

International Relations of East and Southeast Asia

GOV 365L (39240)/ ANS 361 (31124)

Fall 2009

University of Texas at Austin

TTH 9:30-11:00, PAR 203

Dr. Patricia L. Maclachlan

Department of Government

BAT 3.150; Tel, 232-1724

E: pmaclachlan@mail.utexas.edu

Office Hours: T: 1:00-2:15 & Th: 11:15-12:30,
or by appointment

Course Description

A decade ago, pundits looked to the spectacular economic growth of East and Southeast Asia and predicted that the 21st century would be the “Pacific Century.” Although analysts have been far less optimistic about the economic and political future of the region following the 1997 financial crisis, most nevertheless agree that East/Southeast Asia has the most growth potential of any other region in the world. It is also home to some of the globe’s most dangerous “hot spots”: North Korea’s ongoing nuclear threat, conflict in the Taiwan Straits, and, during the early 2000s, escalating tensions between Japan and China.

This upper division undergraduate course is designed to introduce students to some of the basic themes of the post-Cold War international relations of East and Southeast Asia. We will explore basic theoretical approaches to international relations, “Great Power” (China, Japan, and the United States) contributions and challenges to the military and economic security of the region, the objectives and processes of political and economic integration in the Asia-Pacific, human rights considerations, and the nature of and potential solutions to the ongoing North Korean nuclear crisis. We will also keep track of current events in the region.

Prerequisites

Since this is an introductory course, a background in Asian Studies or Government is recommended but not required.

Requirements

1. Quizzes on readings: 15%
2. First midterm exam (October 13): 20%
3. Second midterm (November 17): 25% (Instead of the exam, students have the option of writing a 5-7 page book review of the Kang, Kang & Cha, or Stiglitz volumes. Due at noon on Nov. 17).
4. Final exam: 40%

Class Guidelines

1. Students with disabilities are welcome to request appropriate accommodations. Please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (471-6259) and the instructor for further information.
2. While this course includes no attendance grade, successful completion of the quizzes requires you to attend all classes and to arrive for each class on time.
3. All lectures, readings, and films will be subject to examination.
4. You are responsible for keeping up with e-mail correspondence with the instructor, as well as notices and other postings on the Blackboard site for this course.
5. All assignments must be completed on schedule. Only students with officially documented illnesses can be exempted from this rule. Assignments submitted late will be penalized 5% per day.
6. PowerPoint presentations are designed to provide you with rough outlines of basic concepts and themes. If you wish to do well in this course, you should take detailed notes during lectures and class discussions. Lecture notes and PowerPoint presentations will not be posted on the web.
7. Students guilty of academic dishonesty (ex., cheating on an exam or plagiarizing a paper) will receive a "0" for the assignment in question. No exceptions. Students are strongly urged to refer to the following link from the Dean of Students for an explanation of what plagiarism is and how it can be avoided: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_plagiarism.php. Information about plagiarism can also be found on the homepage of the UT library system (<http://www.lib.utexas.edu>).
8. You *must* take the final exam during the time-slot designated by the university. Don't make travel arrangements during the exam period until the exam schedule has been finalized!
9. Please keep in mind that texting and Internet browsing in class are distractions to you, to the instructor, and to the students around you.
10. I respectfully ask you to arrive for class on time. Please let me know well in advance of unavoidable absences, late arrivals, and early departures from class.

Grading Policy

We will adopt UT's new "plus & minus" grading system in this course. The following is a list of letter grades, their corresponding GPA values, and the percentage values that I plan to use for your assignments. Note that these percentage grades will be recorded on Blackboard for our purposes only (i.e.: they will not be noted on your transcript).

Letter Grade	GPA	Percentage Score
A	4.0	94-100%
A-	3.67	90-93
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3.0	84-86
B-	2.67	80-83
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2.0	74-76
C-	1.67	70-73
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1.0	64-66
D-	.67	60-63
F	0	59 & below

Readings

The following texts are required and are available for purchase at the University Co-op:

1. G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno, *International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific* (Columbia University Press, 2003).
2. Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Globalization and Its Discontents* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2002).
3. David Kang, *China Rising: Peace, Power and Order in East Asia* (Columbia University Press, 2007).
4. David Kang and Victor D. Cha, *Nuclear North Korea: A Debate on Engagement Strategies* (Columbia University Press, 2005).
5. Michael J. Green and Bates Gill, eds. *Asia's New Multilateralism: Cooperation, Competition and the Search for Community* (Columbia University press, 2009).

All additional readings can be accessed through UT's on-line library system or under Documents in the Blackboard site for this class. Newspaper articles on current events will also be posted on Blackboard as the course progresses.

Lecture Schedule

Part I: Introduction

Aug. 27: Introduction to the Course

No readings.

Sept. 1: Defining the Region

Green and Gill, ch. 1 (skim summaries of other book chapters).

Sept. 3 & 8: How Relevant is “The Clash of Civilizations” for the Asia-Pacific?

Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations,” *Foreign Affairs* 72:2 (Summer 1993). (Access via Academic Search Premier.)

Part II: IR Theory, Security, and the Role of “Great Powers” in the Region

Sept. 10 & 15: Concepts and Theories of International Relations

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, chapters 1, 3 & 12.

Sept. 17 & 22: Japan—the Reluctant Leader

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, ch. 5.

Green and Gill, ch. 5.

Richard J. Samuels, “‘New Fighting Power!’: Japan’s Growing Maritime Capabilities and East Asian Security,” *International Security*, vol. 32, no. 3 (Winter 2007/08): 84-112.

Sept. 24, 29 & Oct. 1: China in the Region – Past and Present

Kang, all chapters.

Green and Gill, ch. 3.

Oct. 6 & 8: Assessing the Region's Conventional and Non-Conventional Security Threats

Green and Gill, chapters 11 & 12.

Oct. 13: In-Class Midterm Exam**Part III: Institutional Integration in East & Southeast Asia****Oct. 15, 20 & 22: The East Asian Economy and the "Promise" of Globalization**

Stiglitz, all chapters except 5 & 6.

Edward J. Lincoln, "The Asian Regional Economy," in David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, eds., *International Relations of Asia* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008), pp. 277-99.

Oct. 27 & 29: Building Regional Institutions – Challenges and Opportunities

Gill and Green, chapters 2, 3, 5 (review) & 8.

Part IV: The Problem of North Korea**Nov. 3, 5, 10 & 12: The North Korean Nuclear Crisis**

Kang and Cha, all chapters.

Nov. 17: In Class Midterm Exam

Part V: Human Rights in East Asia

Nov. 19, 24, Dec. 1 & 3: The Impact of Norms and Values on Regional Cooperation

Amartya Sen, "Human Rights and Asian Values," Morgenthau Memorial Lecture on Ethics and Foreign Policy, 1997.

Robert D. Kaplan, "Lifting the Bamboo Curtain," *The Atlantic* (September 2008): 85-95.

Green and Gill, ch. 10.

Some useful current-event websites:

- www.nbr.org/ (National Bureau of Asian Research, or NBR. A policy-related think tank that provides commentary and reports on military and economic issues affecting the region.)
- www.nautilus.org/napsnet/dr/index.html (Nautilus Institute: offers daily and weekly reports on security issues in the region, including in-depth coverage of North Korea. Sign up for daily e-mail deliveries.)
- www.feer.com/ (Far Eastern Economic Review: the region's equivalent to *The Economist*. Provides articles and special reports on domestic and international relations in the region. Access to some materials requires a paid subscription.)