

## POSCI 348: Topics in Chinese Art, Culture, and Politics

Spring 2011

Office: Comenius 104

Office Ph.: 610-861-1418

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 11:30 am-1 pm and other times by appointment.

Professor Lisa Fischler

Email: [fischler@moravian.edu](mailto:fischler@moravian.edu)

Class: W, F 4b (11:45 am-12:55 pm) PPHAC 103

### Course Description

This course offers a thematic approach to Chinese politics and cultural movements. Using scholarly articles, literature, journalistic accounts, films, and other materials, the course addresses particular topics each term, including political culture and pop culture, politics and the cinema, art and politics, culture and politics, politics and literature, and symbolic politics and social movements in China over the last century. This semester's theme is one of "global cities," a concept that encompasses governments' efforts to redesign and, in effect, reshape specific cities and citizens within their purview to better face the opportunities and challenges of globalization. The particular focus for this term is the topic of post-1997 Hong Kong—now a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. Comparative perspectives will be offered on Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore, New York, and other "global cities" that are being remolded by global political, socio-economic, art, and cultural currents of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The course is **writing-intensive** and fulfills the **M6** LinC requirement.

### Goals and Objectives

- ❖ Comprehend sufficient information about Chinese culture, recent history, and alternative political and artistic perspectives to critically analyze--orally, visually, and in writing--the relationship between art and politics in contemporary China
- ❖ Apply concepts and approaches, both theoretical and empirical, to policy analysis of China's plans and methods for facing globalization
- ❖ Utilize comparative perspectives to evaluate the impact of global political, socio-economic, and cultural developments on contemporary China's art and politics as representative of non-American and non-European case studies
- ❖ Enhance oral and written communication skills
- ❖ Improve abilities to evaluate and use power point as an effective presentation tool

### Required Texts

The following required texts are available at the bookstore:

- ◆ Chiu, Stephen and Tai-Lok Lui. *Hong Kong: Becoming a Chinese Global City*. NY: Routledge, 2009.
- ◆ Carroll, John. *A Concise History of Hong Kong*. NY: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007.
- ◆ Ng, Janet. *Paradigm City: Space, Culture, and Capitalism in Hong Kong*. NY: SUNY Press, 2010.
- ◆ Reserve readings (at Reeves Library) from *The Global Cities Reader* and *Remaking Citizenship in Hong Kong*.

### Course Grades, Policies, and Responsibilities

1. Participation--will include aspects of the course such as attendance, promptness, in-class participation, preparation, effort, and involvement in and contributions to the class. This portion of the grade is worth 100 points. For assigned readings, you will be expected to read carefully, take notes, list questions, and come prepared to discuss (both verbally and in writing) in the session they are due. You can plan to spend two-three hours outside of class preparing for every hour spent in class. For class, participation includes active involvement in interactive lectures, substantive contributions to discussions, and engagement with

in-class activities. Effort counts heavily. Attempting to answer a question, asking a question, or voicing an opinion and supporting it are all part of participation. I will evaluate your participation highly if you: a) attend class regularly and are there for the full class period; b) critically discuss the videos, materials, and readings I make available; c) raise relevant questions and offer thoughtful comments; d) demonstrate you understand the material by your full involvement during in-class activities; e) engage effectively in peer-review sessions in class. Every class session is counted toward your final participation grade. If you do not participate actively in each class, or are not there, your final participation grade will decrease because I cannot grade you when you do not participate.

-You are expected to attend all classes. **Please be aware that absences are not divided into excused and unexcused. Regardless of the reason, an absence from class will be counted as an absence.** Extended or excessive absences (three or more) are required to be reported to the Dean's Office and each absence after the third will lower your participation grade.

-Arriving late or leaving early can lower your participation grade. After the second instance of late arrival or leaving early, the disruptive classroom policy may be applied.

2. Projects: There are two projects for this class. The first is a mid-term project the end result of which will be an in-class presented policy analysis that applies the main tenets of one of the recommended theoretical selections from *The Global Cities Reader* to one of the contemporary chapters in *Hong Kong: Becoming a Chinese Global City* (Ch. 3,4,5). The second is a final project that will involve an in-class power point presentation that visually and verbally answers the question of what an effective Chinese global city should look like in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This power point presentation will be accompanied by a student-created narrative based on course material, reserve readings, and some outside research. Several sessions during the term will be devoted to developing these presentations. Check the syllabus for exact presentation dates.

-No make-up project presentations will be accommodated except in cases that qualify as extenuating, documentable and compelling circumstances. In such cases, criteria for accommodation are the same as detailed under "Accommodations" below.

