

Politics and Security Challenges in East Asia

Instructor/Title	Associate Professor Dr. Nur Rafeeda Daut
Office/Building	Main Administration building. Room 708
Office hours	by appointment
Contacts (E-mail)	nurdaut@kansaigaidai.ac.jp

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 Korea as well as Myanmar, Malaysia 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	U.S-China rivalry and Southeast Asia by ISEAS
3.	Southeast Asia Regional Security Issues	The twin Chessboard of U.S-China rivalry by Cheng Chee Kuik
4.	South China Sea Dispute	South China Sea Emerging issue architecture
5.	ASEAN and managing security of Southeast Asia ASEAN Challenges: Human rights, Drug Trafficking and other Transnational Crimes The Golden Triangle and Drugs Trade	ASEAN & the ASEAN way by Acharya ASEAN Political-Security Community: Challenges of establishing regional security in the Southeast Asia
6.	Australia, China & US relations Australia-China relations before & after Covid-19	Australia, China, and the U.S. in an Era of Interdependence: Irreconcilable Interests, Inadequate Institutions?

7.	Malaysia: Race Relations Under the British rule	From Malay Nationalism to Malaysian nation by Mauzy
8.	Malaysia: Islamization & Ethnic Conflict	Islamization in Malaysia: Processes & Dynamics by Abbot
9.	The Philippines: The Catholic Church, Poverty and the Moro Islamic Movement.	The revitalized U.S-the Philippines Security Relations by Castro
10.	Video documentary on Church and overpopulation in the Philippines Short Paper 1	No assigned readings
11.	Buddhist nationalism & communal conflict in Myanmar	Politics & Religion in Contemporary Burma by Syed Al-Juneid
12.	Myanmar Security Issues – Democracy and the role of Aung San Suu Kyi	The Root Causes of Myanmar’s Coup Go Deeper by Ye Myo Hein
13.	Video documentary on Myanmar Short paper 2	No assigned readings
14.	United States Primacy and the Rise of China China: domestic and regional security issues Before & After Covid19	China in International Society: Is Peaceful Rise Possible? by Barry Buzan Beijing Security Behavior in the Asia Pacific: Is China A dissatisfied power? by Iain Johnston
15.	Class discussion	No assigned readings
16.	Review, discussion & Mid-term test	Review, discussion & Mid-term test No assigned readings
17.	Uyghur Muslim Community in Xin Jiang China Is China Threatened by Islam?	Ethnic cleansing and Uyghur Identity by EFSAS
18.	China: Cyber Power & Espionage	China’s Cyber power in the new era by Asia Pacific Regional Security Assessment.
19.	Video Documentary on China Short paper 3	No assigned readings
20.	Japanese expansion and Asia-Pacific War & U.S -Japan Alliance	The U.S-Japan Alliance by Allen and Sugg
21.	Japan and Asia Pacific Security: Reinterpretation of the Article 9 in Japan’s Constitution and its Implications	Japan and Asian-Pacific Security by Katzenstein & Okawara in Rethinking Security in East Asia, Identity, Power and Efficiency
22.	Constructivist perspectives on U.S – ROK Alliance	Bound to Last? The U.S Korea Alliance & Analytical Eclecticism by Suh
23.	Contested Memories, Reconciliation and Comfort women	Comfort Women: Gabrielle Jonsson
24.	Video documentary on comfort women Short paper 4	No assigned readings

25.	Deterrence and Coercive Diplomacy: North Korea. Is reunification possible?	When is Coercion Successful? by Bratton
26.	The Taiwan Issue & US-Taiwan Relations Will China attack Taiwan?	The U.S.-China-Taiwan Triangle Relationship by Hong Role of Taiwan of U.S-China Relations by Haas
27.	Taiwan's security: Semiconductors & Strategy	Taiwan's Semiconductors Industry –Economist
28.	Energy Security: Cooperation or Conflict Energy Security: China and Central Asia Different methods of securing energy: US & China	Energy Security: China & The United States & the Divergence in Renewable Energy by Steeves and Ouriques Re-Centering Central Asia: China New Great Game in the Old Eurasian Heartland by Xiangmin Chen
29.	Energy Security in East Asia: Implications of the War in Ukraine	Energy Crisis by Renewable Energy Institute
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. Katzev & 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/Reflection papers 40%

Midterm 20%

Final exam 20%

Participation 20%

Short papers/Reflection papers

There will be 4 short papers/reflection papers in total for this course. Each short paper (1-3 pages, 12 font, double spaced) will consist of 10 points.