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PSC 328.01: Politics of China

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Political Science 328
Politics of China

Office Hours: 09:00-11:00 MWF, LA 349

Textbooks:
Lucian Pye, CHINA: AN INTRODUCTION (4th ed)
June Dreyer, CHINA’S POLITICAL SYSTEM

Course Requirements:
The study of government and politics in China requires an approach
different from that taken with most countries. It is difficult,
and not always rewarding, to focus on description of institutions
and processes. Hence, the orientation of this course is toward
analysis and interpretation of China’s 20th century political
experience with particular emphasis upon the transformation of
China from a classical monarchy to a modern state.

There will be two one-hour exams. The first will be on September
28 and the second on November 2. Each exam counts for 20% of the
final grade. A comprehensive final exam is scheduled for December
17 at 8:00 AM. The final counts for 40% of the final grade. Exams
will consist mainly of essay type questions but there will also be
some short identification questions. NO EARLY FINALS WILL BE
GIVEN!

Additional written work consists of a research paper which should
be at least 15 pages long. This paper may deal with any aspect of
Chinese politics and public policy since 1900. The mechanics of
the paper must follow the Turabian manual of style (fifth edition).
Papers which fail to conform to Turabian will be returned for
correction. This paper is due no later than December 9. The paper
counts for 20% of the final grade. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON INCLUDING PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH
COMPUTERS AND WORD PROCESSORS. THEREFORE IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO
COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT BEFORE THE DEADLINE. EARLY PAPERS ARE
WELCOME!

In order to make the experience of this course as congenial as
possible for all concerned, you are asked to observe the following
rules. Do not come to class late or depart early. Do not use
class time to read the Kaimin, write letters, chat with your
neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.
TOPIC OUTLINE

I. Foundations of Chinese Politics
   - Introduction
   - Ideology of the Middle Kingdom
   - The Imperial System
   - Impact of the West

II. The Chinese Communist Revolution
   - A Ship with no Rudder
   - The Impact of World War II
   - The Communists Seize Power

III. Chinese Communism
   - Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought
   - The PRC - Phase 1
   - The GPCR and After
   - The Future of Maoism
   - The Four Modernizations

IV. China Enters the 21st Century
   - The PRC - Phase 2
   - Economics
   - The Legal System
   - Defense

READING ASSIGNMENT

I. Foundations of Chinese Politics
   - Pye, Ch. 1-2
   - Dreyer, Ch. 1
   - Pye, Ch. 3
   - Dreyer, Ch. 2
   - Pye, Ch. 4-5
   - Pye, Ch. 6

II. The Chinese Communist Revolution
   - Pye, Ch. 7
   - Dreyer, Ch. 3
   - Pye, Ch. 8
   - Dreyer, Ch. 4
   - Pye, Ch. 9-10
   - Dreyer, Ch. 5
   - Pye, Ch. 11
   - Pye, Ch. 12-13
   - Dreyer, Ch. 5
   - Pye, Ch. 14
   - Pye, Ch. 15
   - Pye, Ch. 16

IV. China Enters the 21st Century
   - Pye, Ch. 17
   - Dreyer, Ch. 6
   - Dreyer, Ch. 7
   - Dreyer, Ch. 8
   - Dreyer, Ch. 9
Chinese Education
Public Policy
Politics and the Press
Social Issues
Global Politics

Dreyer, Ch. 10
Dreyer, Ch. 11
Dreyer, Ch. 12
Dreyer, Ch. 13
Pye, Ch. 18
Dreyer, Ch. 14

Note: September 29 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.