Government and Politics in Taiwan

**Dafydd Fell (SOAS)**

**(June 25-July 2, 2012)**

Reading List

Course text: Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*(London: Routledge)

**Session 1: Introduction to Taiwanese Politics and Cross-Strait Relations (June 25, 9-11)**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 1.
2. Rigger, Shelley (2002). “Political Science and Taiwan’s Domestic Politics: The State of the Field.” *Issues and Studies* 38 (4): pp. 49-92. (O)
3. Chu, Yun-han and Lin Jih-wen (2001). “Political Development in 20th Century Taiwan: State Building, Regime Transformation and the Construction of National Identity.” *China Quarterly* 165: pp. 102-129. (O)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why has Taiwan politics become the most studied topic in Taiwan studies?

2. Why should students of comparative politics, international relations or modern Chinese studies be interested in Taiwan’s politics?

3. How should Taiwan’s main political eras be divided?

4. What have been the main themes that have attracted the interest of scholars of Taiwan’s political scene?

**Session 2: Authoritarian Rule: The Politics of Martial Law Taiwan and its Cold War external relations (June 25, 11-13)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 2.
2. Chu, Yun-han, and Lin Jih-wen (2001). “Political Development in 20th-Century Taiwan: State-Building, Regime Transformation and the Construction of National Identity.” *China Quarterly*, No. 165, pp.102-129. (O) & (C)
3. Rigger, Shelley (1999). *Politics in Taiwan: Voting For Democracy*. London: Routledge: pp. 55-103.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What were Taiwan’s inherited political legacies from Republican China and Japanese rule?
2. Why did Taiwan’s return to Chinese rule after 1945 go wrong so quickly?
3. What was the long-term legacy of the period between 1945 and 1949?
4. How was the KMT able to recover enough to deliver over three decades of political stability?
5. How did the KMT attempt to mould its version of Chinese nationalism on the island and how successful was this project?
6. What is meant by soft authoritarianism and what brought about Taiwan’s move away from hard authoritarianism?
7. How does Taiwan’s experience of authoritarian rule compare with other developing countries?

**Session 3: Democratization in Taiwan (June 25, 14-16)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*, Chapter 3-4.
2. Cheng, Tun-jen (1989). “Democratizing a Quasi-Leninist Regime in Taiwan.” *World Politics*, 41, 4, pp. 471-499. (O) & (C)
3. Rigger, Shelley (1999). “Voting for Democracy (chapter 1).” *Politics in Taiwan: Voting For Democracy.* London: Routledge: pp.1-33 & 178-193. (C)
4. Rigger, Shelley (2005). “The Unfinished Business of Taiwan’s Democratization.” In Nancy Berkopf Tucker (ed) *Dangerous Strait*. New York: Columbia: pp16-43. (C)
5. Chao, Linda and Ramon Myers (2000). “How Elections Promoted Democracy in Taiwan under Martial Law.” *The China Quarterly*, No. 162, Special Issue: Elections and Democracy in Greater China: pp. 387-409. (O) & (C)
6. Lin, Jih-wen (1999). “Democratization under One-party Dominance: Explaining Taiwan’s Paradoxical Transition.” *Issues and Studies*, 35, 6, pp.1-28. (C)
7. Higley, John, Huang Tong-yi, and Lin Tse-min (1998). “Elite Settlements in Taiwan.” *Journal of Democracy*, 9, 2: pp.148-164. (O) & (C)

**Discussion Questions**

1. How should we classify Taiwan’s democracy? Is it a liberal democracy?
2. Can we view it as a consolidated democracy?
3. What defects/challenges does its democracy still have?
4. Which theories/explanations best explain Taiwan’s transition?
5. How does Taiwan’s democracy perform compared to other democracies?
6. Does Taiwan’s democracy offer a model to other countries?

**Session 4: Nation Building and Competing National Identities (June 26, 9-11)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*, Chapter 8
2. Cabestan, Jean-Pierre (2005). “Specificities and Limits of Taiwanese Nationalism.” *China Perspectives.* No. 62: pp.32-43. (C)
3. Schubert, Gunter (2008). “Taiwan’s Evolving National Identity since the DPP Takeover.” in *Presidential Politics in Taiwan*
4. Schubert, Gunter (2004). “Taiwan’s Political Parties and National Identity.” *Asian Survey*, 44, 4: pp. 534-54. (O) & (C)
5. Corcuff, Stéphane (2002). “Taiwan’s New Mainlanders New Taiwanese?” In Stéphane Corcuff (ed.), *Memories of the Future National Identity Issues and the Search for a New Taiwan.* Armonk: M.E. Sharpe: pp. 163-195. (O) & (C)
6. Edmondson, Robert (2002). “The February 28 Incident and National Identity.” In Stéphane Corcuff (ed.), *Memories of the Future: National Identity Issues and the Search for a New Taiwan*, (Armonk: M.E. Sharpe: pp. 25-46. (C)
7. Hughes, Chris (2011). “Negotiating national identity in Taiwan.” In *Taiwan’s Democracy*, Ash, Garver and Prime eds (London: Routledge, 2011), 51-74.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What are the competing national identities in Taiwan?
2. How and why has public opinion changed on the central identity questions?
3. How and why did the government adjust its nation identity positions?
4. How reliably is public opinion on identity measured?
5. To what extent has Taiwan been desinified under Lee and Chen?
6. What has been the impact of China’s rise on nation identity in Taiwan?
7. How and why have the parties changed their positions on identity questions?
8. Does the divisive identity dispute prevent Taiwan from becoming a consolidated democracy?

