

Course Title : Government and Politics of Hong Kong
Course Code : POL214
No. of Credits/Term : 3 credits/1st term (2009/2010)
Mode of tuition : Lecture plus tutorial
Class Contact Hours : 2 hour lecture, 1 hour tutorial

Brief Course Description: The course introduces to students basic political institutions and the evolving political system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). This course will also explore the behavioural and cultural aspects of Hong Kong politics, such as the changing political culture and pattern of political participation, and the problems that the HKSAR government encounters. The fundamentals of the Basic Law and its impacts on the political life of the HKSAR will be examined.

Aims: It aims to provide students with: 1) a fundamental comprehension of the operation and the dynamic evolution of the political system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; and 2) an understanding of the uniqueness and issues of the governance of Hong Kong.

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to understand the functioning and power distribution of the Hong Kong SAR government; the constitutional arrangement of the political system and various governance issues facing Hong Kong SAR.

Schedule & Readings

Chapter 1

Introduction: Hong Kong in Historical Perspective

- a. Birth of the British colony
- b. The creation of a minimal state
- c. China's repossession of Hong Kong

黃文放, 《中國對香港恢復行使主權的決策歷程與執行》

Cottrell, *The End of Hong Kong*

Endacott, *Government and People in Hong Kong, 1841-1962*

Miners, *The Government and Politics of Hong Kong*, chaps. 1-4 & 16-17

Scott, *Political Change and the Crisis of Legitimacy in Hong Kong*, chap. 2

Wesley-Smith, *Unequal Treaty 1898-1997*

Chapter 2

Political System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

- a. The Basic Law – the framework of post-1997 governance
- b. Local administration and its developments
- c. Accountability System for Principal Officials
- d. “Executive-led” government?

Cheung, Chor-yung. 2003, “The Quest for Good Governance: Hong Kong’s Principal Officials Accountability System.” *China: An International Journal* 1 (2): 249-272.

- Constitutional Affairs Bureau, HKSAR. 2002. Accountability System for Principal Officials. (<http://www.info.gov.hk/cab/topical/index6.htm>)
- Lam et al, eds., *Contemporary Hong Kong Politics*, chaps. 1-6
- Li, Pang-kwong. 2001. "The Executive-Legislature Relationship in Hong Kong: Evolution and Development." In Cheng, *Political Development in the HKSAR*, pp. 85-100.
- Miners, *The Government and Politics of Hong Kong*, chaps. 5-12
- Scott, *Political Change and the Crisis of Legitimacy in Hong Kong*, chaps. 4 & 7

Chapter 3

Power and Policy-making Process

- a. The nature of the Hong Kong state
- b. Changing role of the senior bureaucrats
- c. "One country, two systems": Hong Kong and Beijing relations

- King, Ambrose Y.C. 1975. "The Administrative Absorption of Politics in Hong Kong: Emphasis on the Grass Roots Level." *Asia Survey* 15:422-39.
- Lau, *Society and Politics in Hong Kong*, chaps. 2 & 6
- Lo Shiu-hing Sonny, *The Dynamics of Beijing-Hong Kong Relations*
- Wong Yiu-chung, *'One Country, Two Systems' in Crisis*.
- , 2006. "'Super Paradox' or 'Leninist Integration': The Politics of Legislating Article 23 of Hong Kong's Basic Law." *Asian perspective* 30 (2):65-95.

Chapter 4

Political Reforms in Hong Kong

- a. The Young Plan
- b. The City District Officer Scheme
- c. The development of representative government
- d. Patten Proposals
- e. Post-1997 reform initiatives

- Scott, *Political Change and the Crisis of Legitimacy in Hong Kong*, chaps. 3-4 & 6
- Tsang, *Democracy Shelved*

Chapter 5

Political Participation and Party Politics in Hong Kong

- a. Sources of political stability
- b. Consensus politics and consultative system
- c. Emergence of interest group politics
- d. Extension of franchise and electoral politics
- e. The development of party politics

- Cheung, Anthony B. L. and Paul C. W. Wong. 2004. "Who Advised the Hong Kong Government? The Politics of Adsorption before and after 1997." *Asian Survey* 44 (6): 874-94.
- Lam, *Understanding the Political Culture of Hong Kong*
- Lam et al, eds., *Contemporary Hong Kong Politics*, chaps. 7-9
- Lau, *Society and Politics in Hong Kong*, chaps. 3-6
- Ma, *Political Development in Hong Kong*
- Ma, Ngok and Choy Chi-keung. "The Evolution of the Electoral System and Party Politics in Hong Kong." *Issue and Studies* 35, 1: 167-94; also reprinted in Sing, *Hong Kong Government and Politics*, pp. 283-309.
- Miners, *The Government and Politics of Hong Kong*, chaps. 13-15
- So, *Hong Kong's Embattled Democracy: A Societal Analysis*

Chapter 6

The Post-1997 Political Changes

- a. “One Country, Two Systems” in practice
- b. Governance crisis and Civil Society
- c. Democratization

Ma, Ngok. *Political Development in Hong Kong*.

