

International Relations of Asia FALL 2019

Section 1

Instructor/Title	Dr. Wolf Hassdorf
Office/Building	Main Administration Building, Nakamiya Campus, Room 910

【Course Outline / Description】

The international relations of Asia have evolved rapidly and are taking center stage in global politics. As one of the world's most vital regions, East Asia embodies explosive economic growth and vibrant societies, but also conflicting national interests and strategic competition among major powers, challenging regional stability. The course will analyze the increasing complexity of international relations in East Asia. It will emphasize strategic aspects in interstate relations related to growing tensions about security and concerns about possible conflict in the region. It covers major theories to understand the international relations of East Asia, the historical background, the major actors in East Asian politics (US, China, Japan, India), the Taiwan issue, the Korean peninsula, regional cooperation and the impact of globalization on the region.

The course will start with a historical-theoretical overview. The second part will cover the relationship and growing rivalry between the three great powers framing the international relations of the region: the USA, China and increasingly India. This will set the stage for reviewing two key strategic issues in regional security politics: the South China Sea and Taiwan. Next we will cover the international relations of Japan in the region, its relationship with China and the Korean peninsula. The last section of the course will discuss the economic and security dimension of Asian regionalism.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

By the end of this course students will have acquired the knowledge and competence to systematically analyze the international politics of East Asia. They will be able to understand where the region is headed. They will have developed a multidimensional understanding of the region's political actors, structures and main policy issues. They will be able to apply theory and historical knowledge to reflect on the unique nature the East Asian international relations and the challenges the region faces.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

Course Schedule:

	Schedule of Instruction	Work Outside of Classroom Activities
Class 1	Introduction of the course	Read syllabus carefully and prepare questions regarding the course.
Class 2	CLASS DISCUSSION: What do we know about East Asian international politics? History, Actors, Structures, Challenges	READING: 'International Relations in Asia: A multidimensional analysts', Ch. 1 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 3	LECTURE: The international relations of East Asia from a historical perspective	READING: 'The evolving Asian system: three transformations', Ch. 2 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 4	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): History: The People's Republic of China, Japan, Korea	READING: 'The evolving Asian system: three transformations', Ch. 2 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 5	LECTURE: International Relations Theories about Asia	READING: 'Thinking Theoretically about Asian IR', Ch. 3 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 6	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): Is there a need for non-Western International Relations Theory to understand East Asia?	READING: 'Thinking Theoretically about Asian IR', Ch. 3 in: Shambaugh (2014) Group Work: Kang (2003) 'Getting Asia Wrong' vs. Mearsheimer (2014) 'Can China Rise Peacefully?'
Class 7	LECTURE: External power: the United States in East Asia	READING: 'The United States in Asia: Durable Leadership', Ch. 4 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 8	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work):	READING: 'The United States in Asia:

	The U.S. Alliance System in Asia	<p>Durable Leadership', Ch. 4 in: Shambaugh (2014)</p> <p>GROUP WORK:</p> <p>Katzenstein: 'Why is there no NATO in Asia?' (Article Blackboard)</p> <p>Cha: Lecture 'Powerplay: The Origins of the American Alliance System in Asia:' (Transcript Blackboard)</p>
Class 9	LECTURE: China in East Asia: a rising global power	READING: 'China's role in Asia: attractive or assertive?', Ch. 6 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 10	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): China's domestic politics: the Party-State – history and future scenarios	<p>READING: 'China's role in Asia: attractive or assertive?', Ch. 6 in: Shambaugh (2014)</p> <p>GROUP WORK: 'China's Polity', Ch. 4 in: Shambaugh (2016) 'China's Future' (handout)</p>
Class 11	LECTURE: India as a regional power	READING: 'India's role in Asia: a rising regional power ', Ch. 7 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 12	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): India-Japan relations	READING: 'India's role in Asia: a rising regional power ', Ch. 7 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 13	REVIEW SESSION: How to write the long essay? Topics, structure etc.	READING: Blackboard posting: 'How to write an argumentative essay'
Class 14	LECTURE: The Taiwan Issue in the regional and international setting	READING: The Brookings Institution (2019): The Taiwan Issue and the Normalization of US-China Relations

		(Blackboard)
Class 15	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Is Taiwan's 'status quo' sustainable? The 'One China' policy and the future of Taiwan's Identity	VIDEO PRESENTATION: 'Cross-Strait Dilemmas'
Class 16	STUDENT-LED CLASS: The South China Sea dispute	In-class group work and discussion
Class 17	LECTURE: Japan's international relations in Asia	READING: 'Japan's role in Asia: searching for certainty', Ch. 8 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 18	LECTURE: Regional Challenges and Japan's Grand Strategy	Hughes, C.W. (2016) 'Japan's Resentful Realism 'and Balancing China's Rise'
Class 19	VIDEO/DISCUSSION: CNN Video on life and society in North Korea	Hughes, C.W. (2016) 'Japan's Resentful Realism' and Balancing China's Rise'
Class 20	LECTURE: The Korean Peninsula: challenges to regional security	READING: 'The Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asian stability', Ch. 12 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 22	LECTURE: ASEAN, Regional economic institutions and East Asian Security	READING: 'ASEAN and Southeast Asia: remaining relevant', Ch. 9 in: Shambaugh (2014)
Class 23	LECTURE: The East Asian Regional Economy	ADB (2011) Asia 2050: Realizing the Asian Century (Blackboard)

