

International Relations of Asia Spring 2021

On-line

Tue 10:45-12:15 (JST) (live)

Thu 10:45-12:15 (JST) (asynchronous)

Section 1

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

【Course Outline / Description】

Asia has evolved rapidly over the last half century and is now taking center stage in global politics. As one of the world's most vital regions, Asia embodies explosive economic growth and vibrant societies, but also conflicting national interests and strategic competition among major powers, challenging global stability. The course will analyze the increasingly complex international relations in Asia. It will emphasize issues of national identity as well as strategic aspects. The rising tensions between China and the US will be central to the analysis. The course introduces major International Relations (IR) theories as analytical tools, with special attention to non-western IR theories. It will cover historical background, the major actors (US, China, Japan, India), the Taiwan issue, the Korean peninsula and regional cooperation.

The course will start with a historical-theoretical overview. The second part will address the relationship and growing rivalry between the three great powers framing the international relations of the region: the USA, China and increasingly India. Next the course will discuss the international relations of Japan in the region, and the tensions surrounding the island of Taiwan and the Korean peninsula. Finally the course will review 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 Asia and to 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 Asian international relations and on the challenges facing the region.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

Course Schedule:

	Schedule of Instruction	Work Outside of Classroom Activities
<i>Class 1</i> <i>Jan 26</i> <i>(live)</i>	Introduction of the course. What do we know about East Asian international politics?	READING: 'Introduction', Ch. 1 in: Yahuda (2019)
Class 2 Jan 28	LECTURE: The international relations of East Asia from a historical perspective	READING: 'The impact of the Cold War on the Asia-Pacific', Ch. 2 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 3</i> <i>Feb 2</i> <i>(live)</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: History: The People's Republic of China, Japan, Korea	GROUP WORK: 'From unipolarity to uncertainty: 1991-2018', Ch. 3 in: Yahuda (2019)
Class 4 Feb 4	LECTURE: International Relations Theories about Asia	READING: Acharya (2014) 'Thinking Theoretically about Asian IR'
<i>Class 5</i> <i>Feb 9</i> <i>(live)</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Non-Western International Relations Theory in East Asia	GROUP WORK: Kang (2003) 'Getting Asia Wrong' Callahan (2015) 'History, Tradition and the China Dream: socialist modernization in the World of Great Harmony'
<i>Class 6</i> <i>Feb 16</i> <i>(live)</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: The U.S. Alliance System in Asia	GROUP WORK: Katzenstein: 'Why is there no NATO in Asia?' Cha: 'Powerplay: The Origins of the American Alliance System in Asia.'
Class 7 Feb 18	LECTURE: External power: the United States in East Asia	READING: 'The United States in the post-Cold War transformation', Ch. 4 in: Yahuda (2019)
Class 8 Feb 25	LECTURE: China in East Asia: a rising global power	READING: 'China: The ascent to global economic, political and military influence', Ch. 5 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 9</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>March 2</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: China's search for global influence: soft-smart-sharp power?	GROUP WORK: Shambaugh (2015) 'China's Soft Power Push: The Search for Respect' Singh (2018) 'From Smart Power to Sharp

		Power: How China Promotes her National Interests'
Class 10 March 4	LECTURE: US -China Rivalry: From Strategic Partner to Strategic Competitor	READING: Allison (2015) 'The Thucydides Trap: Are the U.S. and China Headed for War?' Tellis (2019) 'The Return of U.S.-China Strategic Competition'
<i>Class 11</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>March 9</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Competing Narratives: how China and the U.S. perceive each other	GROUP WORK: 'Chinese Narratives about the US, American Perceptions of China', in: Lippert and Perthes (2020) 'Strategic Rivalry between United States and China'
Class 12 March 11	LECTURE: India as a regional power	READING: T.V. Paul (2014) 'Indian Soft Power in a Globalizing World'
<i>Class 13</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>March 23</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: India and China: competing or complementary visions of international order?	GROUP WORK: Manjari Chatterjee Miller (2018) 'China, India and their Differing Conceptions of International Order'
Class 14 March 25	LECTURE: The Taiwan Issue in the regional and international setting	READING: 'Democratization and the evolution of Taiwan', Ch. 8 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 15</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>March 30</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: The 'One China' policy and Taiwan's Identity: Is Taiwan's 'status quo' sustainable?	GROUP WORK: Yang (2016) 'Explaining National Identity Shift in Taiwan'
Class 16 Apr 1	LECTURE: Japan's international relations in Asia	READING: 'Japan: re-emergence after a long decline', Ch. 6 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 17</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>Apr 6</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Regional points of tension (1): South Korea-Japan Tensions (History and Territory)	GROUP WORK: In-class group work and discussion
Class 18 Apr 8	REVIEW SESSION: How to write the long essay? Topics, structure etc.	READING: 'How to write an argumentative essay'
<i>Class 19</i> <i>(live)</i> <i>Apr 13</i>	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Regional Challenges and Japan's Grand Strategy	GROUP WORK: Hughes, C.W. (2016) 'Japan's "Resentful Realism" and Balancing China's Rise'

