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Fall 9-1-2001

### PSC 328.01: Politics of China

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Political Science 328  
Politics of China

Autumn 2001  
Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF  
or by appointment  
Office: LA 349

Texts: June Dreyer, China's Political System 3rd ed

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 modern political experience with particular emphasis upon the distinctive stages of transformation from a classical monarchy to a modern state. This effort will focus on the influences, both internal and external, that have shaped China's experience.

There will be two one-hour exams. The first will be on October 5 and the second on November 9. Each exam counts for 20% of the final grade. A two-hour comprehensive final exam is scheduled for December 18 from 8:00-10:00. The final exam counts for 30% of the final grade. NO EARLY FINALS WILL BE GIVEN! Exams will consist mainly of essay type questions but there will also be some short identification questions.

Additional work consists of a research paper (10 pages minimum) which address some aspect of contemporary Chinese politics (contemporary means post-World War II). The paper includes a bibliography of ten items pertinent to the topic. Notes and bibliography style of the paper must follow the Turabian manual of style. Papers which fail to conform to Turabian will be returned for correction. To fulfill the "W" requirement, writing quality will be a factor in determining course grade. During the last two weeks of the semester, we will take time for a seminar-type discussion of the papers. All papers are due December 7. The paper counts for 30% 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.

While attendance is not mandatory, nor is it a factor in determining the course grade, absences will necessarily affect the quality of exam performance.

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, write letters, chat with your neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.

TOPIC OUTLINE

READING ASSIGNMENT

I. Foundations of Chinese Politics

Introduction

Dreyer, Ch. 1

The Imperial System

Dreyer, Ch. 2

Impact of the West

II. The Chinese Revolution: Part I

The Republican Era

Dreyer, Ch. 3

Civil War

Dreyer, Ch. 4

III. The Chinese Revolution: Part II

Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought

The Maoist Era

Dreyer, Ch. 5

The Post-Mao Era

Dreyer, Ch. 6

First Exam -- October 5

IV. The Institutional Context

Market Socialism

Dreyer, Ch. 7

The Legal System

Dreyer, Ch. 8

The Military

Dreyer, Ch. 9

Education

Dreyer, Ch. 10

Second Exam-- November 9

V. Policy Matters

Quality of Life Issues Dreyer, Ch. 11

Intellectual Freedom Dreyer, Ch. 12

Social Relations Dreyer, Ch. 13

VI. Foreign Relations

China and Its Neighbors Dreyer, Ch. 14

China and the US Dreyer, Ch. 15

Doing Business in China

Final Exam-- December 18 (8:00-10:00)

Note: September 24 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.