# Course Overview

This course provides an overview of China’s political system. We will begin with a brief historical overview of China’s political development from 1949 to the present. The remainder of the course will examine the key challenges facing the current generation of CCP leadership, such as economic reforms, regime stability, and political reform. Students will also be familiarized with prominent theories of authoritarian politics. Among other topics, we will examine: factionalism, power-sharing, and political purges; corruption; avenues for political participation and representation; public opinion; protest movements and dissidents; co-optation of ethnic minorities; and media and internet control.

# Instructor

Jason Wu  
Social Sciences Building 350  
jasonwu@ucsd.edu  
Office Hours: W 1:00PM-3:00PM

# Teaching Assistant

Taseul Joo  
tajoo@ucsd.edu  
Office Hours by Appointment

# Requirements and Grading

Students are expected to regularly attend class and complete the reading assignments. There will also be a midterm (April 21st) and a ten-page research paper, which will be completed in two stages. Students will first complete a rough draft of the paper (5 pages) by 5PM on May 8th, and then submit a final draft (10 pages) to Turnitin by 5PM on June 12th. Late papers will be penalized by one letter grade (e.g. A to B) every twenty-four hours, with a maximum penalty of 20%.
• Midterm Exam: 30%
• Paper (Rough Draft): 20%
• Paper (Final Draft): 50%

Course Outline and Readings

You should purchase the following books from Amazon:


Week 1: China in Comparative Perspective - April 3rd - April 7th

Monday (Introduction)

Wednesday


Friday


Week 2: Historical Overview: Part I - April 10th - 14th

Monday
- Politics in China: An Introduction (2nd ed), Chapter 3, p. 72-117.

Wednesday


Friday


Week 3: Historical Overview Part II - April 17th-21st

Monday


Wednesday


Friday

– Midterm in class

Week 4: The Party and the State - April 24th-28th

Monday

– Governing China, Chapter 6, p. 169-205.

Wednesday


Friday


Week 5: Governance and Growth - May 1st - May 5th

Monday


Wednesday


Friday


Week 6: Challenges of Reform - May 8th-12th

Monday *(Rough Draft of Paper due at 5PM)*


Wednesday


Friday


Week 7: State Society Relations Part I - May 15th-19th

Monday


Wednesday


Friday


**Week 8: State-Society Relations Part II - May 22nd-26th**

Monday


Wednesday


Friday


**Week 9: Foreign Policy Challenges - May 29th-June 2nd**
Monday
- Memorial Day - No Class

Wednesday

Friday

**Week 10: Outlook - June 5th-June 9th**

Monday

Wednesday

Friday

**Final Paper Due- June 12th at 5PM.**