Class 20 April 15	LECTURE: The Korean Peninsula: challenges to regional security	READING: 'DPRK and ROK: Issues of Identity', Ch. 7 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 21</i> <i>(live)</i> April 20	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Constructivism v. Realism- Debating North Korea's Nuclear Strategy: David Kang: Enduring Truths about North Korea Victor Cha: The North Korea Challenge	VIDEOS: Video presentations by David Kang and Victor Cha
Class 22 April 22	LECTURE: ASEAN, Regional Institutions and East Asian Security	READING: 'Southeast Asia: America's relative decline and China's rise', Ch. 9 in: Yahuda (2019)
<i>Class 23</i> <i>(live)</i> April 27	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Regional points of tension (2): India-China border tensions - The South China Sea dispute	GROUP WORK: In-class group work and discussion
Class 24 April 29	LECTURE: South Asia in the field of tension between China and India	READING: T.V. Paul (2019) 'When balance of power meets globalization: China, India and the small states of South Asia'
Class 25 May 6	LECTURE: The East Asian Regional Economy	READING: Ahn (2018) 'Is There a Future for Economic Integration in East and South East Asia?'
<i>Class 26</i> <i>(live)</i> May 11	STUDENT-LED CLASS: Japan's regional economic strategy	GROUP WORK: Katada (2016) 'At the Cross-Roads: The TPP, AIIB and Japan's Foreign Economic Strategy.'
Class 27 May 13	LECTURE/POTCAST: China's 'Belt Road Initiative' (BRI) Potcast: Bruno Maçães and Linda Yueh on the Chinese World Order (Dec 2018)	READING: Callahan (2016) 'China's Asia Dream: The Belt-Road Initiative'
<i>Class 28</i> <i>(live)</i> May 18	CONCLUDING CLASS DEBATE: The future of East Asian International Relations: Cooperation or Conflict?	READING: 'Conclusion: Looking ahead', Ch. 10 in: Yahuda (2019)
Class 29 May 20	REVISION :Revision for the final exam: review of the course content	

Course Organization:

The course will be taught on-line, using Zoom and Blackboard. It combines weekly lectures by the course instructor (asynchronous) with weekly live student-led classes (group work and discussion). Each meeting has a core reading assignment: normally a chapter of the textbook. 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 give at presentations. They are expected to form their own opinions and actively partake in class discussion.

[Textbooks/Reading Materials]

Textbook

Yahuda, Michael. 2019. *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*, 4th edition. London and New York: Routledge.

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.
- 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. 2018. *Belt and Road: A Chinese World Order*. London: Hurst Publishers.
- Paul T.V., ed. 2018. *The China-India Rivalry in the Globalization Era*. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press.
- Pollack, Jonathan D. 2016. *Order at Risk: Japan, Korea and the Northeast Asian Paradox*. Asia Working Group: Paper 5, The Brookings Institution.
- 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.
- Shambaugh, David, ed. 2020. *China and the World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Shambaugh, David, and Michael Yahuda, eds, 2014. *The International Relations of Asia*, 2nd edition. Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- Tan, Andrew T. H., ed., 2015. *Security and Conflict in East Asia*. New York: Routledge.
- 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 students presenting and leading class discussion and participating actively. Weekly quizzes (multiple choice) will given on the weekly core reading (textbook chapter). The final exam will be in the format of argumentative essay writing. The final exam will be preceded by a review session. A 1500-2000 word paper individually written by students has to be submitted (e-mail attachment) to the instructor on the day of class meeting 28. 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.