

University of California at Berkeley
Department of Geography
Fall 2007

Geography 215
Great Transformations: China, Russia and Vietnam

Professor You-tien Hsing (yhsing@berkeley.edu)
Time: Wednesdays, 1-4 PM
Place: 55A McCone
Office Hour: By Appointment

Introduction

This is a reading seminar devoted to a comparative understanding of the processes of late socialist transformations in China, Russia and Vietnam today. We will focus on four theoretical themes:

1. Local states in the triangular relationship between the state, market and society;
2. Land and the transformation of territorial politics;
3. Commodification of identity and body, with the focus on minority and women; and
4. The material and the discursive in the late socialist modernities.

Course requirements:

1. Read the required readings and prepare a one-page critical commentary on the week's readings. Circulate the commentary via E mail by Tuesday evening before the Wednesday class.
2. Active participation in class discussion. Take turns to lead the first 30 minutes of class discussion.
2. Submit a term paper by December 14, 2007. The term paper can be a research proposal, a literature review, or a research paper.

Readers will be available in Replica (near the corner of Oxford and Center St)

Entries with "*" are included in the reader.

You can check out (multiple copies in the libraries) or order the following two books online: Bianco, Lucien, 1967, *Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 1915-1949*, and Fitzpatrick, Sheila ed., 2001, *The Russian Revolution*. Both are paperbacks. Book manuscripts (including mine) will be E mailed to you.

MEETINGS and READINGS

August 29
Introduction

September 5

No Class

September 12

SocialismS: Historical and Geographical Perspectives

*Alexander Woodside, 2006, *Lost Modernities: China, Vietnam, Korea, and the Hazards of World History*.

*Alexander Woodside, 1998, Reconciling the Chinese and Western Theory Worlds in an Era of Western Development Fatigue (A Commentary), *Modern China* 24(2):121-134.

*Sayers, Sean, 1990, Marxism and actually existing Socialism, in D. Mclellan and S. Sayers eds., *Socialism and Morality*, NY: St. Martin's.

*Burawoy, Michael, 2002, Transition without transformation: Russia's involuntarily road to Capitalism, *East European Politics and Societies* 15(2): 269-290.

September 19

Socialist RevolutionS: China and Russia

Bianco, Lucien, 1967, *Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 1915-1949*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Fitzpatrick, Sheila ed., 2001, *The Russian Revolution*. NY: Oxford University Press.

September 26

Socialist Local StateS (I)

*Remick, Elizabeth, 2004, *Building Local States: China During the Republican and Post-Mao Eras*. Harvard University Press.

*Jean Oi, 1992, Fiscal reform and the economic foundations of local state corporatism in China, *World Politics*, 45(1):99-126.

*Woodside, Alexander, 1999, Exalting the latecomer state: intellectuals and the state during the Chinese and Vietnamese reforms, in Anita Chan, Benedict J.T. Kerkvliet, and Jonathan Unger eds., *Transforming Asian Socialism: China and Vietnam compared*. NY: Rowman & Littlefield.

October 3

Socialist Local StateS (II)

*Luong, Pauline Jones 2002, *Institutional Change and Political Continuity in Post-Soviet Central Asia*. Cambridge University Press.

*Crzymala-Busse, Anna and Luong, Pauline Jones , 2002, 'Reconceptualizing the state: lessons from post communism', *Politics and Society* 30(4): 529–554.

October 10
Socialist Local StateS (III)

*David Woodruff, 1999, *Money Unmade*, Cornell University Press.

*Burawoy, Michael, 1997, The state and economic involution: Russia through a China lens, in Peter Evans ed., *State-Society Synergy; Government and Social Capital in Development*, International and Area Studies, UC Berkeley.

October 17
No Class

October 24
Politics of Land (I)

*Xiaolin Guo, 2001, Land expropriation and rural conflicts in China, *The China Quarterly*, No 166, p. 422-439.

*Cai, Yongshun, 2003, Collective ownership or cadres' ownership? The non-agricultural use of farmland in China, *The China Quarterly*.

*Samuel Ho and George Lin, 2005, The state, land system and land development processes in contemporary China, *Annals of the Association of American geographers*, 95(2), pp. 411-436.

*Verdery, Katherine, 2001, The obligations of ownership: restoring rights to land in postsocialist Transylvania, manuscript.

*Verdery, Katherine, 1994, The elasticity of land: problems of property restitution in Transylvania, *Slavic Review*, 53 (4): 1071-1109.

*Kerkvliet, Benedict J.T. and Mark Selden, 1999, Agrarian transformation in China and Vietnam, in Anita Chan, Benedict J.T. Kerkvliet, and Jonathan Unger eds., *Transforming Asian Socialism: China and Vietnam compared*. NY: Rowman & Littlefield.

October 31

Politics of Land (II)

Hsing, You-tien, book manuscript, *Rebuilding China: Territorial Politics and Land Development*.

Nov 7

Politics of Land (III)

Guest Lecturer: Professor Annette Kim (City Planning, MIT)

Book Manuscript: *Learning to be Capitalists: Entrepreneurs in Vietnam's transition economy*.

Nov 14

Gender

*Rofel, Lisa, 1994, Liberation Nostalgia and a yearning for modernity, in Gilmartin, Christina, Gail Hershatter, Lisa Rofel and Tyrene White eds., *Engendering China: Women, Culture, and the State*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. pp.226-249.

*Mayfair Mei-hui Yang, 1999, From gender eraser to gender difference: state feminism, consumer sexuality, and women's public sphere in China, in Mayfair Yang ed., *Space of Their Own*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

*Haney Lynne, 1998, "But we are still mothers": gender, the state and the construction of need in post-socialist Hungary, in Katherine Verdery and Michael Burawoy eds., *Uncertain Transitions*. University of California Press.

*Kligman, Gail, 1995, Political demography: The banning of abortion in Ceausescu's Romania, in Faye Ginsburg, Rayna Rapp, eds., *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

*Goven, Joanna, 1993, Gender politics in Hungary: Autonomy and antifeminism, in Nanette Funk and Magda Mueller, eds., *Gender Politics and post-communism: Reflections from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union*. NY: Routledge.

Nov 21

Minority

*Louisa Schein, 2000, *Minority rules: the Miao and the feminine in China's cultural politics*. Durham, N.C. : Duke University Press.

Nov 28

Post Socialist Modernities (I)

Guest Lecturer: Max Woodworth, Researcher, RAND, *The Cultural Politics of Graffiti in Beijing*

Jason McGrath, forthcoming, *Postsocialist Modernity in China: Cinema, Literature, and Criticism in the Market Age*. Stanford University Press.

Woodworth, Max, 2007, *The Cultural Politics of Graffiti in Beijing: Zhang Dali and his Talking Walls*. Master's Thesis, Program of Asian Studies. UC Berkeley.

Dec 5

Post Socialist Modernities (II)

*Yurchak, Alexei, 2006, *Everything Was Forever, Until it Was No More: The Last Soviet Generation*. Princeton University Press.