

POLS 1510 Politics of the Developing World

Classroom: McDonnell Douglas Hall 1075

Mon, Wed & Fri: 10:00 AM–10:50 AM

Department of Political Science

Saint Louis University

Fall 2023

Instructor

Dr. Hui Zhou

Department of Political Science

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The two groups should be prepared to answer those questions as well as ad-hoc questions posed by other students who are not a group member. Group members are also welcome to pose questions for nonmembers.

3. Midterm exam (25%)

- The midterm exam is close-book and close-notes. It consists of multiple choice questions and short essay questions. Students are supposed to remember some factual knowledge and demonstrate an understanding of the required readings to do well in the exam. The exam will last one hour in the computer lab in McGannon Hall 118. Students are supposed to complete the exam on a computer. I will proctor the exam and no one is allowed to use a computer/laptop/cellphone to cheat.

4. Final exam (25%)

- The final exam will be similar to the midterm exam in terms of the format, duration and location. The final exam is noncumulative. Thus, students only need to prepare the course materials covered after the midterm exam.

5. Policy paper (20%)

- Students should use the analytical skills and substantive knowledge they have learned in this class to explore urgent issues facing the developing world. The paper should encompass an empirical question, a literature review and some analysis. The different components of the paper must be submitted to Canvas as the class proceeds, and the full paper must be submitted by noon, December 14. Both qualitative and quantitative analyses are acceptable, although the latter is encouraged. When citing others' works, students should adopt the American Political Science Association's style format, which is detailed in a moment. The paper should be at least five pages long, double spaced.

The final letter grade will be determined based on the following grading scale:

A	∈	[93, 100]
A-	∈	[90, 92]
B+	∈	[87, 89]
B	∈	[83, 86]
B-	∈	[80, 82]
C+	∈	[77, 79]
C	∈	[73, 76]
C-	∈	[70, 72]
D	∈	[60, 69]
F	∈	[0, 59]

Assignment Deadlines

- Chambers, Simone. 2018. "Against Democracy. By Jason Brennan." Review of *Against Democracy*, Jason Brennan. *Perspectives on Politics* 16 (2):503–5. doi:10.1017/S153759271800066X.

3. Newspapers and magazines

- Prufer, Olaf. 1964. "The Hopewell Cult." *Scientific American*, December 13–15.

4.

istered, students also must notify their course instructor that they wish to use their approved accommodations in the course.

Please contact the Center for Accessibility and Disability Resources (CADR) to schedule an appointment to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Most students on the St. Louis campus will contact CADR, located in the Student Success Center and available by email at accessibility_disability@slu.edu or by phone at 314.977.3484. Once approved, information about a student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors by email from CADR and within the instructor's official course roster. Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one also are encouraged to contact CADR. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.

Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual harassment, including sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident that involves a Title IX matter, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX. This is true even if you ask the faculty member not to disclose the incident. The Title IX Coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

Anna Kratky is the Title IX Coordinator at Saint Louis University (DuBourg Hall, room 36; anna.kratky@slu.edu; 314-977-3886). If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK or make an anonymous report through SLU's Integrity Hotline by calling 1-877-525-5669 or online at <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/slu>. To view SLU's policies and for resources, please visit the following web address: <https://www.slu.edu/about/safety/sexual-assault-resources/index.php>.

Student Support Resources

justment to college life, troubling changes in mood, and chronic psychological conditions. To make an appointment, call 314-977-8255 (TALK), or visit the clinic on the second floor of Wuller Hall. For after hours needs, please press #9 after dialing the clinic number.

Wellness

All students experience stressors and challenges at some point, and seeking support is beneficial. Such challenges may be the result of academic concerns (e.g., those related to particular assignments or content in a course), or they may be more personal in nature (e.g., concerns related to relationships, mental health, loss, identities, alcohol or drugs, housing or food security, or finances, among other things). If you experience these or other difficulties, please consider seeking support from the resources available to you.

- For concerns related to this course, please contact me. I am invested in your success and will support your success in the ways I can.
- Additionally, you have access to the many resources SLU provides in support of your personal wellness. You will find a list of available resources on the Well-being page of the SLU website.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis: please consult the Crisis Support and Warning Signs on the University Counseling Center website. In the spirit of *cura personalis*, the University sees your academic success as connected to your health and well-being and provides resources to support your holistic wellness.

