

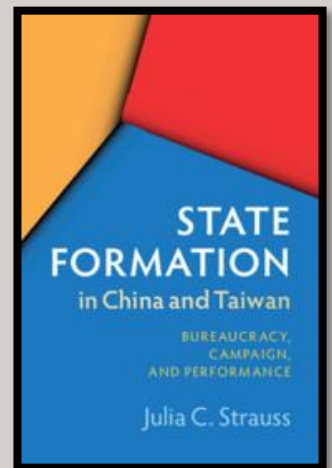


State Formation in China and Taiwan: Bureaucracy, Campaign, and Performance

A Lecture with Dr. Julia Strauss
(School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London)

Monday, March 2, 2020, 2pm, PL-4005, Pfau Library

About the book: This is an ambitious comparative study of regime consolidation in the “revolutionary” People’s Republic of China and the “conservative” Republic of China (Taiwan) in the years following the communist victory against the nationalists on the Chinese mainland in 1949. Julia C. Strauss argues that accounting for these two variants of the Chinese state solely in terms of their divergent ideology and institutions fails to recognize their similarities and their relative successes. Both, after all, emerged from a common background of Leninist party organization amid civil war and foreign invasion. However, by the mid-1950s they were on clearly different trajectories of state-building and development. Focusing on Sunan and Taiwan, Strauss considers state personnel, the use of terror and land reform to explore the evolution of these revolutionary and conservative regimes between 1949 and 1954. In so doing, she sheds important new light on twentieth-century political change in East Asia, deepening our understanding of state formation.



Speaker Bio: Julia C. Strauss is Professor of Chinese Politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. She received a BA in Chinese Language and European History from Connecticut College (1983) and both an MA and PhD from the Department of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley (1984, 1991). She moved to the Department of Political and International Studies at SOAS in 1994. She served as Editor of *The China Quarterly* from 2002-2011 and was promoted to Professor in 2013. She offers courses in Chinese politics and comparative political sociology. Her many publications include [State Formation in China and Taiwan: Bureaucracy, Campaign, and Performance](#) (Cambridge, 2019), and [Strong Institutions in Weak Polities: State Building in Republican China, 1927-1940](#) (Oxford, 1998).

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Please contact Jeremy Murray (History) with questions at jmurray@csusb.edu.