

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Science
Department of Politics

V53.0560 Politics of East Asia--
 (China and Japan)

MW 2:00-3:15pm, Fall 2006
 Prof. James C. Hsiung

Syllabus

This is a course for beginners, designed to make China and Japan less “inscrutable.” No prior background is required, nor assumed. By the end of the semester, however, students are expected to have acquired respectable “literacy” on the subject. In addition to political institutions and processes, we will be examining political culture, the impact of modernization (and globalization), ideology, the role of political elites, and social dynamics. In sum, China and Japan are approached from a broad background of history and culture in comparative perspective, while we aim at understanding the present. The assigned readings are minimal; and a great deal of up-to-date data and analysis is provided in class lectures. Class attendance is, therefore, absolutely essential.

Textbooks

^James C.F. Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics*, 7th ed. (Prentice-Hall, 2002);

^June Teufel Dreyer, *China’s Political System* 5th ed. (Pearson/Longman, 2006);

^Louis Hayes, *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, 4th ed. (M.E. Sharpe, 2005)

On Reserve

*James C. Hsiung, Human Rights in East Asia: A Cultural Perspective; cited as HREA;

*James C. Hsiung, Ideology & Practice: the Evolution of Chinese Communism; cited hereunder as Hsiung.

CLASS CALENDAR: TOPICS & READINGS

CHINA

1) China’s Imperial Past: Ecological, Political, &
 Cultural Heritage

^Wang, 1-14

^Dreyer, 1-43

*HREA, 4-13

2) Response to the West; Rise of
 Chinese Communism

^Dreyer, 45-61; 63-80

^Wang, 15-19

*Hsiung 3-52

3) The Communist Party and Ideology: The Maoist Model

^Wang 38-40; 70-82

*Hsiung 106-168; 271-274

4) Political Structure and Process

^Wang 69-104; 105-138; 139-195

^Dreyer, 81-105

5) The Military in Chinese Politics

^Wang 238-268

^Dreyer, 191-213

+Rec: Li and White, "The Army in the Succession to Deng Xiaoping,"

Asian Survey, vol. 33, no. 8: 757-786 (Aug. '93);

+Rec: Special issue of the *China Quarterly*, no. 146 (Je. '96)

(6) Post-Mao Transition; Rise of Deng Xiaoping

^Wang, 48-68 (de-Maoization)

^Dreyer, 107-137

6) Dengist Reforms and Legacy

^Wang, 139-160 (Legal Reform); 301-335 (Economic Reforms);

338-370 (Pols. of Modernization); 269-300 (Dissent & Pol. Reform);

^Dreyer, 139-166 (pols. of the economy); 167—190 (the legal system)

7) Challenges to China as an Ascendant Power; & Politics of Re-Unification

^Dreyer, 305-330

^Wang 196-237 (Hong Kong, Macao, and "Greater China")

JAPAN

(i) Overview: Political Culture & Rise of Postwar Democracy

^Hayes 1-44

(ii) Political Structure and Process

^Hayes 47-67;

(iii) Political Dynamics and Behavior; Social Order

^Hayes 68-104; 122-144

(iv) The Japanese Success Story, and the Post-1990 Bust

^Hayes, 145-184

+Rec: David Friedman, *The Misunderstood Miracle* (Cornell UP, 1988);

+Rec: Sunday Owuala, "Banking Crisis, Reforms, and the Availability of Credit to Japanese Small and Medium Enterprises: A Research Note," *Asian Survey*, vol. 39, no. 4:636-667

+Rec: Special Issue on Dysfunctional Japan, *Asian Perspective*, vol. 24, no. 4 (2000)--see in particular (a) "Dysfunctional Japan," by Chalmers Johnson, pp. 7-16; and (b) "The CIA and Japanese Politics," by C. Johnson, Norbert Schlei, & Michael Schaller, pp. 79-104;

(v) Japan in the World; and "End of the Japanese Model" (?)

^Hayes 227-275; 279-291

+ Jean-Marie Bouissou, *Japan: The Burden of Success* (Lynne Rienner, 2002)

Legend: * indicates book is on reserve;

^ = textbook;

+Rec = recommended (esp. for those who wish to pursue further studies of East Asia, possibly at the graduate level), but not required, nor on reserve.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A summary report incorporating notes from class and the assigned readings (not including those marked "+Rec") is due at the time of the in-class final exam. I comply with the CAS grading policy, which calls for the use of A,B,C, and D for passing. Also, plus and minus are used in the grading system, except there is no "A+". Your final grade is based on an overall assessment of your performance including your grades for the summary paper and the exams. I do not mechanically average the separate grades in the overall assessment, however.

I am available for consultation during my office hours, Mon. 3:30-5:30 p.m.; and other times by appointment. My office is located at 726 Broadway, Rm. 717. My direct phone line is (212) 998-8523; and my e-mail: <jch2@nyu.edu>.