COURSE AIMS
The purpose of this course is to examine in depth the development of politics in Post-Mao China. This course revolves around such questions as: What are the challenges facing the political system? How has the political system responded? How do Chinese politics in the post-Mao era work? What are the rules of the game? Have the rules changed in the post-Mao era? Is China evolving toward "normal politics"? How have changes in China's society affected the conduct of politics? How much social conflict is there in contemporary China? What is the relation between economic development and political transformation? By looking at such questions, we will ask why the process of reform broke down in June of 1989 and how it has been revived, at least in the economic sphere, since then. We will also examine Tiananmen for what it can tell us about Chinese politics. Finally, we will look at a variety of changes occurring in Chinese society and speculate on the course of future developments.

COURSE CONTENT
The course will approach this problem by weaving historical and analytic explanations together. The course starts by examining different approaches to the understanding of Chinese politics. Then the course takes a basically chronological approach to the subject, starting with the 1980s and proceeding through several major turning points. Students are expected to keep the theoretical and analytic approaches in mind while studying the development of reform. Which approach or approaches fit the data best? What are the weaknesses of the approaches? How could they be proved? We come back to these questions at the end of the course. Throughout the course, we will ask questions about the nature of the state-society relationship, the nature of power, and how Chinese society and politics have and have not changed over the two decades and more.

READINGS
The following books are required for the course and are available at the Barnes and Noble bookstore:


In addition, a number of articles will be assigned.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

This course is intended as an intensive examination of one period of PRC history. It will be run as a seminar, which means that students are expected to read assignments BEFORE class and be prepared to discuss them. Starting in Week Three, one student will present the class’ readings and raise important questions for discussion. The student will prepare and distribute a 4-page presentation paper 48 hours in advance. A second student will prepare a 2-page response. Presentations will be limited to 10 minutes, and responses to 5 minutes. These are intended to kick-start class discussion.

There will also be a take-home midterm (due February 28) and a final exam (held May 7) and a research paper. The research paper should address some aspect of domestic Chinese politics in the post-Mao period (if you are interested in foreign policy, there is another course for that). Undergraduates are expected to write a paper of approximately 15 pages, and graduate students will be expected to a research paper of approximately 20 pages. All papers are due on the last day of class.

**POLICY ON ABSENCES**

Because of the intensive nature of this course, students 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 more than three absences, excused or
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 when the incomplete grade is 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 for the Course will be determined on the following basis:

Class Participation (including presentations and responses) 10%
Midterm Exam 25%
Final Exam 30%
Research Paper 35%

ONLINE RESOURCES AND PERIODICALS:
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs: [www.state.gov/p/eap/](http://www.state.gov/p/eap/)
Department of Treasury: [www.ustreas.gov/initiatives/us-china/](http://www.ustreas.gov/initiatives/us-china/)
China Leadership Monitor at [www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org](http://www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org)
People’s Daily can be found at: [http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/](http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/)
China Daily can be found at: [www.chinadaily.com.cn](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn)
Congressional Executive Commission on China: [www.cecc.gov/](http://www.cecc.gov/)
Asia Society’s Asia Source Homepage at [www.asiasource.org](http://www.asiasource.org)
China Daily at [www.chinadaily.net](http://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/weblsit.html
Chinese Military Power page at www.comw.org/cmp
CNN/Time/Asiaweek at www.cnn.com/AsiaNow
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 WWWVL at www.asiawind.com/hkwwwvl
Inside China at www.insidechina.com
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: Leninism, Stages, Breakdown, and Resilience

#1 Thurs., Jan. 19: The Problem

Week 2: Leninism and Factions

#2 Tues., Jan. 24: What Is a Leninist System?
Readings:
Kenneth Jowitt, “Inclusion and Mobilization in European Leninist Regimes” (on Blackboard)

#3 Thurs., Jan. 26: The Cadre Management System
Readings:
Kevin O’Brien and Li Lianjiang, “Selective Policy Implementation”

Week 3: Sources of Strength and Weakness

#4 Tues., Jan. 31: The Issue of Leadership
Readings:
Perry and Heilmann, “Introduction,” Mao’s Invisible Hand (Blackboard)

#5 Thurs., Feb. 2: The Problem of Faction
Reading:
Andrew Nathan, “A Factionalism Model for CCP Politics,” (Blackboard)
Tang Tsou, “Prolegomenon to the Study of Informal Groups in CCP Politics” (Blackboard)
Fewsmith, “What Is a Faction?”
Week 4: What Is Reform?

