



PLCP 4500

ETHNIC PLURALISM AND AUTONOMY IN CHINA

Instructor Tashi Rabgey

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the politics of inclusion/exclusion and group recognition by the modern Chinese state. Drawing on legal and political anthropology, as well as recent historical studies and perspectives from analytical political philosophy, the seminar explores the challenges of political membership for ethnic minorities in the People's Republic of China. Students will develop an understanding of the socio-cultural and historical forces that have shaped foundational discourses of belonging in the Chinese state in the past - such as Chinese constitutionalism - and that continue to frame Chinese legal and political discourses regulating ethnic and political belonging today. The course will examine the development of the concept of autonomy as a potential mechanism for managing ethnic diversity and tension in the regions of Tibet and Xinjiang. Comparative attention will be given to the case studies of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.

Wednesdays 6 – 8.30pm

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