**Session 5: Taiwan’s external relations after democratization: Cross-Strait Relations and International Space (June 26, 11-13)**

**Basic readings:**

1. Dafydd Fell Government and Politics in Taiwan (2011), Chapter 9
2. Dennis Hickey "Rapprochement between Taiwan and the Chinese Mainland: Implications for American Foreign Policy," THE JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY CHINA, Volume 20, Number 69, March 2011, pp.231-247.
3. Yu-shan Wu “Taiwan’s Domestic Politics and Cross-Strait Relations” *China Journal* (2005)*,* Vol. 53, pp.35-60. \*\*
4. Dennis Hickey, "Beijing's Evolving Policy Toward Taipei: Engagement or Entrapment," ISSUES & STUDIES, Volume 45, Number 1, March 2009.
5. Zhao Sui-sheng *Across the Taiwan Strait: Mainland China and Taiwan in the 1995-6 Crisis* (London, Routledge, 1999), pp. 1-40.

Discussion Questions

1. How has democratization affected Taiwan’s cross-strait policy making?

2. How has Taiwan coped with the “Rise of China?”

3. Is Taiwan’s search for international space incompatible with stable cross-Strait relations?

4. What has been the impact of the change of ruling parties in Taiwan on its external relations?

**Session 6: Electoral Politics and Voting Behaviour (June 28, 9-11)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Dafydd Fell, Government and Politics in Taiwan: Chapter 5.
2. Hsieh, John Fuh-sheng. (2002). “Change and Continuity in Taiwan’s Electoral Politics.” In John Hsieh and David Newman (eds.), *How Asia Votes*. New York: Chatham House Publishers: pp.32-49. (C)
3. Rawnsley, Gary (2006). “Democratisation and election campaigning in Taiwan: professionalizing the professionals.” In Katrin Voltmer (ed.), *Mass Media and Political Communication in New democracies* London: Routledge: pp. 133-151. (C)
4. Sullivan, Jonathan (2009). “Campaign Advertising in Taiwanese Presidential Elections.” *Journal of Contemporary China* 18: 61, pp.675-688. (O)
5. Rigger, Shelley (1999). Politics in Taiwan: Voting for Democracy. Ch 2 and 7.
6. Fell, Dafydd (2007). “Putting on a Show and Electoral Fortunes in Taiwan’s Multi-Party Elections.” In Julia Strauss & Donal Cruise O’Brien eds, *Staging Politics: Power and Performance in Asia and Africa*, London: I.B. Taurus: pp. 133-150.
7. Fell, Dafydd, *Party Politics in Taiwan*: Chapter 3.

**Session 7: Inter-Party Politics and Changing Party System (June 28, 11-13)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapters 6
2. Fell, Dafydd (2005). “Measuring and Explaining Party Change in Taiwan.” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 5, 1: pp.105-133. (O)
3. Wong, Joseph (2008). “Maintaining KMT dominance: party adaptation in authoritarian and democratic Taiwan, in Edward Friedman and Joseph Wong (eds), *Political transitions in dominant party systems :Learning to lose*. London, Routledge.
4. Fell, Dafydd (2005). “Success and Failure of New Parties in Taiwanese Elections.” *China: An International Journal,* 3, 2: pp.212-239. (C)
5. Yu, Ching-hsin (2005). “The Evolution of Party System in Taiwan, 1995~2004.” *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 40, 1/2: pp.105-129. (O)
6. Fell, Dafydd (2008). “Interparty Competition in Taiwan: Towards a New Party System,” in Goldsten (ed.), *Presidential Politics in Taiwan.*
7. Lin, Chiung-chu (2006). “The Evolution of Party Images and Party System in Taiwan, 1992-2004.” *East Asia: An International Quarterly*, 23, 1: pp.27-46. (O) & (C)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What types of parties dominate Taiwanese politics?
2. How have the parties changed (esp. ideologically) over time?
3. How has the party system changed since the late 1980s?
4. How can we best explain party success and failure in Taiwan?
5. How and why have Taiwan’s parties changed their nomination practices?
6. Why have third parties failed in Taiwan?
7. How does multi-party politics in Taiwan compare with other democracies?
8. What are the major challenges facing Taiwan’s party politics?
9. How has Taiwan’s party system changed over the last two decades?
10. How can we best explain party system change?
11. Does the party system matter?

