

Course Syllabus

Spring 2024

- **Course title: Chinese Development Model in Comparative Perspective**
- Credit: 2
- Time: F5F6 (Friday 13:20~14:10, 14:20~15:10)
- Level: for Masters' students
- Course co-ordinator : Gerald Chan
- Office:
- Office hour:

Course Description

This course examines the development of the People's Republic of China, focusing on economic growth since 1978 when China adopted its reform and opening up. The course compares China's development with other countries, especially those in East Asia, including Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. Topics include China's five-year plans, drives to modernise and globalise, and entry into the World Trade Organisation. In addition to domestic development, the course also discusses China's international development, bilaterally and multilaterally. This will include China's aid policy and its participation in the activities of multilateral development institutions, especially those in the United Nations system. We will also analyse China's Belt and Road Initiative, a mega infrastructure project aimed at making global connections and fostering global development. Apart from empirical analysis, we will explore the theoretical underpinnings of China's development, in comparison to other countries and international organisations. What is the relationship between state and market, between state capitalism and neoliberalism, between industrial policy and free-market device, between state intervention and market adjustment?

Textbooks

No specific one

References

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- Huang, Xiaoming, *Political order in modern East Asian states* (London and New York: Routledge, 2022).
- Jin, Keyu, *The new China playbook: beyond socialism and capitalism* (New York: Viking Press, 2023).
- Li, He, 'The Chinese model of development and its implications,' *World Journal of Social Science Research*, 2(2) (2015) pp. 128-38, https://scholarworks.merrimack.edu/pol_facpub/18
- Movahed, Masoud, 'The East Asian miracle: where did Adam Smith go wrong?' *Harvard International Review*, 23 September 2019, <https://hir.harvard.edu/the-east-asian-miracle-where-did-adam-smith-go-wrong/>
- Spence, Michael, 'What next for China's development model?' *Project Syndicate*, 21 January 2019, <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/china-development-model-tensions-with-west-by-michael-spence-2019-01?barrier=accesspaylog> [paywall]
- Walia, Simran, 'China's development model and its political and economic implications,' 3 April 2020, <https://impakter.com/china-development-model-political-economic-implications/>

Teaching Method

The first session of the weekly Friday meetings (from 13:20~14:10) will be a lecture; the second session (from 14:20~15:10) will be a tutorial / seminar where students make presentations for class discussion (to be arranged).

Lecture schedule and topics

Feb 23	Introduction
Mar 1	Mei-Chu Game (no class unless the Game is cancelled)
Mar 8	Lecture 1 (L1) China as an agent of development

Mar 15	L2 China's development: historical roots
Mar 22	L3 Political economy: the domestic situation
Mar 29	L4 International political economy: global comparisons
Apr 5	Children's Day (no class)
Apr 12	L5 Beijing Consensus vs Washington Consensus
Apr 19	L6 Theorising the Belt and Road Initiative: 'geo-developmentalism'
Apr 26	L7 Financing the Belt and Road
May 3	L8 China's rail Silk Road
May 10	L9 China's maritime Silk Road
May 17	L10 China's digital Silk Road
May 24	L11 China's health Silk Road
May 31	L12 The 'Silicon Triangle': China, Taiwan, US
June 7	L13 Globalisation is dead. Long live globalisation!
June 14	Summary and conclusion
June 21	Exam week

Evaluation

The evaluation of student performance consists of the following three parts (details to be arranged):

- 50% research essay
- 40% written exam
- 10% class presentation and discussion

Student use of the AI [\[check here\]](#)

We shall discuss this issue in class, especially in our introductory meeting, so that we can develop a common understanding between students and teacher as to what to expect from each other.