

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CHINA: FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM

CAS IR 370/PO 351

Semester I – 2014/2015

Mon., Weds., Fri.: 10:00-11:00

CAS 116

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COURSE CONTENT

This course is intended as an introduction to the political and economic development of modern and contemporary China, with particular attention to the dynamics of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The course will look first at the reasons China embarked on a path of revolution, giving special attention to the origins and development of the CCP. It will then focus on the economic and political development of the People's Republic of China (PRC), including the early years, the Great Leap Forward, and the Cultural Revolution, before looking at the development of the reform era. The course will also examine how the interplay between China's domestic politics and the outside world has affected China's development as well as the dilemmas involved in trying to reform a socialist economy.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There will be two in-class midterm exams, one paper, and a final exam. There may also be *short* quizzes given at random throughout the course. These will focus on either the reading due that day or the content of the previous class. They will not be difficult and are intended to help you focus on class work. The midterm exams will be held on Monday, October 6 and Wednesday, November 5. The paper should be 12-15 pages long and should focus on a major theme or issue addressed in class. It will be due on Monday, November 24. The final exam will be held on Wednesday, December 17, from 9:00-11:00.

NOTE: The paper must be submitted on time. "On time" means the start of class on the day the paper is due. Late papers will be downgraded accordingly.

COURSE READINGS:

The texts for this course are as follows:

Keith Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese Society*, Second Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006) ISBN 0-13-193039-7.

Joseph Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, 2nd ed. (2008) ISBN 9780521686051

These books are available at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. In addition, a few assigned articles are on the Blackboard website.

POLICY ON ABSENCES

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL CLASSES. Absences may be excused for medical, religious, official and personal reasons. Absences for illness for more than two days require a medical certificate. Absences for religious observances and for family or personal reasons require documentation. Absence for purposes of representing the University in authorized athletic events or officially sponsored activities are excused by notification from your sponsoring department or activity. The stated University policy reads: "Any student who has been excessively absent from a course may be required to withdraw from that course without credit." I define "excessively absent" for this course to be six absences, excused or not. Attendance will be a factor in grading.

POLICY ON "INCOMPLETES"

No incomplete grades will be reported unless the instructor and the student have conferred, the student has presented a sufficient reason why the work of the course cannot be completed on schedule, and the instructor has assigned a date within the succeeding twelve months by which time all course requirements must be completed. This must be in written form. No degree credit for incomplete courses will be granted unless the work is completed by the date assigned, which must be no later than one calendar year from the date on which the incomplete grade was reported. In the event that coursework remains incomplete on the assigned date or twelve months after the "I" grade has been awarded, whichever comes first, the "I" grade will be changed automatically and permanently to an "F" grade.

POLICY ON PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the passing off of the ideas or words of another as your own. It is taken very seriously at Boston University as at all institutions of higher learning. Those believed to have committed plagiarism must appear before a university disciplinary board, a procedure that can result in a student's suspension or expulsion. Your papers should contain appropriate citations. It is better to use too many citations than too few. If you have any doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, please talk with me.

GRADING

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Class Participation	5%
Quizzes	5%
Midterm Exam	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Paper	30%
Final Exam	20%

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM OF MODERN CHINESE POLITICS

- #1 Wed., Sept. 3: Introduction and Organization – China ca. 1915
Introduce the basic outline of the course and expectations of the students.
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 1-45.
- #2 Fri., Sept. 5: Warlordism
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 143-160.

Week 2: MODERNIZATION AND REVOLUTION

- #3 Mon., Sept. 8: The New Culture Movement
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 162-169.
- #4 Wed., Sept. 10: Lu Xun
Reading:
Lu Xun, “Dairy of a Madman” (Blackboard)
Lu Xun, “True Story of Ah Q” (Blackboard)
- #5 Fri., Sept. 12: The May Fourth Movement
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 170-180.

Week 3: THE REVOLUTIONARY PATH

- #6 Mon., Sept. 15: The Nationalist Revolution
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 125-142, pp. 184-187.
- #7 Wed., Sept. 17: The May 30th Movement
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 188-191.
- #8 Fri., Sept. 19: Formation of the Chinese Communist Party
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 181-184.