**Session 8: Public Policy and Political Corruption under Democracy (June 29, 14-16)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 11
2. Fell, Dafydd (2005) “Political and Media Liberalization and Political Corruption in Taiwan.” *China Quarterly* 184: pp. 875-893. (O) & (C)
3. Wong, Joseph (2008). “Resisting Reform: The Politics of Healthcare in Democratizing Taiwan, in Dafydd Fell ed. *Politics of Modern Taiwan*, Vol. 3, London and New York: Routledge: pp. 81-104. (C)
4. Kong, Tat-yan (2004). “Corruption and the Effect of Regime Type: The Case of Taiwan.” *New Political Economy* 9 (3), pp.341-364. (O)
5. Goebel, Christian, (2006). “Beheading the Hydra: Combating Political Corruption and Organised Crime in the KMT and DPP Eras.” in Dafydd Fell, Henning Kloeter and Bi-yu, Chang (eds.), *What has changed? Taiwan Before and After the Change in Ruling Parties,* Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz: pp. 61-82. (C)
6. Wong, Joseph (2004). *Healthy Democracies: Welfare Politics in Taiwan and South Korea*. Chapters 1, 4 and 8.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What kind of welfare system did Taiwan have under martial law?
2. What has been the relationship between democracy and welfare system development in Taiwan?
3. What was the impact of the change in ruling parties for welfare system development (and social movements)?
4. How can we categorize Taiwan’s current welfare system in comparison with global welfare practices?
5. Has democracy undermined or promoted political corruption?

**Session 9: Social Movements (June 29, 16-18)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 10
2. Ho, Ming-sho (2006). “Neo-centrist Labour Policy in Practice: The DPP and Taiwanese Working Class.” In Dafydd Fell, Henning Kloeter and Chang Bi-yu (eds.) *What has changed? Taiwan Before and After the Change in Ruling Parties*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz: pp. 129-146.
3. Ho,Ming-sho (2005). ‘Weakened State and Social Movement: the Paradox of Taiwanese Environmental Politics after the Power Transition.” *Journal of Contemporary China*, 14, 43: pp.339-352. (O) & (C)
4. Ho, Ming-sho (2005). “Taiwan’s State and Social Movements Under the DPP Government, 2000-2004,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 5, 3: pp. 401-425. (O)
5. Teresa Wright (1999). ‘Student Mobilization in Taiwan: Civil Society and its Discontents,’ *Asian Survey*, 39, 6, pp.986-1008. (O) & (C)
6. Kim Sunhyuk. (2000). “Democratization and Environmentalism: South Korea and Taiwan in Comparative Perspective.” *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 35, no. 3:pp.287-303. (O) & (C)
7. Ho Ming-sho ed (2010). *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* 39, no. 3. Special edition on social movements in Taiwan.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What were the main social movements to emerge after the lifting of martial law?
2. How have the campaign methods of Taiwan’s principal social movements differed?
3. How can we best explain the varying impact of the social movements?
4. What challenges do Taiwan’s social movements face today?
5. Are we seeing a rebirth of Taiwan’s social movements after 2008?

**Session 10: Changes in Ruling Parties of 2000 and 2008: Causes and Impacts (July 2, 14-16)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 12
2. Rigger, Shelley (2005). “The Unfinished Business of Taiwan’s Democratization.” In *Dangerous Strait: The US-Taiwan-China Crisis*, Ed Nancy Tucker, pp.16-43. (C)
3. Fell, Dafydd (2010). “Critical Elections in Taiwan: Locating the Start of a new political era.” *Asian Survey* 50:5. (O)

Select two chapters from:

1. Goldstein, Steven and Julian Chang eds. (2008) *Presidential Politics in Taiwan: The Administration of Chen Shui-bian*. Norwalk: Eastbridge.
2. Fell, Dafydd, Henning Kloeter and Chang Bi-yu (eds.) (2006). *What has changed? Taiwan Before and After the Change in Ruling Parties*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How can we explain the DPP’s rise to power in 2000?
2. Was 2000 really a critical turning point or do we see more continuity?
3. What were the consequences of divided government between 2000-2008?
4. Balance sheet of the DPP’s successes and failures.
5. Did the DPP become too much like the old KMT and the KMT learn from the DPP?
6. Why did the parties struggle to adjust to their new government and opposition roles?
7. Was 2008 a Critical Election?
8. How do we explain the landslide?
9. What are the long-term implications of the second change in ruling parties?

**Session 11: Conclusions: Taiwan’s 2012 elections and Prospects Democratic Consolidation (July 2, 16-18)**

**Basic Reading:**

1. Fell, Dafydd (2011). *Government and Politics in Taiwan*. Chapter 13
2. Kastner, Scott L. and Chad Rector (2008). "National Unification and Mistrust: Bargaining Power and the Prospects for a PRC/Taiwan Agreement." *Security Studies* 17 (1): pp. 39 - 71.
3. Lieberthal, Kenneth (2005). "Preventing a War over Taiwan." *Foreign Affairs* 84 (2): pp. 53-63.
4. Fell, Dafydd (2010) [“Taiwan's Democracy: Towards a liberal democracy or authoritarianism?'](http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/9252/)” Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, 39 (2). pp. 187-201.