HONG KONG GOVERNANCE IN THE SHADOW OF CHINA

Dr. Kenneth CHAN

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Objectives:

This subject enables students to
1) become acquainted with the political institutions and political development of Hong Kong;
2) understand the dynamics of political and social change from a colonial system to a Special Administrative Region of China after 1997;
3) study the concept, practice and perplexities of “One Country, Two Systems”;
4) be familiar with the controversies over the Basic Law; and
5) critically evaluate the major theoretical debates about the continuity and change of the political system of Hong Kong.

Contents

The British Rule and the “Hong Kong Model”

- Interpreting the British colonial legacy: continuities and changes
- The role of Hong Kong in China's political and economic development
- Hong Kong as an Administrative State: “administrative absorption of politics”
- Political culture of Hong Kong and the government's ideology of “minimum interference”

The 1997 Question: Negotiating over the Future of Hong Kong

- “One Country, Two Systems”
- Sino-British Agreement on the future of Hong Kong (September 1984)
- Decolonization without Democratization
Trilateral relationship during the transition period and the drafting of the Basic Law

- Decision-making process for constitutional changes: Drafting of the Basic Law
- China-Hong Kong relations and the repercussions of the 1989 Democracy Movement
- Promises of the Basic Law

The Executive Organs

- Strives for legitimacy from the Governor to the Chief Executive
- Methods of choosing the Chief Executive
- The Executive Council
- The Principal Officials Accountability System and the Civil Service
- Overseeing the administration

The Legislative Council

- Origins, structure, composition and the introduction of elections
- Process of legislation
- Powers and Functions
- How to Become Lawmakers
- Constitutional constraints since 1997
- Semi-authoritarian elections

Development of political cleavages and party politics from early 1990s until now

- Emergence of political parties for the future of Hong Kong
- Party politics: limits, problems and prospects
- Rise of “radical democrats” since 2010
- Significance and implications of the 2014 “Umbrella Movement”
- The rise of localism and the politics of identity

Public Opinion and Political Participation

- Shaping public opinion in politics and policy-making
- Uses and abuses of opinion polls and public consultations
• Political participation: the civil society, pressure groups and interest groups
• Social media and political mobilization

**Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region**

• Who Governs?
• Failed democratization and political decay
• Hong Kong and the Mainland: Integration versus separation
• Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the HKSAR
• International status of Hong Kong
• Hong Kong beyond 2047

**Mode of Tuition**

Lectures, Class Discussion

**Assessment**

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**General Readings for Beginners:**

*The Basic Law of Hong Kong*
Hong Kong in Figures – *Key Statistics - Numbers and Figures*
Hong Kong Civic Hub, *China’s Sharp Power in Hong Kong*, September 2018.

**Internet Sources:**

Official: China and Hong Kong

External and Local Perceptions
https://ourworldindata.org/
https://freedomhouse.org/
http://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index
https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/human-freedom-index-2018
https://www.henleypasswordindex.com/
http://www.doingbusiness.org/en/rankings
https://www.hongkongwatch.org/
https://www.hkupop.hku.hk/english/
http://www.hkiaps.cuhk.edu.hk/eng/default.asp
http://pathofdemocracy.hk/
https://hkcivilhub.com/

News and Media
http://www.hkj.org.hk/site/portal/Site.aspx
http://rthk.hk/index_eng.htm
http://www.scmp.com/frontpage/hk
http://www.thestandard.com.hk/
http://hk.apple.nextmedia.com/
http://news.mingpao.com/
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http://orientaldaily.on.cc/
http://www.hket.com/eti/
Recommend Readings Selected From:

Books in English

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Cheng J. Y. S. ed. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in its First Decade, Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press, 2007.
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Lau, S. K. The First Five Years of Tung Chee-hwa Administration: the First Five Years of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, 2002.
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Scott, I. Political Change and the Crisis of Legitimacy in Hong Kong. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press, 1989.
Segal, G. The Fate of Hong Kong. New York: St Martin’s Press, 1993.
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Young, S. N. M. and R. Cullen Electing Hong Kong’s Chief Executive. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2010.

