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PSC 328.01: Politics of China

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Political Science 328
Politics of China

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

Texts: June Dreyer, China's Political System 2nd ed
       Michael Okensberg, China and Global Politics

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
distinctive stages of transformation from a classical monarchy to
a modern state. This effort will focus on the influences that
have shaped China's experience.

There will be two one-hour exams. The first will be on October 3
and the second on November 7. 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 40%
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 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.

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**

**I. Foundations of Chinese Politics**
- Introduction
- The Imperial System
- Impact of the West

**II. The Chinese Revolution: Part I**
- The Republican Era
- Civil War

**III. The Chinese Revolution: Part II**
- Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought
- The Maoist Era
- The Post-Mao Era

*First Exam -- October 2*

**IV. The Institutional Context**
- Market Socialism
- The Legal System
- The Military
- Education

*Second Exam -- November 6*
V. Policy Matters

Quality of Life Issues
Intellectual Freedom
Social Relations

VI. Foreign Relations

China and Its Neighbors
China and the US
Doing Business in China

Final Exam—December 18 (10:00-12:00)

Note: September 21 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.