GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF TAIWAN MA COURSE

Syllabus 2008-2009

Thursday 3.00-5.00

Russell Square Campus: Room 273

Course Coordinator: Dr Dafydd Fell

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-3 and by appointment.

Office Room: 204

Email: df2@soas.ac.uk

Course Scope:

This course aims to examine the political processes that have shaped the Republic of China on Taiwan since 1949, with particular emphasis on the last two decades. In the first part of the course Taiwan’s transition from authoritarianism to multiparty democracy is examined. This is followed by units on electoral politics, party politics, external relations, social movements and identity politics. Students will be encouraged to compare and contrast the political transformation in Taiwan with those in other developing countries and mature democracies.

Course Schedule:

1. October 2: Introduction to Taiwanese Politics
2. October 9: Authoritarian Rule: The Politics of Martial Law Taiwan
3. October 16: Transition to Democracy and Democratic Consolidation
4. October 23: Electoral Politics & Voting Behaviour
5. October 30: Party Politics in Taiwan
6. November 6: Reading Week
7. November 13: Competing National identities
8. November 20: National identities, democracy and Taiwan’s external relations


10. December 4: Social Welfare System & Social Movements

11. December 11: Assessing Democratic Consolidation and Changes in Ruling Parties

12. Review Class Term 3 week 1

**Coursework:** 1 essay (c.3,500 words) to be submitted; to count toward final assessment. Essay due by Thursday 18th January 2009;

**Examination:** Students will be required to sit a two-hour written examination in the third term.

**Class Participation:** Class participation is not formally assessed, but students are expected to contribute to the class regularly and meaningfully. In each class one or two students will make a short presentation on the readings.

**Reading Requirement:**
Students should expect to read the equivalent of a book a week, and more when assigned presentations.

**Class Format:**
This will vary according to the lecturer. Usually there will be about 60-70 minutes of lecture, followed by student presentations and class discussion for the rest of the session.
Seminars, conferences and public lectures:
In addition, to the Taiwan politics studies class we will also arrange a series of seminars and public lectures, which students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Reading List for Government and Politics in Taiwan

(O) Readings available online
© Readings included in Politics of Modern Taiwan Collection

For an introduction to Taiwan’s Domestic Politics and External Relations students should look at the following books


Week 1 Introduction to Taiwanese Politics


Chapter 1

Week 2 Authoritarian Rule: The Politics of Martial Law Taiwan


Week 3 Transition to Democracy and Implications of democracy


Religion and democracy


**Policy implications of democratization**


(O) © Dafydd Fell, ‘Political and media liberalization and political corruption in Taiwan,’ The China Quarterly, No.184, 2005, pp. 875-93.


**Week 4 Electoral Politics & Voting Behaviour**


Dafydd Fell, *Party Politics in Taiwan: Chapter 3*

Shelley Rigger, *Politics in Taiwan: Voting for Democracy*. Ch 2 and 7


**Week 5 Party Politics in Taiwan**


(O)Dafydd Fell, ‘Measuring and Explaining Party Change in Taiwan,’ *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 5, 1, 2005, pp.105-133

(O)Hans Stockton, ‘Political Parties, Party Systems, and Democracy in East Asia,’ *Comparative Political Studies*, 34, 1, 2001, pp.94-120.


**Single Party Studies**


**Week 6 Reading Week**
Week 7 Competing National identities


Schubert, Gunter, “Taiwan’s Evolving National Identity since the DPP Takeover,” in Presidential Politics in Taiwan

Measuring National Identities


**Symbolic Dimensions of National Identity**


Week 8: National identities, democracy and Taiwan’s external relations


Dennis Hickey, Foreign Policy Making in Taiwan, Chapters 1 & 7

Chen Jie, “Civil Society, Grassroots aspirations and diplomatic isolation,” in Edward Friedman ed. *China’s Rise, Taiwan’s Dilemmas and International Peace*, 130-146.

Swaine, Michael, “Managing Relations with the United States,” in *Presidential Politics in Taiwan*

Yang Phillip, “Cross Strait Relations under the First Chen Shui-bian Administration,” in *Presidential Politics in Taiwan*

Week 9 Inner Party Democracy & Local and Factional Politics


**Local and Factional Politics**


© Chia-hung, Tsai, ‘Policy Making, Local Factions and Candidate Coordination in SNTV: A Case Study of Taiwan,’ Party Politics, 11, 1, 2005, pp.59-77.


Week 10 Social Welfare and Social Movements


Joseph Wong, Healthy Democracies: Welfare Politics in Taiwan and South Korea


**Week 11 Assessing Democratic Consolidation and Changes in Ruling Parties**


Dafydd Fell, Henning Kloeter and Chang Bi-yu (eds.), *What has changed? Taiwan Before and After the Change in Ruling Parties*, (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2006).


(access via www.tfd.org.tw)

(O) © Nai-teh Wu. ‘Transition without Justice or Justice without History,’ *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, 1, 1, 2005, pp.77-102.

(access via www.tfd.org.tw)