

MGCS 5022
Political Economy of China

Professor Kellee Tsai

Course Description

This seminar provides an overview of Western social science literature on China's political economy, and is organized around a series of empirical and analytic puzzles posed by China's experience since the late 1970s. In exploring these puzzles, we will cover debates concerning the origins of reform; explanations for reform-era growth; the dynamics of state-sector restructuring and private sector development; the political and social consequences of growth; the rise of contentious politics; and how to characterize China's state and regime. Each of these topics will be analyzed within the comparative context of trying to understand the extent to which various phenomena in China's political economy has parallels in other countries.

Class Schedule

NO.	THEME
L1	Introduction
L2	China in Western Political Science
L3	Reform without Revolution.
L4	Growth without Property Rights
L5	Growth and Corruption
L6	Decentralization in a Unitary System
L7	China as a Case of Comparative Capitalism
L8	Capitalism without Democracy
L9	Authoritarianism with Adjectives, Pt I: Protest without Revolt
L10	Authoritarianism with Adjectives, Pt. II: Legal Development
L11-12	Student presentations

Requirements and Grading:

1. Class attendance and active class participation (20%)
2. In-class class news presentations (20%)
3. Required readings
4. Critical Memos (20%)
5. Research Paper (40%)

Major Readings:

Scott Kennedy, ed., *Beyond the Middle Kingdom: Comparative Perspectives on China's Capitalist Transformation* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011).

Kevin J. O'Brien and Lianjiang Li, *Rightful Resistance in Rural China* (NY: Cambridge University Press, 2006).

Susan Shirk, *The Political Logic of Economic Reform in China* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993).

Kellee S. Tsai, *Capitalism without Democracy: The Private Sector in Contemporary China* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2007).

Harry Harding, "The Study of Chinese Politics: Toward a Third Generation of Scholarship (Review Article)," *World Politics* 36, 2 (January 1984): 284-307.