

**organizes an intensive one week course on**

***TAIWAN'S POLITICS AND CROSS-STRAIT  
RELATIONS***

**Dafydd Fell (SOAS)**

**(April 11-15, 2011)**

The course seeks to examine the political processes that have shaped the Republic of China on Taiwan since 1949, with particular emphasis on the last two decades, and the evolution and the future prospects of Cross-Strait relations. The course focuses on two core themes (1) an analysis of Taiwan's domestic politics and (2) analysis of Cross-Strait relations. Units on Taiwan's domestic politics will address a variety of issues, including the island's democratic transition, Taiwan's party and electoral politics, the quality of its democracy, competing national identities in Taiwan's politics, the role of new social movements and the formulation of public policy under democracy. The sessions on Cross-Strait relations will examine topics such as the nature and sources of political conflict across the Strait during the Cold War, the impact of democratization on Taiwan's external relations and its attempt to develop international space and security.

The course will use Taiwan as a test case for political science and international relations theories and frameworks. Although the course focuses on Taiwan, students will be encouraged to bring to bear a comparative approach in their investigation and analysis of its politics. Political developments in Taiwan will be compared with those that have taken place in mainland China and other developing countries, as well as in new democracies. Political processes in different time periods of

contemporary Taiwanese history – for example, before and after democratization and changes of ruling parties - will also be compared.

**Course Schedule**

1. Introduction to Taiwanese Politics and Cross-Strait Relations
2. Authoritarian Rule: The Politics of Martial Law Taiwan and its Cold War external relations
3. Democratization in Taiwan
4. Nation Building and Competing National Identities
5. Taiwan's external relations after democratization: Cross-Strait Relations and International Space
6. Electoral Politics and Voting Behaviour
7. Inter-Party Politics and Changing Party System
8. Public Policy and Political Corruption under Democracy
9. Social Movements
10. Changes in Ruling Parties of 2000 and 2008: Causes and Impacts
11. Conclusions: Prospects for Cross-Strait Reconciliation and Democratic Consolidation

The course is designed for undergraduate and MA students in Chinese/Asian Studies, political sciences, or international relations, who have a research interest in Taiwan.

The organizer welcomes students from other European universities and will be happy to assist to find accommodation. Students are, however, recommended to seek funding at their home universities.

For further course details and study materials, please contact Táňa Dluhošová ([tana.dluhosova@mail.muni.cz](mailto:tana.dluhosova@mail.muni.cz))