SOSC 1350 L1  
Contemporary China: Continuity and Change  
Fall 2012

**Instructor**  
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**Teaching Assistants**  
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**Lecture / Tutorials**  
Thur 1500-1650, LTA / Please contact TA if you have any question about the tutorial session.

**Description**  
This course introduces students to the major developments and changes in China since 1949 from a multidisciplinary social science perspective. It reviews the transformative and developmental strategies in the spheres of politics, economics, society and external relations during that historical epoch. It critically examines change and continuity over three periods, namely 1949-1977 or the Mao years, 1978-1989, the earlier reform and open-up years, and 1989-present, the post-Tiananmen years.

**Personal Response System (PRS)**  
Please go to the AV Services Loan Counter at Room 2021 (Lift 2) to check out your own ID-encoded PRS handsets. We will count your attendance (twice in every lecture: one in the first part, the other in the second part in the lecture) through this system. Remember to bring along the handset (and battery) when you attend every lecture. We will not count your attendance manually.

**Students will fail the course if their attendance is less than 50% either in the lecture or tutorial.**

**Assessment**  
Mid-term Exam: 30%  
Final Exam / Research Paper: 40%  
Presentation: 20%  
Participation: 10%

**There is an option for students to choose between either doing the final exam or writing a research paper. Since this is a large class, we can only accommodate 20 students who wish to do a research paper. The requirement for the paper will be 15 pages (double-space) and they must be individually written. Please consult the instructor or teaching assistant about the topic. We will organize two workshops to help you on the paper. One is a library workshop that introduces research skills for finding material and a second is a writing workshop that helps you to organize and write the paper. Further details will be announced in due course.**

If there are more than 20 students who would like to do research paper, we will have a lucky draw then. Please email to sohyl@ust.hk by indicating your interest on or before 22 Sep.
Textbook

Course Outline

PART I. Political History of the PRC

Class 1 Introduction (13 Sep)

Part A: Introduction to the Course and to Traditional Chinese Politics

Part B: The Rise of the CCP and the Birth of the PRC

Class 2 The First Decade of the CCP (20 Sep)

Part A: "The Socialist Transition" during 1949-56

Part B: Radicalism Rules: Anti-rightist, the Great Leap Forward and the Great Famine, 1957-1964

Class 3 Understanding the Cultural Revolution, 1962-1976 (27 Sep)


Part B: The Cultural Revolution, 1966-76

Class 4 The Early Reform Era: From Tiananmen to Tiananmen, 1976-1989 (4 Oct)

Part A: The Transition from Mao to Deng and the Hua Guofeng Era, 1976-82
Reading: Ch.4, Bruce Gilley, “Deng Xiaoping and His Successors”, Politics in China: An Introduction, pp.103-110.

Part B: The First Reform Decade: 1982-1989
Reading: Ch.4, Bruce Gilley, “Deng Xiaoping and His Successors”, Politics in China: An Introduction, pp.110-114.
Class 5 The Recent Reform Decades: Deng, Jiang and Hu, 1990-2011 (11 Oct)


Part B: 1998-2011
Reading: Ch.4, Bruce Gilley, “Deng Xiaoping and His Successors”, Politics in China: An Introduction, pp.119-123.

Class 6 (18 Oct)

Part A: MID-TERM

PART II: Institutional and Structural Analysis

Part B: Conceptualizing the Chinese Political System

Class 7 Ideological Perspectives and Party-State (25 Oct)

Part A: Ideology and Chinese Politics

Part B: Party and Government

Class 8 Sustainability, Environmental Issues and Foreign Policy – Guest Lecture (1 Nov)

Part A: Sustainability and Environmental Issues in China’s Development (Prof. Baark)

Part B: The Challenges of Chinese Non-Intervention Policy (Hak Yin)

Class 9 Party-State and Political Elites (8 Nov)

Part A: Army and the Judiciary

Part B: Political Elites
Class 10  Political Economy: Domestic and International (15 Nov)

**Part A: Domestic Political Economy**

**Part B: International Political Economy**

Class 11  Political Culture and Participation (22 Nov)

**Part A: Political Culture**

**Part B: Political Participation**

Class 12  Society and Presentations (29 Nov)

**Part A: Social Classes, Old and New**

**Part B: Presentations**

Class 13  Presentations and Democracy in China (6 Dec)

**Part A: Presentations**

**Part B: Democracy in China**