

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CHINA: FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM

CAS IR 370/PO 369

Semester I – 2008/2009

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

CAS 116

Professor Joseph Fewsmith
Office: 156 Bay State Road, No. 401
Office hours: Mon., 9:00-10:00;
Wed., 1:00-4:00;
Phone: 353-6344
e-mail: fewsmith@bu.edu

COURSE CONTENT

This course is intended as an introduction to the political and economic development of contemporary China, with particular attention to the dynamics of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The course will look first at the breakdown of the imperial system, the reasons China embarked on a path of revolution, the origins and development of the CCP and then concentrate on the economic and political development of the People's Republic of China (PRC), including the early years, the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, and 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 take-home exam. There will 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 4 and Monday, October 25. The paper should be 12-15 pages long and should focus on a major problem addressed in class. It will be due on Monday December 10. The final exam will be held on Thursday, December 16, from 3:00-5:00.

There will be a major conference on China held at Boston University on December 8. You will be expected to attend one or more panels and write a two-page response. This will be part of your class participation grade. It will also be interesting!

In addition, there will be a map quiz. This will be ungraded but must be passed in order to complete this course. You may take it as many times as you want, but you must pass it!

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 severely downgraded.

COURSE READINGS:

The texts for this course are as follows:

Keith Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese Society*, Third Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006) ISBN 978-0-205-72691-2

Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, Third Edition (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1999).

These books are all 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	10%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Paper	20%
Final Exam	20%

ONLINE RESOURCES AND PERIODICALS:

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs: www.state.gov/p/eap/

Department of Treasury: www.ustreas.gov/initiatives/us-china/

China Leadership Monitor at www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org

People's Daily can be found at: <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/>

China Daily can be found at: www.chinadaily.com.cn

Congressional Executive Commission on China: www.cecc.gov/

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission: www.uscc.gov/

Asia Society's Asia Source Homepage at www.asiasource.org

Asian Studies World Wide Web Virtual Library (WWVWL) at the Australian National University at <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWVWL-AsianStudies.html>

China Daily at www.chinadaily.net

China Headline Links from *ChinaOnline* at

www.chinaonline.com/roundup/headlines.asp

China Links from the University of Michigan at

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Area.Programs/Asia/china/weblist.htm>

China News Digest at <http://www.cnd.org/CND-Global/CND-Global.new.html>

Chinese Military Power page at www.comw.org/cmp

CNN/*Time*/*Asiaweek* at www.cnn.com/AsiaNow

Constitution of the People's Republic of China at

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn.cn/constitution/constitution.html>.

Danwei blog www.danwei.org

Embassy of China to the United States at www.china-embassy.org

Far Eastern Economic Review at www.feer.com

Hong Kong WWVWL at www.asiawind.com/hkwwwvl

Inside China at www.insidechina.com

Internet Guide for China Studies – Politics at <http://sun.sino.uni-heidelberg.de/igcs/igpol.htm>

Hong Kong University China Media Project www.cmp.hku.hk

South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) at www.scmp.com

Taiwan Government Information Office at www.roc-taiwan.org

UC Berkeley China Media Project China Digital Times www.chinadigitaltimes.net

The China Beat at <http://thechinabeat.blogspot.com/>

Periodicals and Scholarly Journals

American Political Science Review

Asian Survey

Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs

Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars

China Information

China Quarterly

Comparative Politics

Current History

Foreign Affairs

Journal of Contemporary China

Modern China

Pacific Affairs

Pacific Review

A helpful online bibliography:

<http://www.princeton.edu/~lynn/chinabib.pdf>

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM OF MODERN CHINESE POLITICS

#1 Fri., Sept. 3: Introduction and Organization

Introduce the basic outline of the course and expectations of the students.
The problem of Governance

Week 2: MODERNIZATION AND REVOLUTION

Mon., Sept. 6: NO CLASS

#2 Wed., Sept. 8: China in the Late Qing

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 1-24.

#3 Fri., Sept. 10: The Crisis of the Late Qing

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 25-45.

Week 3: REBELLION AND AFTERMATH

#4 Mon., Sept. 13: The Taiping Rebellion

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 46-85.

#5 Wed., Sept. 15: Impact of the Taiping Rebellion

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 86-105.

#6 Fri., Sept. 17: The Reform of 1898

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 106-124.

