



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

CONTEMPORARY CHINA - 46552

Last update 11-10-2021

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Asian Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Tamar (Tami) Groswald Ozery

Coordinator Email: Tamar.groswald@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wed. 10:30-11:30

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Tamar Groswald Ozery

Course/Module description:

An introductory survey course which presents an overview of the main political, ideological, economic, and social developments that have occurred in the People's Republic of China since the launch of reforms in 1978, with a focus on the changing features of the state-society relationship in post-socialist China

Course/Module aims:

- To present the background for the major political, ideological, economic, and social developments which have occurred in the PRC in the last four decades while considering the main features of these developments*
- To survey the main achievements of the Chinese government in the realm of domestic policy from 1978 to the present*
- To discuss the domestic challenges the Chinese government currently faces, including the crisis in the rural sector; the problems caused by rapid migration and urbanization; the deepening socioeconomic gaps; the demographic, social, and economic implications of the Chinese government's population policy ; growing social protest and the emergence of a new type of "civil society"; and the relationship between the Chinese government and the PRC's ethnic minorities*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Describe the background for the major political, ideological, economic, and social developments which have occurred in China since 1978*
- Outline the main features of the major political, ideological, economic, and social developments which have occurred in China since 1978*
- Present the outcomes and implications of the aforementioned developments while identifying the main achievements of Chinese government domestic policies in the past four decades or so*
- Identify the main problems and challenges the Chinese government currently faces within the domestic sphere*
- List the major features of the state-society relationship in China since 1978*

Attendance requirements(%):

0

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture

Course/Module Content:

- *Introduction: Historical Background; Central Issues and Themes of the Course*
- *The "Third Plenum" (1978) and the First Wave of Rural Reforms (HRS and TVEs)*
- *Work Migration and Its Implications*
- *Urban Economy and Society*
- *Urbanization and Its Implications*
- *Rapid Economic Development: Its Main Generators and the Problem of Inequality*
- *The Structure of the Chinese Political System*
- *Central-Local Government(s) Relations and Their Implications*
- *Ideological Developments in the Post-Mao Era*
- *The State and Civil Society since 1978*
- *The Chinese Government and the Ethnic Minorities since 1978*
- *Conclusion: Facing the Challenges? China in the 21st Century*

Required Reading:

For updated reading list, please see course site on Moodle

Additional Reading Material:

Students who did not take the course "China at the Age of Revolutions 1900-1978" (46410) are required to read the following background material NO LATER than the first week of the class:

Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2003. Governing China: From Revolution to Reform (Second Edition), Ch. 4.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 100 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:

**Important notice:*

-In case a regular exam will not be possible due to the persistence of the Corona crisis, the course assignment will be a take-home examination, which will be based on the lecture and reading materials listed in the syllabus.

-Students in the China Section must achieve a grade of at least 70 to pass the class

-Students in the Contemporary Asia Section: Please contact the Secretary of the Asian Studies Department to find out the required pass grade in this class

-Pass grade for all other students: 60