Week 4: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CHINESE COMMUNISM

#9 Mon., Sept. 22: The Northern Expedition

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 193-200.

#10 Wed., Sept. 24: The Young Mao Zedong

Reading:

Mao Zedong, "Report on the Peasant Situation" (Blackboard)

#11 Fri., Sept. 26: The Jiangxi Soviet

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 221-240.

Week 5: MAO ZEDONG IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

#12 Mon., Sept. 29: Mao Zedong Thought

Reading:

Mao Tse-tung, "On Practice" (Blackboard).

Mao Tse-tung, "On Contradiction" (Blackboard).

#13 Wed., Oct. 1: The Rectification (Zhengfeng) Movement, 1942-44.

Reading:

Mao Tse-tung, "Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art" (Blackboard).

#14 Fri., Oct. 3: MIDTERM REVIEW

Week 6: THE EARLY YEARS OF THE PRC, 1949-1957

#15 Mon., Oct. 6: MIDTERM EXAM

#16 Wed., Oct. 8: Transforming the Countryside

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 286-304.

#17 Fri., Oct. 10: Consolidating the New Regime
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 305-318.

Week 7: THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD

Mon., October 13: NO CLASS

#18 Tues., Oct. 14: The Party and the Intellectuals
Reading:
Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions among the People" (Blackboard).

PAPER PROPOSALS DUE

#19 Wed., Oct. 16: Why the Great Leap Forward?
Reading:
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 326-345.

#20 Fri., Oct. 18: The Hundred Flowers and the Anti-Rightist Movements
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 326-345.

Week 8: TOWARD THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

#21 Mon., Oct. 20: The Impact of the Great Leap Forward
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 343-345.

#22 Wed., Oct. 22: The Socialist Education Campaign
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 346-364.

#23 Fri., Oct. 24: The Unfolding of the Cultural Revolution
Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 346-364.

Week 9: THE EMERGENCE OF REFORM

#24 Mon., Oct. 27: Interregnum: Hua Guofeng

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 365-389.

#25 Weds., Oct. 29: The Rise (Again) of Deng Xiaoping

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 365-389.

#26 Fri., Oct. 31: Issues of Ideology

Reading:

Tim Cheek, "Reviving Reform: Correcting Revolutionary Errors (1976-1995)" (Blackboard)

Week 10: THE DEATH OF MAO

#27 Mon., Nov. 3: REVIEW FOR MIDTERM

#28 Weds., Nov. 5: MIDTERM EXAM

#29 Fri., Nov. 7: The Politics of Reform

Reading:

TBA

Week 11: THE CRISIS OF REFORM

#30 Mon., Nov. 10: Tiananmen: What Happened and Why ?

Reading:

TBA

#31 Wed., Nov. 12: The Jiang Zemin Era

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 21-47.

#32 Fri., Nov. 14: Reviving Reform

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 48-79.

Week 12: DEFINING REFORM

#33 Mon., Nov. 17: Neoconservatism

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 83-112.

#34 Wed., Nov. 19: The Enlightenment Tradition

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 113-139.

#35 Fri., Nov. 21: The New Nationalism

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 140-162.

Week 13: PARTY CONTROL

#36 Mon., Nov. 24: Jiang Zemin and Sino-U.S. Relations

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 197-227.

PAPERS DUE

THANKSGIVING RECESS: November 26-November 30

Week 14: ISSUES OF CONTEMPORARY CHINA

#37 Mon., Dec. 1: The Hu Jintao Era

Reading:

Fewsmith, *China Since Tiananmen*, pp. 231-271.

#38 Weds., Dec. 3: The Xi Jinping Era

Reading:

TBA

#39 Fri., Dec. 5: What's It All Mean?

Reading:

Week 15: A SUMMING UP

#40 Mon., Dec. 8: Whither China?

#41 Wed., Dec. 10: Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 17, 9:00-11:00.