Politics and Security Challenges in East Asia

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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 history and politics of the states in the region and how they shape and influence security issues. It attempts to understand the source of states 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 Koreas 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, transnational crime and multilateral security cooperation. In addition, this course also considers some implications for Australian policy towards the region.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Have knowledge on a range of security issues 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 by 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. Critical Security in the Asia Pacific: An Introduction, Matt McDonald.
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 East Asia Security Cooperation: Regional alliances, Organizations and Forums	CIGI Papers 2013: Australia-Canada Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific Socialization in International Institutions: The ASEAN Way &

Iain Johnston 5. In class activities and discussions No assigned readings 6. The politics of economic interdependence in East Asia East Asia Economic Interdependence in East Asia 7. The politics of economic interdependence in East Asia Economic Interdependence and the Future of U.S-Chinese relations be Copeland 8. The Philippines: The Catholic Church, Poverty and the Moro Islamic Movement. The revitalized U.S-the Philippine Security Relations by Castro 9. Vietnam: The Golden Triangle and Drugs Trade No assigned readings 10. Discussions No assigned readings 11. United States Primacy and the Rise of China In International Society: I Peaceful Rise Possible? by Barr Buzan 12. Japanese expansion and Asia Pacific War The U.S-Japan Alliance by Allen an Sugg 13. U.S - Japan Alliance The U.S-Japan Alliance by Allen an Sugg 14. Japan: Domestic and Regional Issues Ambiguous Japan: Japanese Nations Identity at Century's end b Tamamoto 15. Japan and Asia Pacific Security Reinterpretation of the Article 9 in Japan' Constitution and its Implications No assigned readings 17. Mid term examination In class examination Alaiance Walasa Asia Pacific Security b Ratzenstein & Okawara i R	2021 Spring S	Demester	
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21. Discussions No assigned readings	21.	Discussions	No assigned readings

2021 Spring Semester

2021 Spring a	Jemester	
22.	Deterrence and Coercive Diplomacy: North	When is Coercion Successful? by
	Korea	Bratton
23.		The U.SChina-Taiwan Triangle
	The Taiwan Issue	Relationship by Hong
24.	U.S-Taiwan Relations	The U.SChina-Taiwan Triangle
		Relationship by Hong
25.	Discussions	No assigned readings
26.		Energy Security: China & The United
		States & the Divergence in Renewable
	Energy Security: Cooperation or Conflict	Energy by Steeves and Ouriques
	Energy Security: China and Central Asia	Re-Centering Central Asia: China
		New Great Game in the Old Eurasian
		Heartland by Xiangmin Chen
27.	China-India Relations. India's Interests in East	India and East Asia: The Look East
	Asia	Policy by G.V.C Naidu
28.	Myanmar Security Issues – Democracy and the	Myanmar in Transition by IPCS
	role of Aung San Suu Kyi	
29.	Communal conflict in Myanmar	The War on the Rohingyas by
		Marshall for Reuters
30.	Final Exam review	No assigned readings
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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. Katzestein & Allen Carlson
- International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific. Edited by G. John Ikenberry & Michael Mastanduno

Course structure

Classes will consist of lectures and discussions

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 for written assignments.

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

Evaluation criteria Short papers 40% Midterm 20% Final exam 20% Participation 20%