Lau, Siu-kai, *The First Tung Chee-hwa Administration: The First Five Years of the HKSAR*

Li Pang-kwong, *Hong Kong from Britain to China*, chap. 3.

Sing, *Hong Kong's Tortuous Democratization*

So, Alvin Y. 2000. Hong Kong's Problematic Democratic Transition: Power Dependency or Business Hegemony?" *Journal of Asian Studies* 59 (2): 359-81; also reprinted in Sing, *Hong Kong Government and Politics*, pp.466-99.

Wong, “One Country, Two Systems” in Crisis

References

馬嶽、蔡子強，2003年。《選舉制度的政治效果：港式比例代表制的經驗》。香港：香港城市大學出版社。

黃文放，1997年。《中國對香港恢復行使主權的決策歷程與執行》。香港：香港浸會大學林思齊東西學術交流研究所。

Cheek-Milby, Kathleen and Miron Mushkat, eds. 1989. *Hong Kong: the Challenge of Transformation*. Hong Kong: Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong.

Cheng, Joseph Y.S., ed. 1999. *Political Participation in Hong Kong: Theoretical Issues and Historical Legacy*. Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press.

Cheng, Joseph Y.S., ed. 2001. *Political Development in the HKSAR*. Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong.

Cottrell, Robert. 1993. *The End of Hong Kong: The Secret Diplomacy of Imperial Retreat*. London: John Murray.

Endacott, G.B. 1964. *Government and People in Hong Kong, 1841-1962: A Constitutional History*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Harris, Peter. 1988. *Hong Kong: A Study in Bureaucracy and Politics*. Hong Kong: MacMillan.

Lam, Wai-man. 2004. *Understanding the Political Culture of Hong Kong: The Paradox of Activism and Depoliticization*. Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe.

Lam, Wai-man, Percy Luen-tim Lui, Wilson Wong and Ian Holliday, eds. 2007. *Contemporary Hong Kong Politics: Governance in the Post-1997 Era*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Lau, Siu-kai. 1982. *Society and Politics in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press.

Lau, Siu-kai, ed. 2002. *The First Tung Chee-hwa Administration: The First Five Years of the HKSAR*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press.

Lethbridge, H.J. 1978. *Hong Kong: Stability and Change*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Leung, Benjamin K. P., ed. 1990. *Social Issues in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Li, Pang-kwong. 2000. *Hong Kong from Britain to China: Political Cleavages, Electoral Dynamics and Institutional Changes*. Aldershot & Brookfield: Ashgate.

Li, Pang-kwong, ed. 1997. *Political Order and Power Transition in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press.

Lo, Shiu-hing. 1997. *The Politics of Democratization in Hong Kong*. Hampshire: Macmillan.

-----, 2007. *The Dynamics of Beijing and Hong Kong Relations*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press

Ma, Ngok. 2007. *Political Development in Hong Kong: State, Political Society, and Civil Society*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Miners, Norman J. 1998. *The Government and Politics of Hong Kong*. 5th ed., with post-handover update by James T.H. Tang. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

The Other Hong Kong Reports, various issues.

Scott, Ian. 1989. *Political Change and the Crisis of Legitimacy in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Sing, Ming, ed. 2003. *Hong Kong Government and Politics*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Sing, Ming. 2004. *Hong Kong's Tortuous Democratization: A Comparative Analysis*. London & New York : RoutledgeCurzon.

So, Alvin Y., 1999. *Hong Kong's Embattled Democracy: A Societal Analysis*. Baltimore & London: Johns Hopkins University Press.

The Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

Tsang, Steve Yui-sang. 1988. *Democracy Shelved: Great Britain, China, and Attempts at Constitutional Reform*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Tsang, Steve. 2004. *A Modern History of Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Wesley-Smith, Peter. 1980. *Unequal Treaty 1898-1997: China, Great Britain and Hong Kong's New Territories*. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

Wong, Yiu-chung, ed. 2004. *"One Country, Two Systems" in Crisis: Hong Kong's Transformation since the Handover*. Lanham: Lexington.

The penalty for the late submission of term papers

- A) Late submission within five working days of the due date. One grade will be deducted, e.g. B grade will become B-, etc.
- B) Late submission beyond five working days will receive "F" grade for the work.

The Issue of Plagiarism

Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes: Tutorial presentation, discussion, term papers and final examination

Assessment Components: Continuous Assessment 40% ; Examination 60%

Last Week Examination

The examination will be held at the last week of lecture, i.e. 3rd December 2009.