Instructor: Derek Tai-wei Liu  
Social Science Building #328  
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Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:50

Course Description
This course is designed to help students meet two objectives: 1) To understand the institutional background in China today. How do political institutions operate? How are leaders chosen? How are policies made and implemented? 2) To assess the development of China’s political system. How has the communist political system evolved? What are the challenges when the society is under massive change as a result of economic reform and globalization? How is political stability maintained?

The course will be conducted in lecture/discussion format. Students are required to have read carefully the assigned readings before coming to class and may be asked to make brief presentations. They are also encouraged to ask questions in class and offer comments.

Course Requirements
All students are required to complete assigned readings before coming to class and to participate in discussion. Students are required to take one mid-term exam as well as a final paper. The grades for this course will be based on 1) participation (20%); 2) a midterm paper (20%); 3) midterm exam (30%), and 4) a final paper (30%).

The midterm paper will be less than 5 pages (double-spaced) based on one to two essay questions. The midterm exam will be a combination of short answers and essay questions. The final paper will be about 8 pages (double-spaced) based on two to three essay questions.

Required Reading Assignments all are available through electronic reserves at the UCSD library.
INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Week 1
Monday, Jan 4: Introduction
- Syllabus; Q and A

Wednesday, Jan 6: Chinese Political System

Friday, Jan 8: The Mao System
- Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Chapter 3, pp. 60-84

Week 2
Monday, Jan 11: Politics of the Reform

Wednesday, Jan 13: Authority in Chinese Political Institution

Friday, Jan 15: Leadership in China
- Lieberthal, *Governing China*, Chapter 7, pp. 206-244

Week 3
Monday, Jan 18: MLK holiday
- No class

Wednesday, Jan 20: Leadership Politics

Friday, Jan 22: Leadership Incentives

Week 4
Monday, Jan 25: Fiscal Decentralization

Wednesday, Jan 27: Political Centralization

Friday, Jan 29: First Paper due

No class

Week 5

Monday, Feb 1: Central-Local Hierarchy


Wednesday, Feb 3: Central-Local Reciprocal Accountability

Shirk, The Political Logic of Economic Reform in China, Ch 9, pp 147-196. (http://www.escholarship.org/editions/view?docId=ft1j49n6ck&brand=ucpress)

Friday, Feb 5: Factionalism


POLICY

Week 6

Monday, Feb 8: Political Connection


Wednesday, Feb 10: Economic Policy


Friday, Feb 12: Policy Process


Week 7

Monday, Feb 15: President’s Day

No class

Wednesday, Feb 17: Policy Evaluation


Friday, Feb 19: Policy Implementation


STATE AND SOCIETY

Week 8
Monday, Feb 22: Civil Society


Wednesday, Feb 24: Accountability by Civil Society


Friday, Feb 26: Midterm

- Midterm

Week 9

Monday, Mar 1: Collective Action in the Urban Area


Wednesday, Mar 3: Collective Action in the Rural Area


Friday, Mar 5: Private Business and the CCP


Week 10

Monday, Mar 8: Private Business and the CCP (cont’d)


Wednesday, Mar 10: China’s Future

- Pei Minxin, China’s Trapped Transition: The Limits of Developmental Autocracy (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006), Introduction and Chapter 1(pp 1-44).

Friday, Mar 12: China’s Future cont’d