Hong Kong Baptist University – Second Semester 2020-2021

# SOCI 4015 – East Asia: Economic Miracles and Social Change


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| Professor Yin-wah Chu | Office: AAB 1056; Email: ywchu@hkbu.edu.hk; Tel: 3411-5942 |
| Lecture and discussion | Thursday 8:30 a.m.-11:20a.m. (HKT) |
| Mode of delivery | Mixed mode: face-to-face and Zoom (with cloud recording) |
| Consultation hours | TBA; also, by appointment (via Zoom) |


## TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

(An extended course syllabus with required readings will be provided in January 2021)

### 1. THE MAKING OF THE ASIAN ECONOMIC MIRACLES

- Economic miracles?

- Theoretical approaches: world economy, developmental state, culture/institutions
- Case studies: South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore – their past and present
- The case of China?

### 2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL CHANGE

- Working women: opportunity or renewed exploitation?
- Class formation: working and middle classes

- The Changing Asian families:

### 3. DEMOCRATIZATION AND RESILIENCE OF AUTHORITARIANISM

- Authoritarian domination and democratic transition
- Theoretical approaches: modernization, structural transformation, and political contingency
- Resilience of authoritarianism
- Ethnic and sub-ethnic conflicts: past and present

### 4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Modernity: one or many?

## Assessment Methods

1. **INDIVIDUAL worksheets**: students will engage in group discussion and submit their worksheets by 6 p.m. (HKT) on the day of the discussion. Eight worksheets will be uploaded to Moodle at least one week ahead. Students have to submit a total of **FOUR** worksheets. (They may choose to submit more than four and have the four with the highest grades to be counted). (30% altogether; 7.5% for each worksheet)
2. **INDIVIDUAL project**: students are required to undertake a small-scale research and present their findings in the form of a ***PPT file with 20-30 slides*** (required) and, if they want, 600 words maximum of notes in the PPT. They also need to do a ***video presentation of 10-15 minutes*** and include it as a URL link shown on the PPT file, both of which are to be submitted on or before 11:59 pm (HKT), 22 April 2021 (Thursday). (35%)
3. **INDIVIDUAL term essay**: students are required to write an ***essay of about 2,500 words*** in English to be submitted on or before 11:59 pm (HKT), 13 May 2021 (Thursday). (35%)

## Reading Materials

All required readings will be uploaded to Moodle.

## Lecture/Tutorial Plan

| | | LECTURE | LECTURE/ACTIVITY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1) | Jan 14 | Introduction | Introduction |
| 2) | Jan 21 | World System | Briefing class activity |
| 3) | Jan 28 | Developmental State – theory & the past | World system |
| 4) | Feb 4 | Developmental State – the present | Devt State – theory |
| 5) | Feb 11 | Chinese New Year | Chinese New Year |
| 6) | Feb 18 | Culture & Institutions – *guanxi* | Devt State – cool Japan & K-wave |
| 7) | Feb 25 | Culture & Institutions – bribery | Project & term essay briefing |
| 8) | Mar 4 | Women workers | Culture & Institutions – guanxi |
| 9) | Mar 11 | The middle class | Culture & Institutions – bribery |
| 10) | Mar 18 | Changing families | Women workers |
| 11) | Mar 25 | Changing families: low fertility | Changing families: low fertility |
| 12) | Apr 1 | Democratization | Political identity and democracy |
| 13) | Apr 8 | Easter Break | Easter Break |
| 14) | Apr 15 | Political identity and democracy | Project & term essay consultation |
| 15) | Apr 22 | Conclusion | |

Yin-wah Chu (6 November 2020)