#6 Tues., Feb. 7: Why Reform?
Reading:
Deng Xiaoping: “On the Reform of the Party and State System”
(Blackboard)
Bring to class three sentences from Deng’s speech that you think are important, interesting, and worth discussing
Zhao Ziyang, *Prisoner of the State*, pp. 89-158.

#7 Thurs., Feb. 9: Ideological Reform
Reading:
Merle Goldman?

Week 5: The Breakdown of Reform

#8 Tues., Feb. 14: Economic Reform
Reading:
Zhao Ziyang, *Prisoner of the State*, pp. 159-244.

#9 Thurs., Feb. 16: Tiananmen
Reading:
Li Peng, “Full Text” of Li Peng’s Speech to the Fourth Plenary Session of the Thirteenth Central Committee” (Blackboard)
What was the political logic of political conflict?

Week 6: Social Order

Tues., Feb. 21: NO CLASS – Follow Monday Schedule

#10 Thurs., Feb. 23: Why Are There Social Order Problems?
Reading:

Week 7: Authoritarian Resilience
#11 Tues., Feb. 28: Sources of Resilience

**Reading:**

#12 Thurs., Mar. 2: MIDTERM EXAM

SPRING RECESS: MARCH 4 -- MARCH 12

Week 8: The Emergence of Civil Society?

#13 Tues., Mar. 14: What is Civil Society?

**Reading:**

#14: Thurs., Mar. 16: Do Village Elections Matter?

**Reading:**
Li Lianjiang, “The Two-Ballot System in Shanxi Province” (Blackboard)

Week 9: Sources of Weakness

#15 Tues., Mar. 21: Corruption as a Systemic Issue

**Reading:**
Pei, *China’s Crony Capitalism*, pp. 1-115.
#16 Thurs., Mar. 23: Corruption
Reading:
Pei, *China’s Crony Capitalism*, pp. 117-268.

Week 10: Political Reform?

#17 Tues., Mar. 28: Approaches to Reform
Reading:

#18 Thurs., Mar. 30: Public Support
Reading:

Week 11: Public Support?

#19 Tues. Apr. 4: Sources of Support
Readings:
Dickson, *The Dictator’s Dilemma*, pp. 1-163.

#20 Thurs., Apr. 6: More Reform
Readings:

Week 12: Leadership Politics

#21 Tues., Apr., 11: How Are Elite Politics Organized: An Interpretation
Readings:
Li Cheng, *Chinese Politics in the Xi Jinping Era*, pp.1-118.

#22 Thurs., Apr. 13: Factions?
Readings:

Week 13: Labor and the Environment

#23 Tues., Apr. 18: Workers as a Potential Political Force
Reading:
Mary Gallagher, “Hope for Protection and Hopeless Choices,” in Goldman and Perry, eds., Grassroots Political Reform in Contemporary China, pp. 196-227. (Blackboard)
Ching Kwan Lee, “Is Labor a Political Force in China?” in Goldman and Perry, eds., Grassroots Political Reform in Contemporary China, pp. 228-252. (Blackboard)

#24 Thurs., Apr. 20: The Environment
Reading:
Joanna Lewis, “Environmental Challenges: From the Local to the Global,” in Fewsmith, ed., China Today, China Tomorrow, pp. 259-276 (on Blackboard)

Week 14: The Hu Jintao Era and Beyond

#25 Tues., Apr. 25: Hu Jintao and “Harmonious Society”
Reading:
Fewsmith, China since Tiananmen, pp.231-277.

#26 Thurs., Apr. 27: Xi Jinping
Readings:
Nathan, “Xi Jinping”

Week 15: Xi Jinping and the Challenge of Reform

#27 Tues., May 2: A Summing Up

PAPERS DUE

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 6, 3:0-5:00