Summer 2013

Philosophy 2700  Chinese Political Philosophy

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Office Hours: M/W 9:50-10:50
T/Th 11:45-1:15
Other times by appointment

Required Books:

Dreyer, June Teufel.  *China’s Political System: Modernization and Tradition.*
Heng, Liang and Judith Shapiro.  *Son of the Revolution.*

Course Description:
This course is intended to help students consider the modern and future politics of China through its traditional political philosophy. The course will encourage students to consider trends in Chinese politics and how China is changing what we know about the world. Specifically, we will deal with developments in Chinese political thought through consideration of important figures in the formation of contemporary China: the Imperial past, Civil war of 1911, Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Tiananmen Square, etc. The course will provide basic information about China and will be accessible to those who have no prior background in Chinese studies or languages, but will also offer those with more background new perspectives and challenging questions. By the end of the class, the world should seem like a different place.

In this course, as measured in class discussions, quizzes, short essays, exams, and a research paper, students will:

1. Acquire a basic knowledge of contemporary Chinese politics and the traditional philosophy behind it
2. Improve understanding of key issues in East/West political relations and their philosophic foundations
3. Improve research skills
4. Improve written and oral communication skills
5. Improve critical reasoning skills
6. Improve ability to synthesize knowledge from diverse sources
Two guiding goals for all GE Humanities and Philosophy courses:

1. Students will study the ways others have asked “big questions” in creative ways and how they answered those questions.
2. Students will study the enduring creative expressions of humans that reflect our experiences, as well as our feelings and ideas about ourselves, other humans, the past, and the universe.

Grading
Grades will be earned in relationship to how well you accomplish the above aims of the course. The points I have given to each of the areas below are approximate. In some cases I may decide to alter the number of points of any given area depending on how we move through the material. I will assign final grades solely based on a percentage of the number of points available in the class at the end of the term. I will give you two ways to demonstrate your abilities:

1. **Exams (about 300 points)**

   There will be three exams, including a midterm and a final. These exams will be based on class discussions and assigned readings.

   The midterm will be worth 100 points, and the final will be worth 150 points. The final exam will be comprehensive. The final exam will be given on the day specified by the college.

2. **Attendance/Participation (400 points)**

   Attendance:
   In order to help you keep up with the material, to read the assignments regularly, and to receive consistent feedback, I will require you to attend regularly. I will not allow make-up for missed days, so please be sure to come, and to come on time! From time to time students have legitimate reasons for missing class (e.g. school excused stuff, medical emergencies, etc.). It is your responsibility to communicate with me when these things prevent you from attending. We will work out suitable arrangements on a case-by-case basis. I will not keep track of every single day of attendance, but if you miss more than three days this semester I reserve the right to lower your grade 10%, so please make attendance a high priority!

   Participation
   We will rely heavily on participation for this course. Though your attendance is necessary, it is not a sufficient condition for successfully completing participation expectations. I expect that you will come prepared and that you will actively contribute to the course as a good citizen of the academic world. This means, minimally:
   1. you will come to class with questions about the readings, and you will ask them;
   2. you will help answer the questions of others;
   3. you will actively search for answers when we all get stumped, and will make a good faith effort to look beyond the basic course texts when appropriate
   4. will respond to ideas that are of interest to you, and actively discuss the ideas of others.
   5. Attend events as indicated on the course schedule
3. **Research Papers (300 points)**

You will write three short research papers. One topic will be given to you, the other two topics will be of your own selection. These papers will be between three and five pages, double spaced. I will give you more specific information for these papers when making the assignments. You will be required to use a minimum of three sources beyond your textbook for each paper, will need to be familiar with MLA citation guidelines, etc.

**Grade Scale:**

- 93-100% --- A
- 88-92% --- A-
- 85-87%--- B+
- 82-84%--- B
- 78-81%--- B-
- 75-77%--- C+
- 72-74%--- C
- 68-71%--- C-
- 65-67%--- D+
- 62-64%--- D
- 58-61%--- D-
- 57% or less F

**Disability Statement:**

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator (Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. DRC is located at the ground floor of the Financial Aid Office. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

**Course Policies and other required items**

**Attendance/Tardiness**

When I take attendance I will do so at the beginning of class. If you come in late, it is your responsibility to make sure I have not counted you absent. This means you should come and talk with me after class and explicitly ask me whether I took attendance. If I did, make sure I did not mark you absent.

If you miss on the day of a quiz or exam talk with me. I will listen to your argument for why you should be allowed to take the assessment late. However, in principle I will not allow students to take quizzes and exams late. If you anticipate an absence, talk with me BEFORE the due date.

**Late Work**

I will collect all work at the beginning of class on the date it is due. I will accept work up until the moment I do the grading. I will not, as a general rule, announce when I plan to do the grading. Once I have completed grading any given assignment I will NOT accept any late submissions. I grade papers and exams all at the same time so that I can be fair and grade you in relationship to one another. I therefore will not accept any assignments after grading has been done. Sometimes a grade papers right after class, sometimes I grade them a few days after they are due. If you do not turn in your work on the due date, you risk being unable to turn it in at all—but I'm happy letting you decide what risks you're willing to take. If you know you are going to have trouble getting something done on time, talk with me BEFORE the due date.
Final Exam

I will give the final exam at the day and time assigned by the college. It is my understanding that this is a college wide policy.

