

Politics and Security Challenges in East Asia

Instructor/Title	Assistant Professor Dr. Nur Rafeeda Daut
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Course Outline / Description

This course is designed for students who are interested in international politics and security in East Asia. The course begins by examining the role of history and politics in shaping the security in the of the East Asian region. It attempts to understand the source of state behaviour and prospects for regional stability and instability. Particular attention will be given to the US alliance system in the region, China's military rise, Japanese militarization, politics and security capabilities of North and South Korea as well as Myanmar, Vietnam and the Philippines in Southeast Asia. The course also includes other topics such as insurgency and transnational terrorism, territorial disputes, the Taiwan issue, arms races, maritime security, energy security, and transnational crime and multilateral security cooperation. In addition, this course also considers some implications for Australian policy towards the region. No prior knowledge of the East Asian region, security studies and International Relations theory is necessary.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Have knowledge on a range of topics in politics and security in East Asia
- Be able to analyse key security and policy changes as well as opportunities in the East Asian region
- Understand and evaluate major theoretical traditions and debates in the international security field
- Build oral presentation skills through leading and participating in class discussions.
- Develop concise writing skills.

Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials

Day	Topics	Readings
1.	Course Introduction	No assigned readings
2.	Introducing Politics and Security in East Asia: Content and Context	CIGI Papers 2016: Responding to Security Challenges in East Asia by Ravenhill
3.	The key players: China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Taiwan, Australia and U.S.	China, the U.S-Japan Alliance & Security Dilemma in East Asia by Christensen in International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific
4.	Australia and Asia Pacific: security environment and engagement	CIGI Papers 2013: Australia-Canada Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific
5.	Quiz 1. East Asia Security Cooperation: Regional alliances, Organizations and Forums	Socialization in International Institutions: The ASEAN Way & International Relations Theory by Iain Johnston
6.	The politics of economic interdependence in East Asia	East Asia Economic Interdependence and Regional Security by Cossa & Khana

7.	The politics of economic interdependence in East Asia	Economic Interdependence and the Future of U.S-Chinese relations by Copeland
8.	The Philippines: Domestic and Regional security issues	The revitalized U.S-the Philippines Security Relations by Castro
9.	Vietnam Domestic and Regional Security Issues	Vietnam security challenges by Thuy and Ngoc
10.	Quiz 2: United States Primacy and the Rise of China	China in International Society: Is Peaceful Rise Possible? by Barry Buzan
11.	China: domestic and regional security issues	Beijing Security Behavior in the Asia Pacific: Is China A dissatisfied power? by Iain Johnston
12.	Japanese expansion and Asia-Pacific War	The U.S-Japan Alliance by Allen and Sugg
13.	U.S - Japan Alliance	The U.S-Japan Alliance by Allen and Sugg
14.	Japan: Domestic and Regional Issues	Ambiguous Japan: Japanese National Identity at Century's end by Tamamoto
15.	Japan and Asia Pacific Security	Japan and Asian-Pacific Security by Katzenstein & Okawara in Rethinking Security in East Asia, Identity, Power and Efficiency
16.	In class exercise and discussions	No assigned readings
17.	Mid term examination	In class examination
18.	Alliance Politics: U.S and Republic of Korea	The Future of Korea: An Asia Pacific Perspective by Seldon
19.	Constructivist perspectives on U.S – ROK Alliance	Bound to Last? The U.S Korea Alliance & Analytical Eclecticism by Suh
20.	Contested Memories, Reconciliation and Regional Security	Identity & the balance of Power in Asia by Nau
21.	Quiz 3 Deterrence and Coercive Diplomacy	When is Coercion Successful? by Bratton
22.	Deterrence and Coercive Diplomacy: North Korea	When is Coercion Successful? by Bratton
23.	The Taiwan Issue	The U.S.-China-Taiwan Triangle Relationship by Hong
24.	U.S-Taiwan Relations	The U.S.-China-Taiwan Triangle Relationship by Hong
25.	Regional Security Institution and Order	Asia Pacific Security Institutions in Comparative Perspectives by Duffield
26.	Quiz 4	Energy Security: China & The United

	Energy Security: Cooperation or Conflict	States & the Divergence in Renewable Energy by Steeves and Ouriques
27.	Myanmar Security Issues	Myanmar in Transition by IPCS
28.	Communal conflict in Myanmar	The War on the Rohingyas by Marshall for Reuters
29.	Course wrap up and in class exercise	No assigned readings
30.	Final Exam review	No assigned readings

This syllabus is subject to change with proper notifications prior to revisions.

Readings:

Students for this course are NOT required to purchase any textbooks. Weekly readings from the main textbooks and articles from academic journals will be posted on blackboard.

Main textbooks

- Rethinking Security in East Asia, Identity, Power and Efficiency. Edited by J.J. Suh, Peter J. Katzstein & Allen Carlson
- International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific. Edited by G. John Ikenberry & Michael Mastanduno

Course structure

Classes will consist of lectures, discussions, group activities and presentations.

****Important**:** It is crucial that students do the readings before coming to class in order to be able to participate actively during discussions. The readings are also intended to provide students with ideas and arguments for written assignments.

Exams: There will be one mid-term and one final exam

Group work & writing assignments:

After every group work session, each student is required to write a short essay. There will be 4 short essays and each consists of 5 points. In total, ALL the writing assignments are worth 20% of your grade. The 4 short essays are based on the various topics that we will be discussing in class. The essays are about 1-2 pages in length and have to be typed (12 font, double spaced) and turned in during the designated day and time.

Quizzes: There will be 4 quizzes in total for this class. ONLY the best 2 quizzes will be counted for the final grade.

Evaluation criteria:

Quizzes 20%

Participation and group work 20%

Writing assignment 20%

Midterm 20%

Final exam 20%

Class etiquette

- Be aware that not everyone in the class shares the same political or other views—and that these views do tend to emerge in Political Science classes. Please be respectful of

your classmates and professor.

- Cellphone use during class is disrespectful, and thus strictly prohibited (voice or text).
- You may use a laptop in class, but ONLY for valid class-related reasons.
- Kindly be on time and please avoid entering the classroom once lecture has started.