

- The Central People’s Government of P.R.C
  http://english.gov.cn/

- National People’s Congress

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, P.R.C.
  http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/default.htm

- Xinhua News Agency
  http://english.news.cn/

- People’s Daily Online
  http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/

- National Bureau of Statistics of China
  http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/

- China Government Innovation Website
  http://www.chinainnovations.org/index2.html?no=0