

875.532 Understanding East Asia

Fall 2022
Tue 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
Building 140, Room 103
GSIS, SNU

Instructor: Yoon Ah Oh (yoonah.oh@snu.ac.kr)
Office Hours: By appointment
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Course Description

This course provides a graduate level introduction to the study of contemporary East Asia with a heavy emphasis on the region's economic, political, and foreign policy issues. While designed to get students introduced to basic concepts and key debates related to the region, this course is also structured with the goal of getting them familiarized with more common types of data work and academic writing specific to area studies. For the purposes of this course, the geographic scope of the region includes China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia.

Instructional Methods (subject to change based on University guidance related to COVID-19)

The default mode of instruction: **In-person classes**
Synchronous online classes on Zoom when necessary

Course Requirements and Evaluation

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|--------------------------------|------|
| 1 Attendance and participation | 10 % |
| 2 Weekly response questions | 20 % |
| 3 Country tables | 10 % |
| 4 Mid-term exam | 20 % |
| 5 Final exam | 40 % |

1. Attendance and participation: Students are expected to do the readings before they come to class and engage discussions.

2. Weekly response questions: Students will come up with questions on the weekly readings. Those questions will be **discussed** in class.

3. Country tables: Students will put together country information tables. Detailed instructions will be provided.

4. Mid-term exam: Students will take a **3-hour take-home exam**.

5. Final exam: Students will take a **3-hour take-home exam**.

Course Reading

There is no single text for this course. The reading materials will be made available through eTL.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be treated lightly. It will result in lowered or failing grades as well as the possibility of more serious punishments.

Use of Electronic Devices for In-Person Classes

You may use laptops or tablets in class to take notes or consult readings. Any other use of electronic devices is prohibited. Violating this policy will negatively impact your participation grade.

Recording Policy

Video and/or audio recording of any class activity is **prohibited**. Students with approved accommodations from the Center for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present the accommodation letter to the instructor in advance of any recording being done.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction and Course Overview

No readings

Week 2: Contemporary East Asia: Introduction

Ikenberry, G. John. 2016. "Between the Eagle and the Dragon: America, China, and Middle State Strategies in East Asia." *Political Science Quarterly* 131(1): 9–43.

Shambaugh, David L. 2018. "U.S.-China Rivalry in Southeast Asia: Power Shift or Competitive Coexistence?" *International Security* 42(4): 85–127.

Samuels, Richard J. 2007. "Securing Japan: The Current Discourse." *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 125–152.

***Recommended:

Haggard, Stephan. *The East Asian Political Economy: Stylized Facts and Security Debates*. SITC-NWC Policy Briefs 2013-2 (2013).

Acharya, Amitav. "Asia Is Not One," *The Journal of Asian Studies* 69:4 (November 2010): 1001-1013.

Kausikan, Bilahari. "The Binary Fallacy: How Not to Think about Geopolitics in East Asia." *Horizons: Journal of International Relations and Sustainable Development* 11 (2018): 72-89.

Week 3: East Asian Development: Overview

Perkins, Dwight H. 2013. *East Asian Development: Foundations and Strategies*. Harvard University Press. Introduction and Chapters 1, 2.

Coxhead, Ian. 2015. "Introduction: Southeast Asia's Long Transition." In Ian Coxhead (eds) *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economies*. Routledge.

***Recommended:

ADB. 2011. *Asia 2050: Realising the Asian Century* Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 11-17.

Week 4: East Asian Development: Institutions and Policies

*** Country tables due at class time**

Doner, Richard, Ritchie Bryan, and Slater, Dan. 2005. "Systemic Vulnerability and the Origins of the Developmental States: Northeast and Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective." *International Organization* 59(2): 327-361.

Studwell, Joe. 2013. *How Asia Works: Success and Failure in the World's Most Dynamic Region*. New York: Grove Press, 2013.
Introduction and Part I.