3. Papers: There are two papers for this class. The first is a "political criticism" paper that involves an analysis of the political perspectives delineated in one of the selected chapters from *Remaking Citizenship in Hong Kong*. Material from the other assigned readings in the course will need to be incorporated into the paper. The second paper is a "visual literacy/art criticism" paper that involves a comparative evaluation of the artistic, spatial, and cultural empirical data from a chapter in *Paradigm City* in relation to the impact of global trends on another "global city" such as Beijing, Shanghai, or Singapore. Both papers will have two drafts (a first and a final draft). Check the syllabus for exact due dates.

-All assignments are due at the time, date, and place noted on the syllabus. Late assignments will be accepted with a five (5) point deduction for each full day late beginning just after the due time and date (e.g. from 4:00 pm on the due date to 4:00 pm the next day is a 5 point deduction), up to 7 full days late at which time late papers and other assignments will no longer be accepted and students will receive a 0 grade on the assignment. No exceptions will be made for technical difficulties. I will only accept written work turned in by email if you have arranged with me beforehand to do so for that specific assignment. In the case of an assignment turned in via email, be aware that I must be able to open the attachment and email without a problem in order for the assignment to be accepted for credit.

-Given this class' writing intensive status, you must turn in all assignments in order to pass the class.

#### 4. Accommodations, Expectations, and Responsibilities

-Requests for accommodation on these policies will only be made in extenuating, documentable, and compelling circumstances; will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis; require immediate notification be given to the instructor; and can be referred to Learning Services.

-In case of any crisis or emergency, or an extended absence from class, you must inform your professor through Learning Services or the Academic Dean's Office

-Cell phones need to be turned to OFF and put away in a purse or bookbag during class. Use of cell phones in any way during class may result in dismissal from class and can lower your participation grade.

- Drinks are allowed in class, other food is not.

-Disruptive behavior during class will result in your dismissal from the class the first time, after that, disciplinary action will be taken.

-Learning Disability accommodations: students who wish to request accommodation in this class for support of learning disabilities should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer at Learning Services (610-861-1510), 1307 Main St. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the appropriate disability support provider on campus.

-The Writing Center is located in a building that is not accessible to persons with mobility impairments. If you need the services of the Writing Center, please call 610-861-1392.

-Academic Honesty-All students are expected to follow the principles of academic honesty as set out in the policies of Moravian College. See the Student Handbook for details. Any and all written work must be done in your own words (with the exception of direct quotations which are clearly indicated as such), and written work must include proper citations indicating the sources for any ideas, concepts, facts, or other information derived from others, whether or not you have restated it in your own words. Any cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism will be referred to the Academic Affairs Office. Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade in the course.

-Email etiquette-students can expect email to be answered within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends, provided that email is correctly addressed (to Dr. Fischler or Professor Fischler), signed by the student, and civil in content.

-For the well-being of both students and the instructor, I will insist on a 24 hour waiting period after each assignment is passed back before I will discuss it with you. After that, I am happy to engage in a reasonable, rational discussion about your assignment or exam with you.

-These guidelines are intended for the benefit of the students as far as clarification of the instructor's expectations for the course; however, in exceptional circumstances the instructor reserves the right to exercise discretion in the application of these guidelines to individual cases or to refer a particular case to the Academic Dean if necessary.

#### **B. Grade Components**

Your final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Project I	150 points
Project II	150 points
Paper I	150 points

Paper II  
Participation

150 points  
100 points  
700 points

### **Guidelines (Rubric) for Written Assignments**

(Written by Ben Slote and modified slightly by Ann Bomberger)

1) Written work in the A range is based on an original, logical and coherently organized set of ideas; it makes a clear and persuasive argument (even if the reader disagrees with its argument); it brings in specific, relevant examples to back up its assertions; its points, at each turn, are clearly articulated: the words carry precise meaning, they don't obscure it; its sentences use only the words their ideas require, not any more; its paragraphs have distinct though related roles in the essay's cohesion as a whole, each holding one thoroughly asserted idea (not two competing ideas, not one idea half-asserted); if appropriate it accurately and thoughtfully uses other sources; and its sentences are without the grammatical, spelling, or typographical mistakes that exacting proof-reading would catch. (All of this takes a lot of work. If it is all very nearly accomplished, the essay usually earns an A-.)

2) Written work in the B range: a very good paper, the writing of which is clearly, thoughtfully, and effectively executed. What sometimes prevents an "A" is a lack of originality, thorough thinking or careful proofreading. If two of these virtues are absent and the other areas of the paper are strong, the essay will usually earn a B-.

3) Written work in the C range: some conspicuous flaw usually earns an essay a C; its argument is really underdeveloped, it contains only minimal textual support, it has problems with organization and/or sentence clarity, it is in dire need of proofreading.

