

China Field Study Summer Course 2016

INTP 378 Special Topic

POLS 418 Special Topic

Victoria University of Wellington
and China University of Political Science and Law

Coordinator: Jason Young, email: Jason.Young@vuw.ac.nz

Prerequisites: 40 points from POLS/INTP 200-299 and permission from the course coordinator for INTP 378; Permission from the course coordinator for POLS 418.

Restrictions: INTP 378 and POLS 378 against each other

Limitations: 30

Timetable/Location:

The course will be offered full time for 3 weeks based in Beijing, China (from 14 November to 2 December 2016); and for the last two weeks of Trimester 3 from 7 February 2017 based in Wellington at Victoria University. The final date for the submission of the research essay is 17 February 2017.

Course Content

A study of Chinese politics with special emphasis on how government and politics function in practice in China, this summer course has two components:

Part I: Students attend this part of the course at China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL) in Beijing, China. Lectures, given in English by staff from CUPL, will introduce students to the politics and government of China. Topics include the structure and functions of the central government, the Chinese Communist Party, the National People's Congress, the Supreme Court, the public administration system, the military, municipal government, the neighbourhood system, the electoral system, civil society, China's foreign policy and issues of international relations and regional security.

Lectures will generally take place in the morning. In the afternoon, students are organised to visit and have discussions with people at sites such as the National People's Congress, the Supreme Court, the Foreign Ministry, the National Union of Women, the National Communist Youth League, branches of local government and the Communist Party, as well as at other politically significant sites such as the Great Wall, the Imperial Palace, Tiananmen Square, etc. An in-class test will be given on the material covered in the lectures and visits at CUPL in Beijing.

Part II: Extended Seminar and Research Essay. Two weeks at Victoria University before the summer trimester ends. In addition, students will be asked to give a presentation on a topic covered during their time at CUPL. Finally, students will write up a 4000-word essay for INTP 378 and a 6000-word essay for POLS 418. The essay is on a topic developed during and arising from Part I and in discussion with the course coordinator. The essay is to be submitted at the end of the course (in February).

Course Costs: The cost of this course includes a special fee, plus the normal course fee for a 300-level or 400-level course at Victoria University of Wellington. The special fee covers return airfare to Beijing, room and board at CUPL, course costs charged by CUPL and other costs for on-site visits in Beijing. Students will need to have enough of their own funding for spending money, and any additional travel they may wish to do. **The special fee is \$5000.**

Upon acceptance into this special course students will need to pay an initial **\$500 deposit (due 12 July 2016)**. The remainder of **the special fee is due by 6 September 2016**. If the balance of the special fee is not paid in full by this date, it may be necessary to cancel a student's provisional place in the course, with the loss of the \$500 deposit, as airline bookings and deposits will have been arranged by the course organisers.

Regrettably, rules beyond the control of the Political Science and International Relations Programme prevent the special fee from being paid for using a student loan.

Grants: The University has two grants that could be used to support payment of the special fee. The first is a \$600 mobility grant (open to all students enrolled in INTP 378/POLS 418). The second is a \$400 VILP Global Explorer (available to registered VILP students who have completed a certain proportion of the programme at the time of application). For more information on both of these grants please email vilp@vuw.ac.nz with 'Mobility/Global Explorer Grant' in the subject line. **Grant applications close 28 October 2016.**

Application and Selection Process: This course is taught as both INTP 378 and POLS 418. Students may apply for either depending on their course of study at the undergraduate or postgraduate level. An undergraduate student cannot apply for the 400-level course. The course Application Form will be available from the course coordinators or on the website.

Applications close 13 May. Personal motivation and commitment are factors in admission to the course as judged by the course application form. Up to 30 students can be accepted for this course in any year. Selection for entry into this course will be judged on the following criteria:

- Enrolment as a 200-level or 300-level or postgraduate POLS/INTP major.
- Students with particular interests in aspects of Asian studies.
- Relevance to a student's overall course of study.
- Academic ability.
- Personal motivation, as set forth in your statement in the application form.

Enrolment Procedure: Please complete an application form and submit it to Jason Young (Jason.Young@vuw.ac.nz) **before 13 May**. Students can apply to formally enrol in this course through the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences but their enrolment will remain 'selection pending' until acceptance into the course by the course coordinators has been confirmed.

Assessment: 100% internal assessment: in-class test 20%; seminar presentation 20%; research essay 60%.

Set text: Tony Saich, 2015 (4th Edition). *Governance and Politics of China*, London: Palgrave.