

International Relations of East and Southeast Asia

GOV 365L (38640)/ ANS 361 (330745)

Fall 2010

University of Texas at Austin

TTH 9:30-11:00, PAR 203

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Office Hours: T: 11:00-1:00 & Th: 1:15-2:15,
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 worrisome challenges and “hot spots”: the military and economic rise of China, conflict in the Taiwan Straits, and the ongoing North Korean nuclear crisis.

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 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 (approx. 6, to be held at the beginning of class) on assigned readings (lowest grade will be eliminated from final tally): 20%
2. First in-class midterm exam (October 12): 20%
3. Second in-class midterm exam (November 16): 25%. Instead of the exam, students may write an 8-10 page comparative book review of Susan Shirk’s *China: Fragile Superpower* and David Kang’s *China Rising*. Due at noon on November 16.
4. Final exam: 35% (December 13, 2:00-5:00 pm)

Academic Objectives

My aim in this course is to encourage each and every student to think critically and comparatively about the causes and repercussions of international relations in one of the most politically, economically, and culturally important regions of the world. In so doing, I hope that you will acquire a heightened appreciation for the many constraints and opportunities that confront American policymakers as they interact with the region.

In addition to acquiring practical knowledge about East/Southeast Asia, we will work on perfecting advanced critical reading skills and deepening our understanding of key IR theories. You will find that many of the readings are either intellectually challenging or controversial; these challenges and controversies will be addressed frequently in class, giving you plenty of opportunities to ask questions and develop your own opinions.

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. For more about relevant services, please see <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>
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 are 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 documented medical or military excuses can be exempted from this rule. Late submissions 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 must 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 (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 timeslot 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. Don't do it while class is in session!
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.

11. Finally, please feel free to ask questions and express your opinions freely in class. *So long as you are respectful of others and remain open to debate*, no subject is taboo!

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 available for purchase at the University Co-op:

1. Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Globalization and Its Discontents* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2002).
2. David Kang, *China Rising: Peace, Power and Order in East Asia* (Columbia University Press, 2007).
3. David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, eds., *International Relations of Asia* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008).
4. OPTIONAL: *China: Fragile Superpower* (Oxford University Press, 2008).

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. 26: Introduction to the Course

No readings.

Aug. 31: Defining the Region

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 2 (Kim)

Sept. 2 & 7: How Relevant is “The Clash of Civilizations” for the Asia-Pacific?

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

Sept. 9, 14 & 16: Concepts and Theories of International Relations

G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno, *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific* (2003), chapters 1 (Christensen), 3 (Johnston) & 12 (Berger).

OPTIONAL: Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 3 (Acharya)

Sept. 21 & 23: Japan—the Reluctant Leader

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 8 (Green).

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. 28, 30, Oct. 5 & 7: China in the Region – Past and Present

Kang, all chapters.

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 6 (Saunders).

Oct. 12: In-Class Midterm Exam

Oct. 14, 19 & 21: The East Asian Economy and the “Promise” of Globalization

Stiglitz, all chapters except 5 & 6.

Oct. 26 & 28: Building Regional Institutions – Challenges and Opportunities

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapters 9 (Simon), 13 (Lincoln), 14 (Chanda) & 15 (Cossa).

Nov. 2, 4, 9 & 11: The North Korean Nuclear Crisis

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 12 (Snyder).

Stephan Haggard and Marcus Noland, “Sanctioning North Korea: The Political Economy of Denuclearization and Proliferation,” *Asian Survey* 50:3 (2010): 539-68.

Nov. 16: Second In-Class Midterm Exam

Nov. 18 & 23: The U.S.’s Evolving Role in East Asia

Victor D. Cha, “Powerplay Origins of the U.S. Alliance System in Asia,” *International Security* 34:3 (Winter 2009/10): 158-96.

Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 4 (Sutter).

Nov. 25: Thanksgiving – No Class

Nov. 30 & Dec. 2: The “Asian Values” Debate and Human Rights in East Asia

Gilbert Rozman, “Comparisons of Modern Confucian Values in China and Japan,” in Rozman, ed., *The East Asian Region: Confucian Heritage and Its Modern Adaptation* (1991), pp. 157-203.

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.