

Syllabus for PPHA 35585: The Chinese Economy. Winter 2022.

Instructor : Shaoda Wang

Tuesday: 6.30-9.20pm. Keller 0001

The course will familiarize students with issues related to the contemporary Chinese economy: its history, the success of its reforms in the past four decades and the reasons for it, China's specific institutions in the world economy and problems it is facing in the 21st century.

Background material for the course will be based mostly on the book by Barry Naughton *The Chinese Economy. Adaptation and Growth*, MIT Press 2018. I indicate below which chapters I will be using for each lecture. I will also be using other materials heavily in my lecture slides. The schedule below is tentative, and may be subject to modifications during the Semester. The role of China in the 21st century is fundamental and some parts of the course may be adapted to understand ongoing events both inside China and in its relations with the rest of the world.

Slides used during the lecture will be made available to students, either before or after the lectures.

Schedule

Lecture 1 (January 4) **Introduction.**

Lecture 2 (January 11): **The Geographical and Historical background** (see Chapters 2 and 3); **China under Central Planning** (see Chapter 4)

Lecture 3 (January 18): **A Picture of the Reform Process** (see Chapter 5);

Lecture 4: (January 25): **Growth and Structural Change** (see Chapter 7); **Agriculture** (see Chapters 11 and 12)

Lecture 5: (February 1): **China's state industry and State-Owned Enterprises** (see Chapters 13, 14 and 15); **China's non state industry** (see Chapter 13)

Lecture 6: (February 8): **The Financial Sector** (see Chapter 19); **Population, Labor and Income Distribution** (slides only)

Lecture 7: (February 15): **Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment** (see Chapters 16 and 17); **The Fiscal System and Macroeconomic policies** (see Chapter 18 and 20).

Lecture 8: (February 22): **China's specific institutions** (slides only)

Lecture 9: (March 1): **China in the twenty first century** (slides only)

Grade: 50% on two review questions, 50% final exam. The final exam will be based on the book as well as on the lectures in class. Final exam will be a mix of multiple choice and essay questions.

Emails: You can reach me at shaoda@uchicago.edu. Please write the email with a subject in the format of “[PPHA 35585] X” (substituting “X” with a brief title of your questions or issues). In the email your full name should be included. Please feel free to write me on administrative issues that are not covered in the syllabus, or about your concerns related to the course. Specific questions on the course material are supposed to be answered in lectures or office hours.