Basic Needs Security

Students experiencing food insecurity, housing insecurity, and any other challenges that are impacting their personal and/or academic wellbeing are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office for support. Students can submit an intake form, email deanofstudents@slu.edu, or call 314-977-9378 to connect with their office. Students may also communicate directly with their instructors about any challenges they are experiencing to receive support and resource referrals.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

1. Aug 23 (Wed) Course Overview

- Read the syllabus

2. Aug 25 (Fri) The Big Questions: What Is A Good Society?

- Draper, Alan and Ansil Ramsay. 2016. "Comparative Politics and the Good Society." In *The Good Society: An Introduction to Comparative Politics*. Hoboken, NJ: Pearson. Chapter 1, pp. 1–25.

Week 2: Making Sense of Development

1. Aug 28 (Mon) What Are "Development" and "Underdevelopment"?

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 1

2. Aug 30 (Wed) Poverty in the Developing World

- Chen, S., & Ravallion, M. 2007. "Absolute Poverty Measures for the Developing World, 1981–2004." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 104(43):16757–16762.
- Chen, S., & Ravallion, M. 2010. "The Developing World is Poorer Than We Thought, But No Less Successful in the Fight against Poverty." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125(4):1577–1625.

3. Sep 1 (Fri) States and State-Building in History and Theory

- Murtazashvili, Jennifer Brick. 2021. "The Endurance and Evolution of Afghan Customary Governance." *Current History* 120(825):140–145.

Week 3: Political Economy

1. Sep 4 (Mon) Labor Day, No Class

2. Sep 6 (Wed) Understanding Political Economy

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 2

3. Sep 8 (Fri) Making Hard Choices: Political Economy in the Real World

- Piscopo, Jennifer and Peter Siavelis. 2021. "Chile's Constitutional Moment." *Current History* 120(823):43–49.

Week 4: Democracy

1. Sep 11 (Mon) What Is Democracy and How Is It Built?

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 3
- (Recommended) Przeworski, A., & Limongi, F. 1997. "Modernization: Theories and Facts." *World Politics* 49(2):155–183.

- (Recommended) Boix, C., & Stokes, S. C. 2003. "Endogenous Democratization." *World Politics* 55(4):517–549.

2. Sep 13 (Wed) Democratic Breakdown and Authoritarian Resilience

- Gandhi, Jennifer. 2019. "The Institutional Roots of Democratic Backsliding." *Journal of Politics* 81(1):11–16.
- Cunningham, Edward, Tony Saich and Jesse Turiel. 2020. "[Understanding CCP Resilience: Surveying Chinese Public Opinion through Time.](#)" Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation. July 2020.

3. Sep 15 (Fri) Does Democracy Promote Economic Development?

- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A Robinson. 2001. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation." *American Economic Review* 91(5):1369–1401.
- Barro, Robert J. 1996. "Democracy and Growth." *Journal of Economic Growth* 1(1):127.

Week 5: Corruption

1. Sep 18 (Mon) The Challenge of Corruption

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 4

2. Sep 20 (Wed) Empirical Investigation

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- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 5

2. **Sep 27 (Wed) Wellness Day, No Class**

- Zhou, Hui and Ling Zhu. 2019. “‘Two Chinas’: Social Equity, Social Policies, and the Urban-rural Divide in China.” In Johansen Morgen (Eds). *Social Equity in the Asia-Pacific Region: Conceptualizations and Realities*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. Chapter 7, pp. 109–136.

Week 9: Revolutions and Military Politics

1. Oct 16 (Mon) Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 9

2. Oct 18 (Wed) The Political Role of the Armed Forces

- Handelman & Brynen (2019), Chapter 10

3. Oct 20 (Fri) Group Discussion (III): Pakistan

- Taylor, David. 2017. “Pakistan: Regime Change and Military Power.” In Peter Burnell, Vicky Randall and Lise Rakner (Eds). *Politics in the Developing World*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 19.

Week 10: Electoral Systems

1. Oct 23 (Mon) Types of Electoral Systems

- Gallagher, Michael and Paul Mitchell. “Introduction to Electoral Systems.” In Michael Gallagher and Paul Mitchell (Eds). *The Politics of Electoral Systems*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 1, pp. 3–23.
- Heath, Anthony, Siana Glouharova and Oliver Heath. “India: Two-Party Contests within a Multiparty System.” In Michael Gallagher and Paul Mitchell (Eds). *The Politics of Electoral Systems*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 7, pp. 137–156.

2. Oct 25 (Wed) Elections under Authoritarianism

- Gandhi, J., & Lust-Okar, E. 2009. “Elections under Authoritarianism.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 12:403–422.

