[**CHN-375/EAS-385/ECON-385 The Political Economy of China (2015 Fall)**](https://classes.emory.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?url=%2Fwebapps%2Fblackboard%2Fexecute%2Flauncher%3Ftype%3DCourse%26id%3D_103374_1%26url%3D)

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Office Hours: Monday 10:00am-11:30am and Thursday 2:30pm-4:00pm

Class: 9:00 - 9:50 AM, M-W-F. Callaway Center C101

**Course Description:** This course covers the Economic and Political institutions in China.  A brief history of the political systems and financial institutions and how they have evolved will be presented in the beginning.  Various economic reforms within the past 66 years and their impacts on standard of living within China and its global relationship are then examined.  The course also discusses various economic & political indicators in China: what they mean, how they have changed in recent year, how they are expected to change in the future.  This is a must take course for anyone interested in having a better understanding of Chinese politics and economics.

**Prerequisites:** No prior background in the study of China is expected. ECON 101 and ECON 112 are official prerequisites, but you can ask me to explain key concepts if you either forget or have never learned.

**Readings:** The Textbook is recommended but not required.

Naughton, Barry

The Chinese Economy - Transitions and Growth

ISBN: 9780262640640

Publisher: The MIT Press

Other assigned readings will be available on Blackboard.

**Calendar:**

Note:

* This calendar is subject to adjustments, for example, depending on the schedules of guest speakers.
* Each “Mock Politburo” meeting is a simulation of a real one that happened at a turning point of the post-revolution history. 4-6 students assume the policy positions of randomly assigned Politburo Standing Committee members, offer speeches in turn and then enter a debate (timed). In the final stage, other students, acting as non-Standing-Committee Politburo members, can contribute to the discussion.

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| class | Date | Content |
| 1 | Aug. 26 | Wednesday | Introduction |
| 2 | Aug. 28 | Friday | The Political Economy of China 1949-2015: The Soviet Complex, Mao's Great Leap Forward, The Great Famine, The Cultural Revolution, The Third Plenum, Deng Xiaoping's Southern Tour, Zhu Rongji's "Reform with Losers", WTO, Wen Jiabao's Four-Trillion Stimulus, The New Normal **+Guest Lectures** |
| 3 | Aug. 31 | Money |
| 4 | Sept. 2 | Wednesday |
| 5 | Sept. 4 | *F. before Labor* |
| 6 | Sept. 9 | Wednesday |
| 7 | Sept. 11 | Friday |
| 8 | Sept. 14 | Monday |
| 9 | Sept. 16 | Wednesday |
| 10 | Sept. 18 | Friday |
| 11 | Sept. 21 | Monday |
| 12 | Sept. 23 | Wednesday |
| 13 | Sept. 25 | Friday |
| 14 | Sept. 28 | Monday |
| 15 | Sept. 30 | Wednesday |
| 16 | Oct. 2 | Friday |
| 17 | Oct. 5 | Monday |
| 18 | Oct. 7 | Wednesday |
| 19 | Oct. 9 | Friday |
| 20 | Oct. 14 | *W. after Break* | Who makes economic policy decisions of China? |
| 21 | Oct. 16 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 1950: West Wind? East Wind?** |
| 22 | Oct. 19 | Monday | Three Rural Issues: Agriculture, Rural Areas and Farmers |
| 23 | Oct. 21 | Wednesday |
| 24 | Oct. 23 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 1962: Seven Thousand Cadres Conference** |
| 25 | Oct. 26 | Monday | Manufacturing, Energy Consumption, and the Environment |
| 26 | Oct. 28 | Wednesday |
| 27 | Oct. 30 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 1978: The Third Plenum of the 11th Party Congress** |
| 28 | Nov. 2 | Monday | IT, Finance, Health, Education, Social Security |
| 29 | Nov. 4 | Wednesday |
| 30 | Nov. 6 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 1985: Cross the River by Touching the Stones** |
| 31 | Nov. 9 | Monday | Urbanization with Chinese Characteristics?  |
| 32 | Nov. 11 | Wednesday |
| 33 | Nov. 13 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 1997: Reform with Laidoff Workers as Losers** |
| 34 | Nov. 16 | Monday | China and the World Economy |
| 35 | Nov. 18 | Wednesday |
| 36 | Nov. 20 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 2008: Backpedaling** |
| 37 | Nov. 23 | Monday | China's Future |
| 38 | Nov. 30 | *M. after TG* |
| 39 | Dec. 2 | Wednesday |
| 40 | Dec. 4 | Friday | **Mock Politburo 2015: Back to the Future** |
| 41 | Dec. 7 | Monday | Epilogue |
| Final | Dec. 15 | Tuesday | 11:30 A.M - 2:00 P.M. Mostly Multiple-Choice Questions |

**Grading:**

Final: 50%

Mock Politburo: 30% (playing Standing Committee members, graded by multiple TA’s) +10% (participation as other Politburo members)

Class attendance, other participation, and improvement over the semester: 10%

The Grading Policy of the Economics Department:

* A/A- not to exceed 35%
* A through B- not to exceed 80%
* C+ or below at least 20%

**The Honor Code is always in effect and will be enforced!**