Cell Phones

Don't be the person everyone else thinks is an idiot. Respect the learning environment, and your peers. I don't generally find cell phones disturbing—but I see that many of my students hate it when someone's phone goes off in class. The easiest thing to do is set it to vibrate. If you want to text your friends about the great ideas you're having in class, feel free. Just don't annoy others.

Required Syllabus Material:

Important links:

For all basic information generically pertaining to classes in the college, required on the syllabus, please go to: http://new.dixie.edu/reg/syllabus/

The academic calendar can be found at http://dixie.edu/reg/?page=calendar

Resources:

- Library - http://library.dixie.edu
- Writing Center - http://dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php
- Testing Center - http://dixie.edu/testing
- Tutoring Center - http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring/

Academic Honesty policy:

Statement on Dmail use:
You are required to frequently check your dmail account. Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail account, including DSC bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSC and in your courses. If you don't know how to access your dmail account, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail" from the left column. To locate your dmail username and password, go to www.dixie.edu, and click on "Log in to student services" (upper right corner).

Statement concerning disruptive students:
Disruptive Behavior: Teachers at Dixie State College have the right to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate. Toward this end, teachers (or college security) may dismiss and remove disruptive students from individual class activities. If a student's behavior continues to disrupt class activities, the teacher may dismiss and cause the removal of disruptive students from their course.

Tentative Course Schedule
Week One

Course Introduction
Approaches to the study of Chinese politics.

The Chinese Imperial Tradition
Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 2.
In-class: Handout on romanization systems.

Imperial Breakdown and the 1911 Revolution
Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 3.

The Chinese Civil War

Week Two

Due: Research Paper on an issue in contemporary Chinese politics.
The Thought of Mao Zedong

PRC Economic Policy Under Mao
Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 5 and pp. 135-144.

PRC Politics Under Mao
Reading: Time to work on Son of the Revolution—due next week.

Political Movements: A View from the Inside, I
Reading: Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro, Son of the Revolution, pp. 3-147.

Week Three

Exam One
Political Movements: A View from the Inside, II

Rise of Pragmatism: Deng Xiaoping
Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 6. *Reform Reader*, pp. 21-49.

China’s Economic Reforms
For further reading: *Reform Reader*, 299-344.

China’s Economic Reforms: the Views from the Provinces

**Week Four**
The Fifth Modernization: Democracy
Reading: *Reform Reader*, pp. 50-77, 165-185.

**Gate of Heavenly Peace**
We will see the film, *Gate of Heavenly Peace*, which runs about three hours in length. This will require you to make arrangements to stay in class longer than usual. Please plan for this. We will then begin our discussion of the Tiananmen protests.

Protest ’89: Tiananmen

**Midterm Examination**

**Week Five**
Media and the Arts

The Structure of the Party-State and Citizen Participation in Politics

The Situation of Chinese Women


Due: Research Paper assignment.

The Political Role of the Military

Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 9.

Week Six

China’s Village Elections


Civil Society


Politics and Film, I

Part I of *Qiu Ju*.

Politics and Film, II

Part II of *Qiu Ju*.

Week Seven

China’s Minority Nationalities

Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 13. *Reform Reader*, 489-492. Also, online, skim information from two sides of the debate on the Tibet issue. For the PRC perspective: Information Office of the State Council,

The Return of Hong Kong and Macao

Modernization and the Politics of Taiwan

The PRC and Taiwan
Reading: Reform Reader, pp. 496-501.

Week Eight
Research Paper #3 Due
Current Issues and Course Conclusions
Reading: Dreyer, Ch. 15. Reform Reader, 505-530.

Date and Time TBA
Final Examination.

General links to scholarly resources and news about China and Comparative Politics:

- Asia Society’s Asia Source Homepage at http://www.asiasource.org
- BBC Asia programming—listen to the China Service in Mandarin or to East Asia Today in English http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/asiapacific/index.shtml
- China Daily at http://www.chinadaily.net
- China Links from the University of Michigan at http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Area.Programs/Asia/china/weblist.htm
CNN/Time/Asiaweek AsiaNow at http://www.cnn.com/AsiaNow
Constitution of the People’s Republic of China at
East Asia Center Asialinks at http://www.virginia.edu/~eastasia/easia13.html
   Embassy of China to the United States at http://www.china-embassy.org/
   Foreign, Comparative, and International Resources from the Department of Political Science
   at Louisiana State University at http://www.artsci.lsu.edu/poli/foreign.html
Hong Kong WWWVL at http://www.asiawind.com/hkwwwvl
Human Rights in China at http://www.hrichina.org
Human Rights Watch/Asia at http://www.hrw.org/about/divisions/asia.html
Inside China at http://www.insidechina.com/
International Affairs WWWVL at http://www.leton.edu/vl
Maps from the University of Texas at
   http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Map_collection/china.html
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (PRC) at http://www.fmprc.gov.cn
Political Resources on the Net: China at http://www.politicalresources.net/china.htm
Political Science WWWVL at http://www.lib.uconn.edu/PoliSci
South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) at http://www.scmp.com
Taiwan Government Information Office at http://www.roc-taiwan.org
Taiwan WWWVL at http://peacock.tnjc.edu.tw/taiwan-wwwvl.html
Tibet Government in Exile at http://www.tibet.com/