3. Oct 27 (Fri) Fall Break, No Class

Week 11: State Capacity

1. Oct 30 (Mon) What Is State Capacity?

- Geddes, Barbara. 1994. “The State.” In *Politician’s Dilemma: Building State Capacity in Latin America*. University of California Press. Chapter 1, pp. 1–23.

- Cingolani, L. 2018. “The Role of State Capacity in Development Studies.” *Journal of Development Perspectives* 2(1–2):88–114.

- Hanson, J. K., & Sigman, R. 2021. “Leviathan’s Latent Dimensions: Measuring State Capacity for Comparative Political Research.” *The Journal of Politics* 83(4):1495–1510.

2. Nov 1 (Wed) Bureaucratic Competence

- Evans, P., & Rauch, J. E. 1999. “Bureaucracy and Growth: A Cross-National Analysis of the Effects of ‘Weberian’ State Structures on Economic Growth.” *American Sociological Review* 64(5):748–765.

- Cornell, A., Knutsen, C. H., & Teorell, J. 2020. “Bureaucracy and Growth.” *Comparative Political Studies* 53(14):2246–2282.

3. Nov 3 (Fri) Group Discussion (IV): The Case of Iraq

- Al-Ali, Nadjie and Nicola Pratt. 2017. “Iraq: A Failing State.” In Peter Burnell, Vicky Randall and Lise Rakner (Eds). *Politics in the Developing World*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 22.

Week 12: China’s Political Economy

1. Nov 6 (Mon) The Maoist Era

- Lieberthal, Kenneth. “The Maoist Era.” In *Governing China: From Revolution to Reform*. 2nd Edition. W. W. Norton. Chapter 4, pp. 84–122.

- Naughton, B. 2017. “Is China Socialist?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31(1):3–24.

2. Nov 8 (Wed) Economic Reform

- Lieberthal, Kenneth. “Economic Development.” In *Governing China: From Revolution to Reform*. 2nd Edition. W. W. Norton. Chapter 8, 245–272.

- Congressional Research Service. 2015. “[China as the World’s ‘Largest Economy.’](#)” *In Focus* 10110, Version 3, January 29 .

- Schnell, Mychael. 2023. “[House Unanimously Passes Bill to Work to Remove China’s ‘Developing Country’ Label.](#)” *The Hill*, March 27 .

3. Nov 10 (Fri) Explaining China’s Development

- Li, H., & Zhou, L. A. 2005. “Political Turnover and Economic Performance: The Incentive Role of Personnel Control in China.” *Journal of Public Economics*, 89(9–10):1743–1762.

- Huang, Yasheng. 2008. “Just How Capitalist is China?” In *Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: Entrepreneurship and the State*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1, pp. 1–45.

Week 13: China’s Political System

1. Nov 13 (Mon) A View from the Outside

- Lieberthal, Kenneth. “The Organization of Political Power and Its Consequences: The View from the Outside.” In *Governing China: From Revolution to Reform*. 2nd Edition. W. W. Norton. Chapter 6, pp. 171–205.

2. Nov 15 (Wed) A View from the Inside

- Lieberthal, Kenneth. “The Organization of Political Power and Its Consequences: The View from the Inside.” In *Governing China: From Revolution to Reform*. 2nd Edition. W. W. Norton. Chapter 7, pp. 206–242.
- Yang, Jiangchuang and Hui Zhou. forthcoming. “The Rhythm of Government: A Study of Attention in China’s Government Executive Meetings.” *China Review*.

3. Nov 17 (Fri) China’s Prospect of Democratization

- Rowen, Henry S. 1996. “The Short March: China’s Road to Democracy.” *The National Interest* 45:61–70.
- Liu, Yu and Dingding Chen. 2012. “Why China Will Democratize.” *The Washington Quarterly* 35(1):41–63.
- (Recommended) Pan, Philip. 2018. “[The Land That Failed to Fail.](#)” *New York Times*, November 18 .

Week 14: China’s Economic Data

1. Nov 20 (Mon) Data Credibility and Availability

- Wallace, Jeremy L. 2016. “Juking the Stats? Authoritarian Information Problems in China.” *British Journal of Political Science* 46(1):11–29.
- Chen, Wei, Xilu Chen, Chang-Tai Hsieh and Zheng (Michael) Song. 2019. “A Forensic Examination of China’s National Accounts.” *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Spring, 77–141.
- Ewe, Koh. 2023. “[Amid Rising Joblessness, China Stops Publishing Its Youth Unemployment Rate.](#)” *Time*, August 15.