*** Recommended

Studwell, Joe. 2013. *How Asia Works: Success and Failure in the World's Most Dynamic Region*. New York: Grove Press, 2013. Part II.

Szirmai, Adam. 2012. "Industrialisation as an Engine of Growth in Developing Countries, 1950–2005." *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* 23(4): 406-420.

Week 5: East Asian Development: Catch-up and Middle-income Trap

Doner, Richard, and Ben Ross Schneider. 2016. "The Middle-income Trap: More Politics Than Economics." *World Politics* 68(4): 608-644.

Coxhead, Ian. 2007. "A New Resource Curse? Impacts of China's Boom on Comparative Advantage and Resource Dependence in Southeast Asia." *World Development* 35 (7): 1099-1119.

*** Recommended

Lee, Keun. 2013. *Schumpeterian Analysis of Economic Catch-up: Knowledge, Path-creation, and the Middle-income Trap*. Cambridge University Press.

Shrestha, Rashesh and Ian Coxhead. 2018. "Can Indonesia Secure a Development Dividend from Its Resource Export Boom?" *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*, 54(1): 1-24.

Week 6: Global Value Chains and East Asia I

WTO and IDE-JETRO. 2011. *Trade Patterns and Global Value Chains in East Asia: from Trade in Goods to Trade in Tasks*. pp. 4-27.

https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/stat_tradepat_globvalchains_e.pdf

World Bank. 2019. *World Development Report 2020: Trading for Development in the Age of Global Value Chains*. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2020>

Week 7: Global Value Chains and East Asia II

Gereffi, Gary, John Humphrey, and Timothy Sturgeon. 2005. "The Governance of Global Value Chains." *Review of International Political Economy* 12(1): 78-104.

*** Recommended

Raj-Reichert, Gale. 2020. "Global Value Chains, Contract Manufacturers, and the Middle-income Trap: the Electronics Industry in Malaysia." *The Journal of Development Studies*, 56 (4): 698-716.

Grimes, Seamus and Debin Du. 2020. "China's Emerging Role in the Global Semiconductor Value Chain." *Telecommunications Policy* 46(2): 101959.

Week 8: Mid-term

Week 9: Asymmetric Economic Interdependence and Political Power: How Fungible Is Economic Power?

Copeland, Dale C. 1996. "Economic Interdependence and War: A Theory of Trade Expectations." *International Security* 20(4): 5-41.

Hirschman, Albert O. 1945. *National Power and the Structure of Foreign Trade*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. pp. 1-29.

Keohane, Robert O. and Joseph S. Nye Jr. 1973. "Power and Interdependence." *Survival* 15(4): 158-165.

***Recommended:

Feigenbaum, Evan A., and Robert A. Manning. 2012. "A Tale of Two Asias" *Foreign Policy*. 31.

Copeland, Dale C. 2015. *Economic Interdependence and War*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Keohane, Robert O. and Joseph S. Nye Jr. 1997. *Power and Interdependence: World Politics in Transition*. Boston: Little, Brown.

Week 10: China's Political Economy

Kroeber, Arthur R. 2020. *China's Economy: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press.
Chapter 1. China's Political Economy.

Liu, Mingtang, and Kellee S. Tsai. 2020. "Structural Power, Hegemony, and State Capitalism: Limits to China's Global Economic Power." *Politics & Society* 49(2): 235-267.

Gordon, Jeffrey N., and Curtis J. Milhaupt. 2019. "China as a National Strategic Buyer: Toward a Multilateral Regime for Cross-Border M&A." *Columbia Business Law Review*. 1:192-251.

Week 11: China's Economic Statecraft

Kroeber, Arthur R. 2020. *China's Economy: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press.
Chapter 13. Conclusion: China and the World.

*** Recommended:

Dreher, Axel, Andreas Fuchs, Bradley Parks, Austin Strange, and Michael J. Tierney. 2017. "Aid, China, and Growth: Evidence from a New Global Development Finance Dataset." AidData Working Paper 46. Williamsburg, VA: AidData.

