



Taiwan's Political Development

Ching-Hsin Yu (游清鑫), Ph. D. in Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University, U. S. A.

Research Fellow/Election Study Center and Graduate Institute of Development Studies, National Chengchi University (NCCU)

Research Expertise: Democratic Transition (Taiwan); Electoral Systems and Electoral Behavior; Political Party and Party System; Public Opinion

Teaching Fields: Elections and Public Opinion in Taiwan; Taiwan's Political Development

Course Date & Time

July 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28

13:10 – 16:00

Course Objectives

This course will provide students an overview of Taiwan's political development. Specifically, the evolving process of political changes and coming challenges will be discussed. It is expected that students will learn the story of how Taiwan strives for democracy since the Second World War.

Course Description

This lecture/discussion course will introduce a general knowledge of Taiwan's political changes since 1949. Main concerns will focus on how Taiwan transforms herself from an authoritarian regime to a democratic one and deals with the upcoming internal and external political challenges at present time.

Course Outline and Reading

July 19: Where Is Taiwan Politically? Backgrounds of Taiwan's Political Development

- Studies of Taiwan's Political Development
- Taiwan's Politics in the early 1950s
- Initial Contacts between the Locals and the New Comers

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 1.

July 20: What Happen in Early Period? The Consolidation of an Authoritarian Regime in Taiwan

- Nature of Authoritarianism in Taiwan
- Measures and Impacts of Authoritarianism
- Constitutional Complexities

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 2.

July 21: Where Does Change Occur? Election-Driven Political Transition

- Rule of the Game
- Evolving Electoral Politics
- Electoral Competition after 2000

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 5.

July 26: Who Are Agents of Change? Parties and Party System

- The Kuomintang (the KMT): Ideologies and Performance
- The Democratic Progress Party (the DPP): Ideologies and Performance
- Party Alliances and Minor Parties

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 6.

July 27: What Makes Taiwan's Politics Unique? Core Issues

- Identity Issue
- Unification vs. Independence Issue
- New Issues after 2000

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 8.

July 28: Where Are We Going? Moving toward a Mature Democracy

- Referendum in Taiwan
- Citizen's Democratic Values
- Issues to be Concerned

Reading: @Fell (2018), Chapter 11, 14.

Course requirements/ Grading Standards

- Class Participation, 40% (Attendance, 10%; Discussion, 30%)
- Two Short Essays, 60% (3 pages for each essay and plagiarism will not be accepted)

Reading / Reference Materials

@Fell, Dafydd, 2018 (Second Edition). (Electronic)

Government and Politics in Taiwan. London: Routledge.

Chu, Yun-han, 1992 (Library Reference)

Crafting Democracy in Taiwan. Taipei, Taiwan: Institute for National Policy Research.

Rigger, Dittmer, Lowell, ed., 2017 (Library Reference)

Taiwan and China. Oakland, California: University of California Press.

Rigger, Shelly, 2011 (Library Reference)

Why Taiwan Matters: Small Island, Global Powerhouse. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield.

Schubert, Gunter, ed., 2016. (Library Reference)

Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Taiwan. NY: Routledge.

Tsang, Steve, ed., 2012 (Library Reference) (electronic resource in Library)

The Vitality of Taiwan: Politics, Economics, Society and Culture. Palgrave Macmillan.