Fall 2022
PS7042/8042 Political Economy of China

Class Information:

• Time: Wednesdays, 13:20-15:10
• Place: Online/Room 605, Social Sciences Building
• Course Website: https://cool.ntu.edu.tw/courses/18399

Instructor:

• Name: Hans H. Tung (hanstung@ntu.edu.tw)
• Office Hours: Wednesdays, 15:30-17:30
  Sign up at:
  https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4EAEAC2CA2fall
• Office: Room 745, Social Sciences Building

1 Attention !! The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak

The NTU COVID-19 policy for the Spring 2022 stipulates that:

Face masks must be worn in classrooms or laboratories by instructors and students when maintaining a social distance of 1.5 meters is not possible.

We will also watch the outbreak closely during the semester and see if it is necessary for us to move the class online.
2 Course Design and Objectives

This seminar is designed to help graduate students understand various contemporary issues and topics on the political economy of China by reading major works in the fields. The philosophy of this class is that good research starts from improving upon the established scholarship. However, this course is by no means a comprehensive survey of all major fields. It looks for depth instead of breadth. I selectively choose five areas of great importance in the literature on China:

1. State-Society Relations
2. Political Communication
3. Political Economy
4. Comparative Politics
5. History

Keep such questions in mind as you read articles and books listed in the syllabus:
- What are the central issues at stake in this literature?
- What are the major arguments of the works under study?
- How do they relate to the debates in the field?
- How valuable and viable is the theory or argument that each puts forth?
- How effectively is evidence marshaled in support of the argument?
- Which scholarly disputes have been resolved?
- What good further work lies ahead?

Requirements

- Active Participation: Each student is expected to complete all the required reading each week and to contribute to the collective discussion.

- Class Presentation: We will have one presenter per article in each week. In this 8-minute presentation, you should include:
  1. Your understanding of what issues the selected articles and books are dealing with and how they solve these issues
  2. Your critiques of the solutions proposed in the articles and books

- Writing:
1. One Review Article: Each student is required to write one review article on one of the five areas listed in the course syllabus. Your review article should analyze one or more central issues that the assigned readings for the topic address, locate the authors’ chief positions regarding those issues, and comment critically on the state of the debate and the value of the individual contributions to it. It should be no more than 3,000 words, double-spaced, and use times font no smaller than 12 point. Try to be focused, terse, and selective. Your articles should be emailed to me in Week 16 (12/21/22).

2. One Research Proposal: Each student is also required to submit a research proposal on a topic of his/her own choice (not limited to those covered in this course). In your proposal, you need to justify your choice of topic (i.e., why is it puzzling?), define your research question (e.g. what is the dependent variable of interest?), develop a theoretical argument and testable hypotheses (e.g. what is your explanation?), identify your data sources, and specify your methodology (e.g. quantitative or qualitative). Your research proposal should be roughly 15 pages, double-spaced, and use times font no smaller than 12 point. The due date of your research proposals will be announced later.

3. Grading

- Class participation (10%)
- Review article (40%)
- Research Proposal (50%)

4. Class Schedule and Reading List

Week 1 September 07, 2022 Introduction

Part I State-Society Relations

Week 2 September 14, 2022 Authoritarian Responsiveness

Readings:


**Week 3 September 21, 2022 Transparency**

Readings:


**Week 4 September 28, 2022 Hong Kong’s Protest-Repression Nexus**

Readings:


Week 5 October 05, 2022 Guest Lecture: Victor Shih, UCSD (October 4, 2022)

Topic: Coalitions of the Weak.

Part II Political Communication

Week 6 October 12, 2022 Censorship

Readings:


Week 7 October 19, 2022 Propaganda

Readings:


**Week 8 October 26, 2022 Media Bias**


• Schweizer, Denis and Wang, Xinjie and Wu, Ge and Zhang, Aoran, Political Connections and Media Bias: Evidence from China (October 10, 2020). Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3709127 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3709127

**Part III Political Economy**

**Week 9 November 02, 2022 Redistribution**

Readings:


**Week 10 November 09, 2022 State-Business Relationship**

Readings:


• Han, Chaohua, Xiaojun Li and Jean C. Oi. 2022. “Firms as Revenue Safety Nets: Political Connections and Returns to the Chinese State.” *China Quarterly* forthcoming.


### Part IV Comparative Politics

#### Week 11 November 16, 2022 Power-Sharing and Personalization

Readings:

• Huhe, Narisong, Max Gallop and Shahryar Minhas. 2021. ”Who are in charge, who do I work with, and who are my friends: A latent space approach to understanding elite coappearances in China.” *Social Networks* 66: 26-37.

• Leber, Andrew, Christopher Carothers, Matthew Reichert. 2022. ”When Can Dictators Go It Alone? Personalization and Oversight in Authoritarian Regimes.” *Politics & Society* forthcoming.


#### Week 12 November 23, 2022 Authoritarian Legislatures

Readings:

• Gilli, M (Gilli, Mario), Li, Y (Li, Yuan), Qian, JW (Qian, Jiwei). 2018. ”Logrolling under fragmented authoritarianism: theory and evidence from China” *PUBLIC CHOICE* 175(1-2): 197-214.


**Week 13 November 30, 2022 Factionalism**


**Part V History**

**Week 14 December 07, 2022 Historical Legacies**

Readings:


**Week 15 December 14, 2022 Historical Political Economy**

Readings:


**Week 16 December 21, 2022 Writing Period**