Topics on PRC’s Political Economy

Course Description/Objectives

As China has been rising dramatically in the past few decades from the ashes of the civil war-like ‘cultural revolution’ and is now increasingly integrated into the world system, its development and governance issues become more significant that the international society cannot simply ignore or underestimate. It is partly because China does not simply play an important role that power the world economy, serving as a world plant, but its development and governing mechanism has had a great impact upon both regional and global countries. The world health issue - SARS epidemic and the most recent milk toxic incident are examples of self-explanatory that demonstrate how and to what extent that China is heavily impacting upon the rest of the world.

This seminar-oriented course is in this context to critically investigate the relevant issues concerning the development and governance of Communist China, in particular from the 1980 onwards when the reform and opening policy was implemented. By means of reviewing existing literature with regard to the theoretical discussions on the theme of development, governance, governability, governance crisis and the like, we are well-positioned to explore and examine critically a number of (ongoing) development issues, such as party/political reform, social engineering project, and land reform project, that in one way or another relates to the PRC’s governance. It is hoped that through thought-provoking questions, class discussions, and essay writing will we enhance a critical and deeper understanding of China’s (in)capabilities in handling issues of development and governance in the age of globalisation. Simply put, after taking this course, students should be better able to describe, explain, analyze, and/or predict many issues of development and governance in the Chinese context and their implication for the world, together with China’s sociopolitical / economic prospects in the decades ahead.

Term Paper: 15,000字（中文）; 7,000 words (English)
Core Readings

1. 王振寰、湯京平、宋國誠 主編，《中國大陸暨兩岸關係研究》（台北：巨流圖書股份有限公司，2011年）。

2. Journal articles from The China Quarterly

授課大綱:

Week 1 (2/18)  課程介紹
Week 2 (2/25) 中共政治體制（Ch.2）
Week 3 (3/4) 政治菁英流動（Ch.3） & 軍事與國防安全（Ch.4）
Week 4 (3/11) 城鄉基層治理（Ch.5） & 經濟發展與結構調整（Ch.6）
Week 5 (3/18) 區域與城市經濟（Ch.7） & 農業與農村問題（Ch.8）
Week 6 (3/25) 紀錄片賞析（一）
Week 7 (4/1) 校際活動週（放假）
Week 8 (4/8) 科技政策與創新體系（Ch.9） & 城市化與城鄉關係（Ch.10）
Week 9 (4/15) 市場轉型與社會不平等（Ch.11） & 地方政府與發展（Ch.12）
Week 10 (4/22) 社會團體與非政府組織（Ch.13） & 環境變遷與治理（Ch.14）
Week 11 (4/29) 媒體產業與政治（Ch.16） & 外交戰略與國際地位（Ch.17）
Week 17 (6/10) 紀錄片賞析（二）
Week 18 (6/17) 學期報告繳交