

This version: Feb 17, 2020

875.532 Understanding East Asia

Spring 2020
Wed 1:30-4:20 p.m.
Building 140-1, Room 101
GSIS, SNU

Instructor: Yoon Ah Oh (yoonah.oh@snu.ac.kr)
Office Hours: Monday 1:30- 3:30 p.m., or by appointment at Building 140-1, #606

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.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1	Class participation	5 %
2	Weekly research questions (10 weeks)	10 %
3	Data exercises (6 assignments)	30 %
4	Review papers (3 reviews)	30 %
5	Final exam	20 %
6	Additional assignment to make up for the missed class days due to the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)	5 %

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

2. Weekly research questions: Students are required to identify research questions for assigned articles every week. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

3. Data exercises: Students are required to put together key statistical indicators for East Asian countries and to perform some preliminary data analysis. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

4. Review papers: Students are required to write three structural reviews of example papers. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

5. Final exam: Further instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

6. Additional assignment: Further instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

Course Reading

There is no single text for this course. Some of the reading materials will be available through ETL. Students are expected to find journal articles through the SNU library system.

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

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 classroom activity is prohibited as a general rule. 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 (March 18): Introduction and Course Overview

No readings

Week 2 (March 25): Area Studies and Research Methods

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

Ragin, Charles C. 2004. "Turning the Tables: How Case-Oriented Research Challenges Variable-Oriented Research". *Comparative Social Research*. Vol. 16. 1997. pp. 27-42

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

Snyder, Richard. 2001. "Scaling Down: The Subnational Comparative Method." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 36(1): 93-110.

*** Recommended

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

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

Pearce, Lisa D. "Mixed methods inquiry in sociology." *American Behavioral Scientist* 56, no. 6 (2012): 829-848.

Lieberman, Evan I. 2005. "Nested Analysis as a Mixed-Method Strategy for Comparative Research." *American Political Science Review* 99(3): 435-452.

Week 3 (April 1): East Asia as a Region: History, Security, and Interdependence

Holcombe, Charles. "Rethinking Early East Asian History." *Education about Asia* 11, no. 2 (2006): 9-13.

Lee, Ji-Young. "Hegemonic authority and domestic legitimation: Japan and Korea under Chinese hegemonic order in Early Modern East Asia." *Security Studies* 25, no. 2 (2016): 320-352.

Lee, Ji-Young. "Contested American hegemony and regional order in postwar Asia: the case of Southeast Asia Treaty Organization." *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 19, no. 2 (2019): 237-267.

Haggard, Stephan. "The East Asian Political Economy: Stylized Facts and Security Debates." (2013).

Ravenhill, John. 2009. 'East Asian Regionalism: Much Ado about Nothing?' *Review of International Studies*. 35: 215–235.

*** Recommended

Holcombe, Charles. 2010. *A History of East Asia*. New York: Cambridge University Press. "Introduction: What Is East Asia?" pp. 1-10.

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

Week 4 (April 8): East Asian Economies: Transformations

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

Adam Szirmai (2009), *Industrialisation as an engine of growth in developing countries*, UNUWIDER Working Paper No. 2011/75. <http://collections.unu.edu/view/UNU:330>

Pack, H. (2006). *Is There a Case for Industrial Policy? A Critical Survey*. World Bank Research Observer, 21(2), 267-297. <https://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/abs/10.1093/wbro/lkl001>

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

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.

*** Recommended

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

Week 5 (April 15): No Class, Legislative Election

Week 6 (April 22): East Asian Economies: Challenges

Doner, Richard, and Ben Ross Schneider. "The middle-income trap: more politics than economics." *World Politics* 68.4 (2016): 608-644.

Raj-Reichert, Gale (2019) Global Value Chains, Contract Manufacturers, and the Middle-Income Trap: The Electronics Industry in Malaysia, *The Journal of Development Studies*

Kennedy, Andrew B. (2016) Slouching tiger, roaring dragon: comparing India and China as late innovators, *Review of International Political Economy*, 23:1, 65-92

Week 7(April 29): Energy Policy and Political Economy of Natural Resources

Yao, Lixia, Xunpeng Shi, and Philip Andrews-Speed. "Conceptualization of energy security in resource-poor economies: The role of the nature of economy." *Energy policy* 114 (2018): 394-402.

Vivoda, V. and Manicom, J., 2011. Oil import diversification in Northeast Asia: a comparison between China and Japan. *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 11(2), pp.223-254.

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

Torvik, R (2009), Why do some resource abundant countries succeed while others do not? *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, Vol 25, No 2, pp 241-256.

*** Recommended

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.

Week 8 (May 6): Political Challenges in East Asia: Populism

Dornbusch, Rudiger, and Sebastian Edwards. "Macroeconomic populism." *Journal of Development Economics* 32.2 (1990): 247-277.

Pepinsky, Thomas. "Southeast Asia: Voting Against Disorder." *Journal of Democracy* 28.2 (2017): 120-131.