Class 24	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): Japan's regional economic strategy	Katada (2016) At the Cross-Roads: The TPP, AIIB and Japan's Foreign Economic Strategy. (Blackboard)
Class 25	LECTURE/Video: China's 'Belt Road Initiative' (BRI) BBC Documentary 'Our World 2017: China New Silk Road' (with introduction and discussion)	Watch BBC documentary
Class 26	STUDENT-LED CLASS (Group work): The Belt-Road Initiative: Opportunities, Risks, and Feasibility	READING: One-Belt-One Road: China's Great Leap Outward (2015) Callahan (2016) 'China's Asia Dream: The Belt-Road Initiative' (both on blackboard)
Class 27	Concluding Class Debate: The future of East Asian International Relations: Cooperation or Conflict?	READING: 'Looking Ahead: A New Asian Order', Ch. 16 in Shambaugh (2014)
Class 28	REVISION : Revision for the final exam: review of the course content	REVISE: ppts, class notes, and especially the core readings, practice argumentative essay writing.

Course Organization:

The course combines lectures by the course instructor with student-led classes (group work) and class discussion. Each class has a core reading assignment: a key journal article or sections of a textbook chapter. Students will have to read the assigned core reading *before* class. Knowledge of the reading assignments will be tested in quizzes. Students will be required to participate in group work and presentations. They are expected to form their own opinions and actively partake in class discussion.

The course has two weekly class sessions of 90 minutes each. As a rule, Session A will start with a 5-10 minutes review of East Asian current affairs of the week by an individual student (Current Affairs Review). Students should make use of the on-line current affairs sources on Asia given above. The current affairs review will be followed by a lecture by the course instructor on the weekly topic, followed by class discussion.

Session B is a student-led active learning experience to expand on the topic of the lecture (Session A). The class will be split up in student teams. Teams will prepare short presentations on their respective topics. Preparation time (using on-line sources) will be 20 minutes max. Team presentations (by a speaker of each team) should be not more than 5 min per team. The presentations will be followed by class discussion. Finally the session will be wrapped up by the instructor reviewing the learning attainments of the section.

[Textbooks/Reading Materials]

Textbook

Shambaugh, David, and Michael Yahuda, eds, 2014. *The International Relations of Asia*, 2nd edition. Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (available as Kindle e-book)

Recommended Readings

- Auslin, Michael R. 2017. *The End of the Asian Century: War, Stagnation, and the Risks to the World's Most Dynamic Region*. New Haven & London: Yale University Press.
- Ayres, Alyssa. 2018. *Our Time Has Come: How India is Making Its Place in the World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Ba, Alice D. 2009. *(Re)negotiating East and Southeast Asia: region, regionalism, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations*. Stanford, Cal.: Stanford University Press.
- Calder, Kent E., and Min Ye. 2010. *The Making of Northeast Asia*. Stanford, Cal.: Stanford University Press.
- Goldstein, Avery, and Edward D. Mansfield, eds, 2012. *The Nexus of Economics, Security, and International Relations in East Asia*. Stanford, California: Stanford Security Studies, an imprint of Stanford University Press.
- Grimes, William W. 2009. *Currency and contest in East Asia: the Great Power Politics of Financial Regionalism*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Haggard, Stephan. 2000. *The political economy of the Asian financial crisis*. Washington, DC: Institute for International Economics.
- Ikenberry, G. John, and Chung-in Moon. 2008. *The United States and Northeast Asia: debates, issues, and new order*. Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Joseph, William A., ed., (2010). *Politics in China: An Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Kang, David C. 2007. *China rising: peace, power, and order in East Asia*. New York: Columbia University Press
- Maçães, Bruno. 2019. *Belt and Road: A Chinese World Order*. London: Hurst Publishers.
- Pollack, Jonathan D. 2016. *Order at Risk: Japan, Korea and the Northeast Asian Paradox*. Asia Working Group: Paper 5, The Brookings Institution. https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/fp_20160901_northeast_asian_paradox_v2.pdf
- Rigger, Shelley. 2011. *Why Taiwan matters: small island, global powerhouse*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Samuels, Richard J. 2007. *Securing Japan: Tokyo's grand strategy and the future of East Asia*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Shambaugh, David, ed., 2012, *Tangled Titans: The United States and China*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Shambaugh, David. 2016. *China's Future?* Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Shirk, Susan L. 2007. *China: fragile superpower*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Tan, Andrew T. H., ed., 2015. *Security and Conflict in East Asia*. New York: Routledge.
- Yahuda, Michael. 2011. *The International Politics of the Asia Pacific*, Third and revised edition. Hoboken: Taylor & Francis.
- Yahuda, Michael. 2013. *Sino-Japanese Relations After the Cold War: Two Tigers Sharing a Mountain*. New York: Routledge.

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

Grading

Final Exam	30%
Weekly Quizzes (instead of midterm exam)	10%
Writing Assignment (Essay)	25%
Group Work and Presentations	35%

Group work refers to student groups preparing and leading class discussion and the preparation and presentation of individual economic affairs reviews. Students must do at least one current affairs review

and participate in one group work presentation.

Weekly quizzes (multiple choice) will have 4 questions each. The max score for a quiz is 100 points. Simply taking the quiz (being present) will get students a base score of 40 points. For each correctly answered question students will gain an additional 15 points. (all 4 questions answered correctly = 60 points).

The final exam will be in the format of argumentative essay writing. Students will have to answer two out of 9 exam questions (related to the weekly topics). The final exam will be preceded by a review session. Finally, a 1500- 2000 word paper individually written by students has to be submitted as hard copy to the instructor in the beginning of class meeting 27. Essay topics must relate to the course topic, but the exact focus can be chosen individually by students in line with their research interests, in coordination with the instructor.