BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CHINA: FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM
CAS IR 370/PO 369
Semester I – 2007/2008
Mon., Weds., Fri.: 10:00-11:00
CAS 116

Professor Joseph Fewsmith
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Office hours: Mon., 1:00-4:00;
           Wed., 9:00-10:00;
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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. The midterm exams will be held on Monday, October 1 and Friday, November 2. 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 3. The take-home exam will be due on the last day of class, Wednesday, December 12.

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:
193039-7.

These books are all available at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. In addition, a few assigned articles are on the Courseinfo 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, which ever 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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take-home Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM OF MODERN CHINESE POLITICS

#1 Wed., Sept. 5: Introduction and Organization
   Introduce the basic outline of the course and expectations of the students.
   The problem of Governance

#2 Fri., Sept. 7: China in the Late Qing
   Reading:

Week 2: MODERNIZATION AND REVOLUTION

#3 Mon., Sept. 10: The Crisis of the Late Qing
   Reading:
   Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, pp. 27-65.

#4 Wed., Sept. 12: The Failure of Reform
   Reading:
   Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, pp. 66-104.

#5 Fri., Sept. 14: The Revolution of 1911 and Emergence of Warlordism
   Reading:
   Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, pp. 105-142.

Week 3: THE REVOLUTIONARY PATH

#6 Mon., Sept. 17: Social and Political Ferment
   Reading:
   Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, pp. 143-161.

#7 Wed., Sept. 19: The May Fourth Movement
   Reading:

#8 Fri., Sept. 21: Cultural Ferment
   Reading:
   Lu Xun, "Dairy of a Madman" (on courseinfo website)
   Lu Xun, "Ah Q -- The Real Story" (on courseinfo website)

Week 4: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CHINESE COMMUNISM
#9 Mon., Sept. 24: The Nationalist Revolution  
Reading:  

#10 Wed., Sept. 26: The Introduction of Marxism Into China  
Reading:  

#11 Fri., Sept. 28: The Early Development of the CCP  
Reading:  
Mao Zedong, “Report on the Peasant Situation”

Week 5: MAO ZEDONG IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

#12 Mon., Oct. 1: MIDTERM EXAM

#13 Wed., Oct. 3: Yanan and the Formation of Mao Zedong Thought  
Reading:  
Mao Tse-tung, "On Practice" (on courseinfo website).  

#14 Fri., Oct. 5: Mao Zedong Thought  
Reading:  
Mao Tse-tung, "On Contradiction" (on courseinfo website).

Week 6: FROM REVOLUTION TO STATEHOOD

NOTE: NO CLASS, MONDAY, OCT., 8

#15 Tues., Oct. 9: Mao on Literature and Art  
Reading:  
Mao Tse-tung, "Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art" (on courseinfo website).

#16 Wed., Oct. 10: Wartime China  
Reading:  

#17 Fri., Oct. 12: Founding the New State  
Reading:  

**PAPER PROPOSALS DUE**

**Week 7: THE EARLY YEARS OF THE PRC, 1949-1957**

#18 Mon., Oct. 15: **Consolidating the New Regime**  
Reading:  

#19 Wed., Oct. 17: **Transforming the Countryside**  
Reading:  

#20 Fri., Oct. 19: **Transforming the Cities**  
Reading:  

**Week 8: TOWARD THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD PERIOD**

#21 Mon., Oct. 22: **The Party and the Intellectuals**  
Reading:  
Mao Zedong, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People" (on courseinfo website).  

REVISED PAPER PROPOSALS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Reading:  

#23 Fri., Oct. 26: **Why the Great Leap Forward?**  
Reading:  

**Week 9: THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD**

#24 Mon., Oct. 29: **The Great Leap Forward**  
Reading:  
#25 Weds., Oct. 31: The Impact of the Great Leap Forward
Reading:

#26 Fri., Nov. 2: MIDTERM EXAM

Week 10: ORIGINS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

#27 Mon., Nov. 5: The Impact of the GLF on the Leadership
Reading:

#28 Weds., Nov. 7: The Socialist Education Campaign
Reading:

Fri., Nov. 9: The Unfolding of the Cultural Revolution
Reading:
Meisner, *Mao’s China and After*, pp. 312-351.

Week 11: THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND THE PASSING OF MAO

#29 Mon., Nov. 12: NOTE: NO CLASS – VETERANS DAY

#30 Weds., Nov. 14: The Impact of the Cultural Revolution
Reading:

#31 Fri., Nov. 16: The End of the Cultural Revolution and the Problem of Succession
Reading:

Week 12: THE EMERGENCE OF REFORM

#32 Mon., Nov. 19: The Origins of Reform
Reading:

FALL RECESS: NOV. 21-NOV. 25
Week 13: THE EVOLUTION OF REFORM

#33 Mon., Nov. 26: The Evolution of Reform
  Reading:
  Meisner, Mao’s China and After, pp. 427-448.

#34 Wed., Nov. 28: The Politics of Reform
  Reading:
  Meisner, Mao’s China and After, pp. 449-482.

#35 Fri., Nov. 30: Searching for New Solutions
  Reading:
  Schoppa, Revolution and Its Past, pp. 393-423.

Week 14: TIANANMEN AND THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW ERA

#36 Mon., Dec. 3: A Jiang Zemin Era?
  Reading:
  Meisner, Mao’s China and After, pp. 483-513.

PAPERS DUE

#37 Weds., Dec. 5: Why Political Stability in the New Period?
  Reading:
  Kang Xiaoguang, “Political Development and Political Stability in the Era of
  Reform” (on courseinfo website).

#38 Fri., Dec. 7: Does the Polity Really Need to Reform?
  Reading:
  Fewsmith, “Continuing Pressures on the Social Order” (on courseinfo website).

Week 15: A SUMMING UP

#39 Mon., Dec. 10: A Century of Revolution and Reform
  A Summing Up
  Readings:
  Fewsmith, “Historical Echoes in Contemporary Chinese Politics” (on reserve).


TAKE HOME EXAM DUE