Political Culture and Public Opinion in Contemporary China

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<th>Course Code:</th>
<th>POLI170006</th>
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<td>Course Title:</td>
<td>Political Culture and Public Opinion in Contemporary China</td>
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<td>Credit:</td>
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Course Description
After the Reform and Opening Up, China has experienced tremendous transformation in both political and socioeconomic fields. During this process, ordinary citizens are becoming more and more important in the country’s political life. Political culture and public opinion research concerns about how ordinary citizens think about politics, government performance, and specific public policies. This course explores the nature and dynamics of the political culture and public opinion in contemporary China, it is divided into three major parts: theories of political culture and factors that affect public opinion; the rise of public opinion in contemporary China; and how public opinion affect political behavior and governmental policy in the end. Through this course, students are expected to gain a better understanding of political culture and public opinion in contemporary China.

Course Requirement
Course attendance is required. Please read the readings before the class and you are strongly encouraged to participate in the class discussion.

This course tolerates no plagiarism, any acts of plagiarism will be punished in accordance with the university’s policy.

Grading
Attendance and class participation: 20%
Reading presentation: 20%
The presentation should cover all the readings of a specific lecture. You are suggested
to summarize the content of the required readings first, and then present your comments, criticisms, and thoughts. Each presentation will have 15 minutes in maximum, followed by 5 minutes Q & A. The reading presentation is conducted within each lecture, it starts from Lecture 3.

Proposal presentation: 20%.
Each presentation will have 15 minutes in maximum, followed by 5 minutes Q & A. The proposal presentation is conducted at Lecture 9.

Final research proposal: 40%.
The proposal should be an empirical topic, and related to the issues introduced in this course.

Learning Resources
All the reading materials will be uploaded to the E-learning system (http://elearning.fudan.edu.cn/portal).


Survey Data: World Value Survey (www.worldvaluessurvey.org); Asian Barometer Survey (http://www.asianbarometer.org/), etc.,

Course Schedule

Lecture 1: Theories of Political Culture


Lecture 2: The Rise of Public Opinion in Contemporary China


Lecture 3: Attitudes towards Authority
Reading: Tianjian Shi. The Cultural Logic of Politics in Mainland China and Taiwan. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015, Chapter 2 “Cultural Norms East and West”.

Lecture 4: Political Trust
**Readings:** Lianjiang Li, “Political Trust in Rural China,” Modern China 30: 228-258, 2004.


**Lecture 5: Attitudes towards Democracy and Rule of Law**


**Lecture 6: Movie**

**Lecture 7: Attitudes towards Inequality and Distributive Justice**

**Reading:** Martin Whyte, Myth of the Social Volcano: Perceptions of Inequality and Distributive Injustice in Contemporary China, Stanford University Press, 2010.

**Lecture 8: Attitudes towards Foreign Countries**


**Lecture 9: Proposal Presentation**

**Lecture 10: Political Participation**


**Lecture 11: Government Response and Political Development**


**Lecture 12: Course Summary**