State Building in China and Taiwan

GOV 365L (38775)
ANS 361 (31830)

Fall 2017
Time: Monday/Wednesday 2:30-4:00PM
Location: SZB 370

Instructor: Xiaobo Lü
Office: BAT 3.152
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 1:00-2:30PM, or by appointment
E-mail: xiaobolu@austin.utexas.edu
Course Homepage: http://canvas.utexas.edu/

Course Description:

This course aims to provide an overview of the political history of China and Taiwan since 1949. We will compare and contrast the state building process in mainland China and Taiwan from 1950 to today. While both regimes were under the authoritarian rule at the beginning of the 1950s, why did Taiwan democratize but not China? Meanwhile, does the democratic politics in Taiwan generate any implications for the democratic future of China? By comparing the state building process under the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and Kuomintang (KMT), students will gain a better understanding of the theories and implications of the interaction between political development and economic development. The objective of this course is providing students a deeper understanding of theories of state building with regional knowledge of greater China.

We will start the course by briefly going over the political history in China and Taiwan before 1949. We then investigate the critical junctures of regime consolidation during the early state building period after 1949 in both mainland China and Taiwan. For the remainder of the semester, we are going to compare and contrast different aspects of state building in China and Taiwan since 1950s. Due to the time limitation, we are only able to cover the following key aspects: party building, cultural policies, foreign influence, economic transformation, and political reforms.

Prerequisite:

Six semester hours of lower-division coursework in government.

Course Requirement and Grading:

1. Course attendance: 10%
2. Three in-class Quizzes: 15%
3. First midterm exam (Oct. 2) 25%
4. Second midterm exam (Nov. 8) 25%
5. Third midterm exam (Dec. 11) 25%

**Course Materials:**

The readings for this course consist of book chapters and journal articles. All the readings can be accessed through the Canvas website for this class. Since many chapters are drawn from the following two books, I highly recommended you purchase them, if your budget allows.

Recommended books:


**Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities are welcome to request appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (471-6259) and the instructor for further information.

**Honor Code:**

Every student, graduate as well as undergraduate, is expected to adhere to the UT Honor Code. Any violation can result in receiving “0” for the assignment in question as well as further disciplinary action. Students are strongly urged to refer to the following link from the Dean of Students for an explanation of what plagiarism is and how it can be avoided: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_plagiarism.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_plagiarism.php).

**Class Guidelines:**

1. All exams will be administered promptly at the beginning of the class. No make-up exam. Under special circumstance and with the approval from the instructor, you might be able to increase the proportion of the next exam’s grade in the calculation of the final grade. For example, if you miss the first exam, the grade of your second midterm is 50% instead of 25% of the final grade.
2. All lectures and discussions, readings, and films will be subject to examination.
**Grading:**

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**Weekly Themes:**

Week 1: Introduction
Week 2: A Brief Political History of China (The Pre-1949 Era)
Week 3: A Brief Political History of Taiwan (The Pre-1949 Era)
Week 4: Regime Consolidation in China during the 1950s
Week 5: Regime Consolidation in Taiwan during the 1950s
Week 6: Party Building in China and Taiwan (I)
Week 7: Party Building in China and Taiwan (II)
Week 8: Cultural Policies in China
Week 9: Cultural Policies in Taiwan
Week 10: Foreign Influence in China
Week 11: Foreign Influence in Taiwan
Week 12: Economic transformation in China
Week 13: Economic transformation in Taiwan
Week 14: Political Reforms in China
Week 15: Political Reforms in Taiwan
Week 16: Midterm #3
Lecture Schedule and Readings

Week 1 (August 30): Introduction

No reading.

Week 2 (Sep 6): A Brief Political History of China (The Pre-1949 Era)

No class on Sep. 4 (Labor Day)


Week 3 (September 11 & 13): A Brief Political History of Taiwan (The Pre-1949 Era)


Week 4 (September 18 & 20): Regime Consolidation in China during the 1950s


Week 5 (September 25 & 27): Regime Consolidation in Taiwan during 1950s


**Week 6 (October 2 & 4): Party Building in China and Taiwan (I)**

**Midterm #1 on Oct. 2**


**Week 7 (October 9 & 11): Party Building in China and Taiwan (II)**


**Optional reading:**


**Week 8 (October 16 & 18): Cultural Policies in China**


Week 9 (October 23 & 25): Cultural Policies in Taiwan


Optional Reading:


Week 10 (October 30 & November 1): Foreign Influence in China


Week 11 (November 6 & 8): Foreign Influence in Taiwan

Midterm #2 on Nov. 8


Optional reading

Week 12 (November 13 & 15): Economic transformation in China


Week 13 (November 20): Economic transformation in Taiwan


Week 14 (November 27 & 29): Political Reforms in China

No class on Nov. 23 (Thanksgiving Holiday)


**Week 15 (December 4 & 6): Political Reforms in Taiwan**


**Week 16 (December 11): Midterm #3**