Fukuyama, Francis. "Governance: What do we know, and how do we know it?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 19 (2016): 89-105.

Pasuk Phongpaichit & Chris Baker (2008) "Thaksin's populism," *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 38:1, 62-83

Kevin Hewison (2014) Considerations on inequality and politics in Thailand, *Democratization*, 21:5, 846-866

*** Recommended

Moffitt, Benjamin. *The global rise of populism: Performance, political style, and representation.* Stanford University Press, 2016.

Muller, Jan-Werner, 2016, *What is Populism?* University of Pennsylvania Press.

Thomas, Melissa A. "What do the worldwide governance indicators measure?" *The European Journal of Development Research* 22, no. 1 (2010): 31-54.

Emmerson, Donald K. "Southeast Asia: Minding the gap between democracy and governance." *Journal of democracy* 23.2 (2012): 62-73.

Week 9 (May 13): Meeting the China Challenge

Buzan, Barry. "China in International Society: Is 'Peaceful Rise' Possible?" *Chinese Journal of International Politics* 3 (2010).

Kei Koga, Japan's 'Indo-Pacific' question: countering China or shaping a new regional order? *International Affairs*, Volume 96, Issue 1, January 2020, Pages 49–73

Midford, Paul. "Japan's approach to maritime security in the South China Sea." *Asian Survey* 55, no. 3 (2015): 525-547.

Yoshimatsu, Hidetaka (2018) New Dynamics in Sino-Japanese Rivalry: Sustaining Infrastructure Development in Asia, *Journal of Contemporary China*, 27:113, 719-734

***Recommended

Yoshimatsu, Hidetaka. 2010. "The Mekong Region, Regional Integration, and Political Rivalry among ASEAN, China and Japan" *Asian Perspective* 34 (3): 71-111.

Week 10 (May 20): China's Economic Statecraft

Gallagher, K. P., & Irwin, A. (2014). Exporting national champions: China's outward foreign direct investment finance in comparative perspective. *China & World Economy*, 22(6), 1–21.

Bräutigam, D. and Xiaoyang, T., 2012. Economic statecraft in China's new overseas special economic zones: soft power, business or resource security? *International Affairs*, 88(4), pp.799-816.

Wong, Audrey, 2018. More than peripheral: How provinces influence China's foreign policy. *The China Quarterly*, 235, pp.735-757.

Yu, H. (2017). Motivation behind China's 'One Belt, One Road' initiatives and establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 26(105), 353–368.

Mingjiang Li, The Belt and Road Initiative: geo-economics and Indo-Pacific security competition, *International Affairs*, Volume 96, Issue 1, January 2020, Pages 169–187,

***Recommended:

Scobell, Andrew, et al. *At the Dawn of Belt and Road: China in the Developing World*. Rand Corporation, 2018.

Week 11 (May 27): Southeast Asia Responses to the Rise of China

Womack, B. (2003). China and Southeast Asia: Asymmetry, leadership and normalcy. *Pacific Affairs*, 76(4), 529–548.

Chen, Shaofeng. "Regional Responses to China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative in Southeast Asia." *Journal of Contemporary China* 27.111 (2018): 344-361.

Oh, Yoon Ah. 2018. "Power Asymmetry and Threat Points: Negotiating China's Infrastructure Development in Southeast Asia" *Review of International Political Economy* 25(4): 530-552.

Dwyer, Michael B. "'They Will Not Automatically Benefit': The Politics of Infrastructure Development in Laos's Northern Economic Corridor." *Political Geography* 78 (2020): 102118.

Bhubhindar Singh, Sarah Teo & Benjamin Ho (2017) Rising Sino-Japanese competition: perspectives from South-East Asian elites, *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 71:1, 105-120,

***Recommended:

Gong, Xue. "The Belt & Road Initiative and China's influence in Southeast Asia." *The Pacific Review* 32.4 (2019): 635-665.

Week 12 (June 3): ASEAN Regionalism

Goh, E. (2008). "Great powers and hierarchical order in Southeast Asia: Analyzing regional security

strategies.” *International Security*, 32(3), 113–157.

Ciorciari, John D. "ASEAN and the Great Powers." *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 39.2 (2017): 252-258.

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

Mark Beeson (2019) The Great ASEAN Rorschach Test, *The Pacific Review*, DOI: 10.1080/09512748.2019.1624384

Week 13 (June 10): Korea-Southeast Asia Relations

Lee, Chung H. "Korea's direct foreign investment in Southeast Asia." *ASEAN Economic Bulletin* (1994): 280-296.

Teo, Sarah, Bhubhindar Singh, And See Seng Tan. "Southeast Asian Perspectives on South Korea's Middle Power Engagement Initiatives." *Asian Survey* 56, no. 3 (2016): 555-80.

East West Center in Washington’s Asia Pacific Bulletin Series, TBD

Week 14 (June 17): Final Exam