



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *State and Society in the PRC: Selected Topics - 46865*

*Last update 18-08-2016*

*HU Credits:* 4

*Degree/Cycle:* 2nd degree (Master)

*Responsible Department:* asian studies

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* Yearly

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Orna Naftali

*Coordinator Email:* [orna.naftali@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:orna.naftali@mail.huji.ac.il)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* Wed., 12:15-13:15

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Orna Naftali

Course/Module description:

The course discusses the relationship between society and the state in the People's Republic of China. It examines patterns of change and continuity in the governing ideologies and ruling techniques of the Chinese state from 1949 to the present while considering the meaning and applicability of key concepts such as "public sphere", "civil society," and "protest" and "resistance" in the Chinese context.

Course/Module aims:

*\*To analyze the relationship between the Chinese government and different actors within Chinese society since 1949, while noting patterns of change and continuity*

*\*To evaluate the extent to which the socialist Party-state has been able to impose its will upon the rural and urban population since 1949*

*\*To note the impact of tensions between the central and local government on the Chinese state's ruling ability*

*\*To discuss the changing meanings and definitions of boundaries between "society" and the "state"; "public" and "private" sphere since 1949*

*\*To evaluate the extent to which contemporary China is witnessing the emergence of a new type of "civil society"*

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

*\*Present the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of state-society relations in the PRC (1949-present)*

*\*Analyze the main features of state-society relations at different administrative levels and since 1949*

*\*Identify major patterns of change and continuity within state-society relations in China since 1949*

*\*Evaluate the applicability of key concepts such as "public" and "private" spheres, "civil society" and "protest and resistance" to the study of contemporary China (1978-)*

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*\*To identify the main actors within China's emergent "civil society"; their modes of activity and their relationship with the state since 1978*

Attendance requirements(%):  
100

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture and discussion of reading materials*

Course/Module Content:

*\*Note: The following list of contents is subject to change. For the final, most updated list, please consult the class website on the Moodle2 system:*

*\* Introduction*

*\* State and society in the PRC: Theoretical and Methodological Themes and Questions*

*\*Historical Background: State and Society in Late Imperial and Republican-era China*

*\*Economic and Spatial Governing mechanisms in the Maoist era*

*\* Class categories and political labeling in the Maoist period*

*\* Ethnic minorities and the state in the Maoist period*

*\* Workers, peasants and the state in the Maoist period*

*\* Culture, media and propaganda in the Maoist period*

*\*Political rituals in the Maoist period*

*\*Intellectuals and the State in the Maoist period*

*\*Gender and the State in the Maoist Period*

*\*Family and the State in the Maoist period*

*\*Education, youth, and the state in the Maoist period*

*\*Local and central government in contemporary China*

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- \**Law and society in contemporary China*
  - \* *Media and propaganda in contemporary China*
  - \**The Internet in contemporary China*
  - \* *Intellectuals and the state in contemporary China*
  - \* *The new middle classes and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**Workers and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**Peasants and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**Population policy and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**Youth, education, and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**Social organizations and the state in contemporary China*
  - \**State and ethnic minorities in contemporary China*
  - \**Religion and the state in contemporary China*

*Required Reading:*

Migdal, Joel S. 1994. "The State in Society: An Approach to Struggles for Domination." In Joel S. Migdal, Atul Kohli, and Vivienne Shue (eds.). *State Power and Social Forces: Domination and Transformation in the Third World*. Pp. 7-36. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Heilmann, Sebastian, and Elizabeth J. Perry. 2011. "Embracing Uncertainty: Guerrilla Policy Style and Adaptive Governance in China". In Heilmann, Sebastian, and Elizabeth J. Perry, eds. *Mao's Invisible Hand: The Political Foundations of Adaptive Governance in China*. Pp. 1-29. Cambridge: Harvard University Press

Rowe, William T. 1990. "The Public Sphere in Modern China." *Modern China*, Volume 16, Issue 3, pp. 309-329