4) Written D work either contains more than one of the large problems cited in the "C" description or finds another way to convince its reader that the author has not spent nearly enough time on the thinking or writing in the essay.

5) Written work that earns an F misses on all criteria (originality, articulateness, persuasiveness, organization, the absence of mechanical mistakes).

### **Final Grade Scale**

93-100	A
90-92.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
less than 60	F

**Note:** It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignment and for the course final grade.

**Schedule and Assignments** (Schedule may be changed at the discretion of the instructor; advance notice will be given)

\*\*Readings marked with \*\* are on reserve in Reeves Library.

\*Be sure to bring assigned readings to class each day.

Class Session Date	Topic	Assigned Readings and Assignment(s) Due
1: W 1/19/11	Intro: Global Cities	Chiu and Lui, pp. 1-14; Carroll, pp. 1-7
1: F 1/21/11	Hong Kong history and global city status	Chiu and Lui, Ch. 1; Carroll, Ch. 1
<b>January 24, 2011</b>	<b>Last day for add/drop</b>	
2: W 1/26/11	Aspiring to become a global city	Chiu and Lui, pp. 25-33 and Ch. 3
2: F 1/28/11	Aspiring to remain a global city	Chiu and Lui, Ch. 4
3: W 2/2/11	Hong Kong as colony (pre-1997)	Chiu and Lui, Ch. 5
<b>Thursday February 3, 2011</b>	<b>Written assignment</b>	<b>First draft of “political criticism” paper due by 4 pm in Comenius 206</b>
3: F 2/4/11	Hong Kong as SAR (post-1997)	Ng, pp. 1-18; Carroll, pp. 217-238
4: W 2/9/11	Colonial politics	Carroll, Ch. 2
4: F 2/11/11	SAR economics	Chiu and Lui, Ch. 6
5: W 2/16/11	Remaking art and architecture	**Ku, Ch. 2; Carroll, Ch. 7
5: F 2/18/11	Remaking a city	Ng, Ch. 1; Carroll, Ch. 4
6: W 2/23/11	The ideal citizen	Ng, Ch. 5; Carroll, Ch. 3
<b>Thursday February 24, 2011</b>	<b>Written assignment</b>	<b>Final draft of “political criticism” paper due by 4 pm in Comenius 206</b>
6: F 2/25/11	Immortalizing the past	Ng, Ch. 2
7: W 3/2/11	Symbolic politics	Ng, Ch. 4 <b>Policy analysis project presentations (in class)</b>
7: F 3/4/11	Film, nationalism, and politics	Carroll, Ch. 5 <b>Policy analysis project presentations (in class)</b>
<b>March 5-13, 2011</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>No classes</b>
8: W 3/16/11	Education and culture	**Ku, Ch. 3
8: F 3/18/11	Resocialization or social engineering	**Ku, Ch. 4

<b>Class Session Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assigned Readings and Assignment(s) Due</b>
9: W 3/23/11	Urban space and political design	Ng, Ch. 3; Carroll, Ch. 8
<b>Thursday March 24, 2011</b>	<b>Written assignment</b>	<b>First draft of “visual literacy/art criticism” paper due by 4 pm in Comenius 206</b>
9: F 3/25/11	Social movements and urban space	**Ku, Ch. 8; Carroll, Ch. 6
10: W 3/30/11	The uncertain future of global cities I	**GCReader, pp. 319-324; pp. 360-361
10: F 4/1/11	The uncertain future of global cities II	**GCReader, pp. 267-275; pp. 361-370
11: W 4/6/11	Other East Asian global cities (Beijing)	**Broudehoux, Ch. 2
11: F 4/8/11	History and space (Beijing vs. Hong Kong)	**Broudehoux, pp. 94-123
12: W 4/13/11	Other East Asian global cities (Shanghai)	**Chen, Ch. 1
<b>Thursday April 14, 2011</b>	<b>Written assignment</b>	<b>Final draft of “visual literacy/art criticism” paper due by 4pm in Comenius 206</b>
12: F 4/15/11	Economics and politics (Shanghai vs. Beijing vs. Hong Kong)	**Chen, Ch. 5
13: W 4/20/11	Southeast Asian global cities (Singapore)	**GCReader, pp. 392-400
<b>April 22-25, 2011</b>	<b>Easter Break</b>	<b>No classes</b>
14: W 4/27/11	Culture, Community and Citizenship (Singapore vs. Hong Kong vs. Shanghai)	**Chen, Ch. 4 <b>Chinese global cities project presentations (in class)</b>
14: F 4/29/11	North American global cities (New York-film, fashion, finance)	**GCReader, pp. 339-346 <b>Chinese global cities project presentations (in class)</b>
<b>May 2-7, 2011</b>	<b>Final Exams</b>	