Week 4: THE REVOLUTIONAR PATH

#7 Mon., Sept. 20: Revolution of 1911

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 125-142.

#8 Wed., Sept. 22: Warlordism

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 143-161.

#9 Fri., Sept. 24: Social and Political Ferment

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 162-180.

Week 5: PROTEST AND CULTURAL CHANGE

#10 Mon., Sept. 27: Cultural Ferment

Reading:
Lu Xun, "Dairy of a Madman" (on courseinfo website)
Lu Xun, "Ah Q -- The Real Story" (on courseinfo website)

#11 Wed., Sept. 29: The Nationalist Revolution

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 181-200.

#12 Fri., Oct. 1: The Introduction of Marxism Into China

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

Week 6: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CHINESE COMMUNISM

#13 Mon., Oct. 4: MIDTERM EXAM

#14 Wed., Oct. 6: The Early Development of the CCP

Reading:
Mao Zedong, "Report on the Peasant Situation"

#15 Fri., Oct. 8: Yanan and the Formation of Mao Zedong Thought.

Reading:
Mao Tse-tung, "On Practice" (on Blackboard website).
Mao Tse-tung, "On Contradiction" (on Blackboard website).

Week 7: FROM REVOLUTION TO STATEHOOD

Mon., Oct. 11: NO CLASS

#16 Tues., Oct. 12: Wartime China

Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 241-285.

#17 Weds., Oct. 13: Civil War and the New State

Reading:

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

#18 Fri., Oct. 15: Mao on Literature and Art

Reading:

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

PAPER PROPOSALS DUE

Week 8: THE EARLY YEARS OF THE PRC, 1949-1957

#19 Tues., Oct. 18: Consolidating the New Regime

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 305-325.

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 31-51.

#20 Wed., Oct. 20: Transforming the Countryside

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 90-102.

#21 Fri., Oct. 22: Organization of CCP

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp.103-152.

Week 8: TOWARD THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD PERIOD

#22 Mon., Oct. 25: MIDTERM EXAM

#23 Wed., Oct. 27: The Party and the Intellectuals

Reading:

Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions among the People" (on Blackboard website).

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 155-190.

REVISED PAPER PROPOSALS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

#24 Fri., Oct. 29: The Party and Intellectuals: Hundred Flowers and the Anti-Rightist Movement

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 191-204.

Week 9: THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD

#25 Mon., Nov. 1: Why the Great Leap Forward?

Reading:

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp.326-345.

#26 Weds., Nov. 3: The Great Leap Forward

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 204-213.

#27 Fri., Nov. 5: The Impact of the Great Leap Forward

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 214-241.

Week 10: ORIGINS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

#28 Mon., Nov. 8: The Impact of the GLF on the Leadership

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 245-272.

#29 Weds., Nov. 10: The Socialist Education Campaign

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 273-288.

#30 Fri., Nov. 12: The Unfolding of the Cultural Revolution

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 312-351.

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 346-365.

Week 11: THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND THE PASSING OF MAO

#31 Mon., Nov. 15: The Impact of the Cultural Revolution

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 352-375.

#32 Weds., Nov. 17: The End of the Cultural Revolution and the Problem of Succession

Reading:

Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 376-410.

Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 366-392.

- #33 Fri., Nov. 19: The Origins of Reform
Reading:
Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 413-426.

Week 12: THE EMERGENCE OF REFORM

- #34 Mon., Nov. 22: The Evolution of Reform
Reading:
Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 427-448.

Fall Recess: Nov. 24-Nov. 28

Week 13: THE 1980s

- #35 Mon., Nov. 29: The Politics of Reform
Reading:
Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 449-482.

- #36 Wed., Dec. 1: The Politics of Reform
Reading:
Schoppa, *Revolution and Its Past*, pp. 393-423.

- #37 Fri., Dec. 3: Tiananmen: What Happened and Why

Week 14: THE EVOLUTION OF REFORM

- #38 Mon., Dec. 6: The Jiang Zemin Era
Reading:
Meisner, *Mao's China and After*, pp. 483-513.

- #39 Wed., Dec. 8: Why Political Stability in the New Period?
Reading:
Fewsmith, "Assessing Social Stability on the Eve of the 17th Party Congress"
(on Blackboard website)

- #40 Fri., Dec. 10: A Century of Revolution and Reform
A Summing Up

PAPERS DUE

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 16, 3:00-5:00.