Bergère, Marie-Claire. 1997. "Civil Society and Urban Change in Republican China". *The China Quarterly*, No. 150, Special Issue: Reappraising Republic China, pp. 309-328

Yang, Mayfair Mei-hui. 1988. "The Modernity of Power in the Chinese Socialist Order." *Cultural Anthropology* Vol. 3, Issue 4, 408-427

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- Billeter, Jean-Francois. 1985. "The System of 'Class Status'." In Stuart R. Schram (ed.). *The Scope of State Power in China*. Pp. 127-169. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
- Mullaney, Thomas S. 2010. "Seeing for the State: The Role of Social Scientists in China's Ethnic Classification Project." *Asian Ethnicity* 11(3): 325-342
- Bin, Yang. 2009. "Central State, Local Governments, Ethnic Groups and the Minzu Identification in Yunnan (1950s-1980s)." *Modern Asian Studies* 43: 741-775
- Shue, Vivienne. 1988. *The Reach of the State: Sketches of the Chinese Body Politic*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Pp. 31-72
- Chang, Julian. 1997. "The Mechanics of State Propaganda: The People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union in the 1950s". In Timothy Cheek et al. (eds.). *New Perspectives on State Socialism in China*. Pp. 76-124. Armonk, N.Y.; London: M.E. Sharpe
- Hung, Chang-Tai. 2007. "Mao's Parades: State Spectacles in China in the 1950s". *The China Quarterly*, Vol. 190, pp. 411-431
- Zuo, Jiping. 1991. "Political Religion: The Case of the Cultural Revolution in China". *Sociological Analysis*, Vol. 52, No. 1, pp. 99-110
- Goldman, Merle. 1981. *China's Intellectuals: Advise and Dissent*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press [DS 777.6 G64] Ch. 1: Pp. 1-17
- U, Eddy. 2007. "The Making of Chinese Intellectuals: Representations and Organization in the Thought Reform Campaign". *The China Quarterly*, Vol. 192, pp. 971-989
- Diamant, Neil J. 2001. "Making Love Legible in China: Politics and Society During the Enforcement of Civil Marriage Registration, 1950-66". *Politics & Society*, 29, 447-480
- Roberts, Rosemary. 2014. "The Confucian Moral Foundations of Socialist Model Man: Lei Feng and the Twenty Four Exemplars of Filial Behaviour". *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* 16, 1: 23-38
- Kristeva, Julia. 1975. "On the Women of China". Translated by Ellen Conroy Kennedy. *Signs*, Vol. 1, No. 1 pp. 57-81
- Wang Zheng. 2010. "Creating a Socialist Feminist Cultural Front: Women of China (1949-1966)." *The China Quarterly*, 204, pp. 827-849
- Clark, Paul. 2012. *Youth Culture in China: From Red Guards to Netizens*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 2, "Marking Out New Spaces: Red Guards, Educated Youth, and Opening Up. pp. 10-56
- Yang, Guobin. 2016. *The Red Guard Generation and Political Activism in China*. New York: Columbia University Press. Ch. 2, pp. 48-68

*The Reading List for the Second Semester will be updated later on*

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*Additional Reading Material:*

*Course/Module evaluation:*

*End of year written/oral examination 0 %*  
*Presentation 30 %*  
*Participation in Tutorials 10 %*  
*Project work 50 %*  
*Assignments 0 %*  
*Reports 0 %*  
*Research project 0 %*  
*Quizzes 0 %*  
*Other 10 %*  
*Moderation of class discussion*

*Additional information:*

*\*Optional: Seminar paper: (20-25 pages, double-spaced): students who wish to write a seminar paper as well may do so after submitting a preliminary seminar proposal, which will include their topic of choice and a list of at least 5 reading items related to the topic. Students who plan to write a seminar paper will briefly present their topic of choice in the final lesson.*