



Syllabus (2021–Summer)

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Course Title | Politics in Korea and East Asia | Course No. | |
| Department/ Major | | Credit/Hours | 3 credits / 45 Hours |
| Class Time/ Classroom | Mon to Thurs | | |
| Instructor | Antonio Fiori | Department of Political and Social Sciences – University of Bologna (Italy) | |
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| Office Hours/ Office Location | | | |

I . Course Overview

1. Course Description

This course is an overview of East Asia’s politics, aiming at broadly exploring the political and social issues surrounding the Asia–Pacific rim. At the end of the course students will be able to discuss topics related to historical and contemporary patterns of state relations in East Asia, the rise of China, South Korea’s political transformation, the difficult inter–Korean relation, territorial disputes, regional multilateral institutions, and other related issues.

2. Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to enroll in this course.



3. Course Format

| Lecture | Discussion/Presentation | Experiment/Practicum | Field Study | Other |
|---------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|
| 65% | 35% | % | | % |

(Instructor can change to match the actual format of the class.)

Explanation of course format:

The instructor will introduce students to each different topic. Interaction is highly appreciated. At the end of each class, we will devote some time for discussion. Students will be asked to prepare few power points when giving their presentations.

4. Course Objectives

This course aims at providing an introduction to (North)East Asian politics. Apart from the People’s Republic of China and Japan, particular attention will be reserved to South Korea, which will be analyzed by looking at its domestic political development and regional and global interactions.

5. Evaluation System

Relative evaluation Absolute evaluation (for Ewha International Summer College students only) Others :

– Explanation of evaluation system:

Apart from midterm and final exams, participation is highly appreciated and evaluated. In addition, students will be asked to give brief presentations on given topics.

| Midterm Exam | Final Exam | Quizzes | Presentation | Projects | Assignments | Participation | Other |
|--------------|------------|---------|--------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-------|
| 25% | 50% | % | 15% | % | % | 10% | % |

* Evaluation of group projects may include peer evaluations.

II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

1. Required Materials

All the material will be provided by the instructor.

2. Supplementary Materials



3. Optional Additional Readings

III. Course Policies

* For laboratory courses, all students are required to complete lab safety training.

IV. Course Schedule (3 hours each class)

| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|-------|--------|--|
| Day 1 | (6/29) | <p>Introduction to East Asian Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B. Gilley, "Introduction," <i>The Nature of Asian Politics</i>, New York: Cambridge Un. Press, 2014, ch. 1. |
| Day 2 | (6/30) | <p>The Rise and Fall of the Imperial Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D.C. Kang, "Hierarchy, Balancing and Empirical Puzzles in East Asian International Relations," <i>International Security</i>, Vol. 28, No. 3, pp. 57-85. |
| Day 3 | (7/1) | <p>The Cold War in Asia and Regionalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C.M. Dent, <i>East Asian Regionalism</i>, London, Routledge, 2016, ch. 2. G.J. Ikenberry, "America in East Asia: Power, Markets, and Grand Strategy," in E. Krauss and T.J. Pempel (eds.), <i>Beyond Bilateralism</i>, Stanford Un. Press, 2004, pp. 37-54. |
| Day 4 | (7/5) | <p>The Historical Development of China's Politics; China's Political System; the military</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S.V. Lawrence and M.F. Martin, "Understanding China's Political System," CRS Reports for Congress, 2013; W.A. Joseph, <i>Politics in China</i>, Oxford Un. Press, 2019 (third edition), ch. 6. M. Taylor Fravel, "Shifts in Warfare and Party Unity: Explaining China's Changes in Military Strategy," <i>International Security</i>, Vol. 42, No. 3, 2018, pp. 37-83. U.S. Department of Defense, <i>Annual Report to Congress: Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2019</i>, pp. i-v, 1-11, 19-21. F.S. Cunningham and M. Taylor Fravel, "Assuring Assured Retaliation: China's Nuclear Posture and US-China Strategic Stability," <i>International Security</i>, Vol. 40, No. 2, 2015, pp. 7-50. |
| Day 5 | (7/6) | <p>Society, Censorship, Surveillance and Political Control in China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> G. King, J. Pan and M.E. Roberts, "How censorship in China allows government criticism but silences collective expression," <i>American Political Science Review</i>, Vol. 107, No. 2, 2013, pp. 326-343. Y. Deng, and K.J. O'Brien, "Relational repression in China: using social ties to demobilize protesters," <i>The China Quarterly</i>, Vol. 215, 2013, pp. 533-552. |



| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|--------|--------|---|
| Day 6 | (7/7) | <p>Nationalism and Territorial Disputes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K.B. Pyle, “Nationalism in East Asia,” in <i>Asia Policy</i>, No. 3 January, 2007. • K.S. Lim, H. Ju, M. Li, “China’s Revisionist Aspirations in Southeast Asia and the Curse of the South China Sea Disputes,” in <i>China: An International Journal</i>, Vol. 15, No. 1, February 2017. • J. Kim, “The Clash of Power and Nationalism: The Sino-Japan Territorial Dispute,” in <i>Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs</i>, Vol. 5, No.1, 2018. • F. Qiu, “Nationalism and Construction of Regional Security Order,” in <i>Pacific Focus</i>, Vol. 31, No. 3, 2016. |
| Day 7 | (7/8) | <p>China’s Regional and Foreign Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Zhang, “China’s New Foreign Policy under Xi Jinping: Towards ‘Peaceful Rise 2.0’?,” in <i>Global Change, Peace & Security</i>, Vol. 27, No. 1, 2015. • S. Biba, “It’s Status, Stupid: Explaining the Underline Core Problem in US-China Relations,” <i>Global Affairs</i>, Vol. 2, No. 5, 2016. • C.P. Freeman, “China’s Relations with the Korean Peninsula,” in Wu, Frazier et al. (eds.), <i>The Sage Handbook of Contemporary China</i>, Sage, 2018. • Y. Huang, “Understanding China’s Belt & Road Initiative: Motivation, Framework and Assessment,” in <i>China Economic Review</i>, No. 40, 2016. • C.P. Chung, “What are the strategic and economic implications for South Asia of China’s Maritime Silk Road Initiative?” in <i>The Pacific Review</i>, 2017. • V. Tekdal, “China’s Belt and Road Initiative: At the Crossroads of Challenges and Ambitions,” in <i>The Pacific Review</i>, 2017. |
| Day 8 | (7/12) | MID-TERM EXAM |
| Day 9 | (7/13) | South Korea’s Trajectory between Authoritarianism and Democracy. South Korea’s Civil Society. |
| Day 10 | (7/14) | <p>South Korea’s Regional and Foreign Policy; South Korea as Middle Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Oh, “The United States between Japan and Korea: keeping alliances strong in East Asia,” in <i>Korean Journal of Defense Analysis</i>, Vol. 22, No. 2, 2010, pp. 127-140. • H. Kim, “The Role of Political Leadership in the Formation of Korea-Japan Relations in the Post-Cold War Era,” in <i>Asian Perspectives</i>, Vol. 35, 2011, pp. 111-134. • “New Geopolitical Configuration of Power in the Asia-Pacific World for the Twenty-First Century: Will it Resemble Time’s Cycle or Time’s Arrow toward a Regional Brave New World?” in Kang, Sung-Hack, <i>Korea’s Foreign Policy Dilemmas</i>, Kent, UK: Global Oriental, 2011, pp. 344-378. • J. Mo, “South Korea’s middle power diplomacy: A case of growing compatibility between regional and global roles,” in <i>International Journal</i>, vol. 71, 2016. |



| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|------------------|---------|---|
| Day 11 | (7/15) | <p>Inter-Korean Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Kang and V. Cha, "The Debate over North Korea," in <i>Political Science Quarterly</i>, Vol. 119, No. 2, 2004. • C. Armstrong, "Inter-Korean Relations in Historical Perspective," in <i>International Journal of Korean Unification Studies</i>, Vol. 14, No. 2, 2005. • Y. Kim, "North Korea's Threat Perception and Provocation Under Kim Jong-un: The Security Dilemma and the Obsession with Political Survival," in <i>North Korean Review</i>, Vol. 9, No. 1, 2013. |
| Day 12 | (7/19) | <p>Japanese Politics and Foreign Policy and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Maslow, "A Blueprint for a Strong Japan? Abe Shinzo and Japan's Evolving Security System," <i>Asian Survey</i>, Vol. 55, No. 4, 2015, pp. 739-765. • Miyashita, "Where do norms come from? Foundations of Japan's postwar pacifism," <i>International Relations of the Asia-Pacific</i>, Vol. 7, No. 1, 2007, pp. 99- 120. • H. Dobson, "Is Japan Really Back? The "Abe Doctrine" and Global Governance," <i>Journal of Contemporary Asia</i>, Vol. 47, No. 2, 2017, pp. 199-224. |
| Day 13 | (7/20) | <p>Japan's revisionism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C. Hughes, "The DPJ's New Grand Security Strategy: From Reluctant Realism to Resentful Realism?," <i>Journal of Japanese Studies</i>, Vol. 38, No. 1, 2012, 109-140. • K. Kan, "How Can We Cope With Historical Disputes?," in Marie Soderberg (ed.), <i>Changing Power Relations in Northeast Asia</i>, London, Routledge, 2011, pp.19-38. |
| Day 14 | (7/21) | What the Covid-19 pandemic can teach us on Asian politics |
| Day 15 | (7/22) | FINAL EXAM |
| Makeup Classes 1 | (mm/dd) | |
| Makeup Classes 2 | (mm/dd) | |

V. Special Accommodations



* According to the University regulation section #57-3, students with disabilities can request for special accommodations related to attendance, lectures, assignments, or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' request, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD). Please refer to the below examples of the types of support available in the lectures, assignments, and evaluations.

| Lecture | Assignments | Evaluation |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Visual impairment : braille, enlarged reading materials · Hearing impairment : note-taking assistant · Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant | Extra days for submission, alternative assignments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Visual impairment : braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant · Hearing impairment : written examination instead of oral · Physical impairment : longer examination hours, note-taking assistant |

- Actual support may vary depending on the course.

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.