Books in Chinese (Optional)

金耀基編, 香港的發展經驗，香港中文大學出版社，1985
鄭宇碩編，香港政制及政治，香港天地圖書，1987
史深良，香港政制縱橫談，香港三聯書店，1988
劉兆佳，香港政制改革與政治發展，香港廣角鏡出版社，1988
蔡子強，香港選舉制度透視，明報出版社，1998
黃炳坤編，“一國兩制”法律問題面面觀，香港三聯，1989
鄭宇碩編，過渡期的香港，香港三聯書店，1989
李昌道、龔曉航，基本法透視，香港中華書局，1990
文思成，香港政府與施政架構，香港三聯書局，1990
蕭蔚雲編，一國兩制與香港特別行政區基本法，香港文化教育出版社有限公司，1990
王叔文編，香港特別行政區基本法導論，北京中共中央黨校出版社，1990
張結鳳等，不變、五十年？中英港角力基本法，香港浪潮出版社，1991
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鄭宇碩、雷競旋，香港政治與選舉，香港牛津大學出版社，1995
黃文放，中國對香港恢復行使主權的決策歷程和執行，香港浸會大學，1997
郭錫嘏，港澳問題研究論文集，台灣：法務部調查局，1999
葉健民編，再造香港，進一步，2000
張家偉，香港六七暴動內情，香港太平洋世紀出版社，2000
劉兆佳，香港廿一世紀藍圖，香港中文大學出版社，2000
馮應謙、陳浩文編，特區‘政策’倫理，香港：麥穗，2001
盧兆興等，董建華政府的管治和危機，香港明報出版社，2002
羅永祥、陳志輝，香港特別行政區施政架構，香港三聯書店，2002
呂大樂，王志銘，香港中產階級處境觀察，三聯書店，2003
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強世功，中國香港：文化與政治的視野，牛津大學出版社，2008
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潘小濤，國情：維穩壓倒一切，圓桌文化，2012
薛鳳旋，香港發展報告（2012），北京：社會科學文獻出版社，2012
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王慧麟、陳雲編，九評政府黨，次文化堂，2012
蘇鑰機編，首選選戰、傳媒、民意，天地出版社，2012
馬嶽編著，香港 80 年代民主運動口述歷史，香港城市大學出版社，2012
馬嶽，港式法團主義：功能界別 25 年，香港城市大學出版社，2013
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馬嶽編著，民主十問，香港城市大學出版社，2016
羅金義編，回歸 20 年香港精神的變易，香港城市大學出版社，2017
周永生，香港人的身份認同和價值觀，中華書局，2016
劉兆佳，回歸後香港的獨特政治形態：一個自由威權政體的特殊個案，商務印書館，2017
劉兆佳，香港社會的政制改革，商務印書館，2017
劉兆佳，香港社會的民主與管治，商務印書館，2017
劉兆佳，香港人的政治心態，商務印書館，2017
鄭煒、袁瑋編，社運年代：香港抗爭政治的軌跡，香港中文大學出版社，2017
How to prepare your essay  
Length: 4 pages (15000 characters)  
Deadline: TBC

1. Familiarize yourself with the main topics of the Course, choose a topic of interest and define your research topic specifically.  
   For example: “Neither Free nor Fair: Explaining Elections in Hong Kong”

2. Systematic and in-depth reading of the suggested materials.  
   For example: Read books / academic articles on Democratization, Elections etc. in the political science literature and relevant studies on Hong Kong

3. Formulate your research questions clearly. Research papers should be analytical rather than descriptive → from knowing to understanding.  
   For example: In what ways and to what extent can elections in Hong Kong be seen as democratic? Why? What theories and concepts can one employ to make sense of this situation?

4. To demonstrate your good understanding of the chosen topic, you should be able to explain and make critical comments on the issues at hand.  
   ◆ A straightforward introduction, with clear definition of concepts and term. Appropriate application of theories and historical knowledge about Hong Kong and/or through comparative study.  
   ◆ Always support your arguments with evidence.  
   ◆ Express your critical remarks on rational grounds, as reasoned opinions.  
   ◆ Point out and explain limitations, if any.  
   ◆ A solid conclusion to wrap up the research paper.  
   ◆ Strong and relevant references in bibliography.

No plagiarism.