Zhang, Ketian. 2019. "Cautious Bully: Reputation, Resolve, and Beijing's Use of Coercion in the South China Sea." *International Security* 44(1): 117-159.

Lim, Darren, Victor Ferguson, and Rosa Bishop. 2020 "Chinese Outbound Tourism as an Instrument of Economic Statecraft." *Journal of Contemporary China* 29(126): 916-933.

Smith, Stephen N. 2021. "Harmonizing the Periphery: China's Neighborhood Strategy under Xi Jinping." *The Pacific Review* 34(1): 56-84.

Harrell, Peter, Elizabeth Rosenberg and Edoardo Saravalle. 2018. *China's Use of Coercive Economic Measures*. 11 June. Center for New American Security.

Week 12: Japan and South Korea

Koga, Kei. 2020. "Japan's 'Indo-Pacific' Question: Countering China or Shaping a New Regional Order?" *International Affairs* 96(1): 49-73.

Chung, Jae Ho. 2012. "Korean Views of Korea-China Relations: Evolving Perceptions and Upcoming Challenges." *Asian Perspective* 36(2): 219-236.

Chung, Jae Ho, and Jiyeon Kim. 2016. "Is South Korea in China's Orbit? Assessing Seoul's Perceptions and Policies." *Asia Policy* 21: 123-146.

***Recommended:

Jerdén, Björn and Linus Hagström. 2012. "Rethinking Japan's China Policy: Japan as an Accommodator in the Rise of China, 1978-2011." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 12(2): 215-250.

Midford, Paul. 2015. "Japan's Approach to Maritime Security in the South China Sea." *Asian Survey* 55(3): 525-547.

Yoshimatsu, Hidetaka. 2018. "New Dynamics in Sino-Japanese Rivalry: Sustaining Infrastructure

Development in Asia” *Journal of Contemporary China* 27(113) 719-734.
Chung, Jae Ho. 2007. *Between Ally and Partner: Korea-China Relations and the United States*.
Columbia University Press.

Week 13: Southeast Asia

Ciorciari, John D. 2017. “ASEAN and the Great Powers.” *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 39(2): 252-258.

Goh, Evelyn. 2008. “Great Powers and Hierarchical Order in Southeast Asia: Analyzing Regional Security Strategies.” *International Security* 32(3): 113-157.

Jones, David Martin, and Michael LR Smith. 2007. “Making Process, Not Progress: ASEAN and the Evolving East Asian Regional Order.” *International Security* 32(1): 148-184.

*****Recommended**

Lim, Darren J. and Zack Cooper. 2015. “Reassessing Hedging: The Logic of Alignment in East Asia.” *Security Studies* 24(4): 696-727.

Beeson, Mark. 2019. “The Great ASEAN Rorschach Test.” *The Pacific Review* 33(3-4): 574-581.

Ravenhill, John. 2009. “East Asian Regionalism: Much Ado about Nothing?” *Review of International Studies* 35(S1): 215-235.

Week 14: Area Studies

Tarrow, Sidney. 2010. “The Strategy of Paired Comparison: Toward a Theory of Practice.” *Comparative Political Studies* 43(2): 230–259.

Sydow, Jörg, Georg Schreyögg and Jochen Koch. 2009. “Organizational Path Dependence: Opening the Black Box” *The Academy of Management Review* 34: 689-709.

Mahoney, James. 2000. “Path Dependence in Historical Sociology,” *Theory and Society* 29: 507-548.

*****Recommended**

Sartori, Giovanni. 1970. “Concept Misinformation in Comparative Politics.” *American Political Science Review* 64(4): 1033-1053.

Bates, Robert H. “Area Studies and the Discipline. A Useful Controversy?” *PS: Political Science and Politics*. Vol. 30, No. 2. 1997. pp. 166-169.

Gerring, John. 2004. “What Is a Case Study and What Is It Good for?” *American Political Science Review* 98(2): 341-354.

Week 15: Final Exam

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