

SOC356 Sociology of China
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Fall 2017
Monday, September 4 to Friday, December 15, 2017

Online

Instructor: Lin Liu
Office Hours: By Appointment
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Introduction:

Welcome to SOC 356 Sociology of China. This is a 15-week long online course, which runs from September 4th to December 15th in 2017.

The course will focus on the market reform era from Deng Xiaoping’s governance. In post-Mao era, China has changed from a centralized socialist economy to a global market economy. China has undergone a fundamental socio-economic transformation. This course reviews social changes and movements in China after 1978. Over more than half of a century of development, China has experimented with multiple strategies with different results. The course will provide students with a review and analysis of the social, political, cultural and economic development in contemporary China.

Course Goals:

The analytic approach used in this class is mainly sociological. The main course goal is to help students to gain a good understanding of the social changes in contemporary China. Upon successful completion of the course:

1. Student will achieve a better understanding of the conditions and problems in contemporary China’s society.
2. Students will be able to compare the different views and positions on social and political issues in contemporary China.
3. Students will be able to critically think about the social changes and movements in China after 1978.
4. Student will improve writing skills to express the knowledge learned.

Required Texts:

Tamara Jacka. (2013). *Contemporary China: Society and Social Change*. Cambridge University Press.

Grading:

Your grade for the course will be based on the following:

		Points	Percentage
Weekly Online Discussion		225 pts (25 pts *9)	45%
Assignments		150 pts (50 pts *3)	30%
Term Paper	Topic	20 pts	25%
	Final paper	100 pts	
Extra Credits		25	5%
Total points available		520	105%

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is not directly calculated toward your overall grade as this is an online course.

Participation Policy:

Your participation will decide your final grade. Online course gives students flexibility to manage their own schedule. Please avoid missing a discussion, assignment, or an exam. All of these are only available for certain period of time.

Late Submission/Make-up Exam Policy:

If you are unable to or late in submitting an assignment, or paper, contact me as soon as you can before the assignment/paper/exam due date (email is the quickest way to reach me).

Requirements:

Weekly Discussion (participation in Laulima forum discussion, 9 total = 225pts = **45%**):

- There are 9 Discussion Questions (DQs) altogether in this course, one for each week of the course starting from the 2nd week, **EXCEPT** during the weeks when there are other assignments. Each DQ is worth 25 points. Since we are not meeting face to face in class, the discussion forum is our main mode of Interactions in this course. Each week, I will post discussion questions pertaining to the chapter readings for the week. **Every student is then required to post their original response to the discussion forum by Friday midnight, HST, and reply to ONE other classmate' response by Sunday, 11:59 PM HST.** The reason for answering discussion questions by Friday midnight is that all students in our class should be given an opportunity to express themselves and then have some time to go over other responses and comment on those.
- The weekly discussion questions will be posted under “forum” on Laulima. First you need to construct an original post addressing the questions by clicking “Start a New Conversation.” The original post is recommended to be around 200–300 words long. Later in the week, you will need to construct two response posts to comment on another two students’ original posts by clicking “Reply to Initial Message.” The reply to classmates’ responses is recommended to be a minimum one paragraph. Your answer should not be merely opinion, but based on your understanding of the textbook reading. Use citations and references as evidence to back up your claims as needed.

- Make sure that your comments contribute to the class discussion. (You can use Private Mail for your personal conversations/social chat with classmates). Your comment or response to your classmates will be evaluated based on the quality of arguments used in it. "I agree", "Cool stuff!" remarks are not considered adequate contribution to the discussion and will not be graded. You can certainly cheer your classmates but do not expect to receive any points for participation based solely on those "Way to go!" type postings. When you post messages online, follow the basic principles of netiquette -rules for communication online. (The Core Rules of Netiquette are located on the web site <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>)

Assignments (3 total = 150pts = 30%):

- There will be three homework assignments throughout the semester. Each assignment is 50 points. All three assignments are worth 27% of your total grade.

Term Paper (120pts = 25%):

- Identify a current topic or issue and develop a research question(s) (**due week 7**). You need to write a paragraph to address your topic. Instructor will provide feedback for the topic by the end of week 9. The topic submission is 20 points.
- The paper shall address a question raised by the textbook, weekly discussions, or documentary posted on Laulima.
- Complete a term paper around **6** pages long, double spaced (**due week 15**). The term paper is 100 points.

Extra credits: There will be extra credit opportunities announced by the instructor online. Each student can earn **up to** extra 5 points (5%) for their final grade.

Grading Policy:

Letter Grade	Point Value	Percentage Reference
A	460 and above	93% and above
A-	456 - 459	90- 92.9%
B+	431 - 455	87- 89.9%
B	411 - 430	83- 86.9%
B-	396 - 410	80- 82.9%
C+	381 - 395	77- 79.9%
C	361 - 380	73- 76.9%
C-	347 - 360	70- 72.9%
D+	332 - 346	67-69.9%
D	297 - 331	60- 66.9%
F	Less than 296	less than 60%

Writing Assistance:

The Writing Center is located at Kuykendall Hall 415. The Writing Center offers free assistance from experienced writers to all UHM students, faculty, and staff with all types of writing. Schedule an appointment with a writing consultant. Students are highly encouraged to make full use of this resource for their writing assignments.

Online Writing Assistance:

UH Manoa Online Learning Academy (OLA) provides writing services online. You can schedule

appointments in 1-hour time slots to work one-on-one with a tutor online at <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/ola/subjects/writing.php>.

Class Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment and assessments due	To read
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction - History of China - Contemporary China Overview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-introduction by adding your bio to the class introduction • No DQ 	- Read posted materials on Laulima under Week One Lesson
2	- Families, kinship and relatedness	• DQ 1 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm	- Chapter 1
3	- Marriage, intimacy, sex	• DQ 2 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm	- Chapter 2
4	- Citizenship, household registration and migration	• DQ 3 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm	- Chapter 3
5	- Community institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 1 due Sunday night 11:59pm • No DQ 	- Chapter 4
6	- Work	• DQ 4 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm	- Chapter 5
7	• Religion, ritual and religiosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Research topic due Sunday night 11:59pm</u> • No DQ 	- Chapter 6

8	- Ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DQ 5 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm 	- Chapter 7
9	- Education and the cultivation of citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DQ 6 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm 	- Chapter 8
10	- Modernity, youth identities and popular culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 2 due Sunday night 11:59pm • No DQ 	- Chapter 9
11	- Class and stratification	- DQ 7 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm	- Chapter 10
12	- Regional, rural/urban and within-community inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DQ 8 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm 	- Chapter 11
13	- The 'women question' and gender inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DQ 9 posts due Friday and Sunday nights by 11:59pm 	- Chapter 12
14	- Collective action and social change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 3 due Sunday night 11:59pm 	- Chapter 13
15	- <u>Final paper</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Final term paper due Friday night 11:59pm</u> 	

Academic Honesty:

Acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty.
- b. Furnishing false information to any UH official, faculty member, or office.
- c. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any UH document, record, or form of identification.

The term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the UH faculty, staff or student (4) engaging in any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion.

The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

[UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEMWIDE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE]

KŌKUA Program:

The KŌKUA Program helps students with any disability-related academic needs. If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please (1) contact the KŌKUA Program at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in room 013 of the QLCSS; (2) speak with the instructor privately to discuss your specific needs. We will be happy to work with you and the KŌKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your documented disability.