

Foreign Policies of East Asia

(USED IN 2002)

POL 375.A
Wednesday: 1:00-3:50
Harrison Hall 313

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Office Hours:
10-12 Monday
9-11 Thursday

Course Introduction:

In this course we will study the dynamic region of East Asia. The countries in this area—China, Japan, and Korea—are in a process of economic and political change that is reshaping how they deal with each other and with the outside world. We will talk about these changes and what they mean, especially for certain key issues in the region, such as China's growing economic strength, the status of Taiwan, and the division of Korea.

Politics in the region is constantly evolving, making me just as much a student as you. One tool I use to learn about the region is the magazine Far Eastern Economic Review (in paper or at its free website). This semester, I would like us all to read it each week, and discuss the interesting articles in class.

Reading List:

The four required books should be at local bookstores. If not, I believe that Amazon.com ships them within 24 hours.

- Nathan, Andrew and Robert Ross: 1996. The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress
- Oberdorfer, Don: 1997. The Two Koreas
- Yahuda, Michael: 1996. The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific, 1945-1995
- There will be also be readings on electronic reserve.

We will also be reading the Far Eastern Economic Review each week. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to subscribe to, so I will not require you to buy it. Instead, you can read it at the King Library, or on the internet, as the current issue's articles are available free. You can find it at:

- www.feer.com

We will see one movie (assuming I can get a copy of it) from Korea.

- JSA: Joint Security Area

I will announce this time and place later.

Assignments

Your grade will be based on a combination of class participation (30%), a research paper (30%), and quizzes (35%).

a) There will be three in-class quizzes, one after each section of the course. They will be mainly short-answer questions on the material in the textbooks and lectures. I will not, though, ask questions about the class discussions.

b) I expect you to write a paper that addresses a significant political question in East Asia (approximately 10-12 pages). I will be pretty flexible on topics, but I would like you to come see me after class or at office hours to confirm your paper topic (by mid-term). If you are having trouble thinking of a topic, please come see me early. If you want, you may bring me a rough draft of the paper in advance and I will go through it to suggest improvements in the composition and writing. The paper must be: 1) 12 point font, 2) one-and-a-half spaced, and 3) stapled.

c) This is a seminar, and I expect you to take responsibility for the class. I will lecture for some of each class (more so towards the beginning of the semester), but hopefully you will play the major role in class. Each of you are expected to lead a short discussion on a FEER article once per section (for a total of three times). This will involve preparing a short (1-2 minute max) spoken summary of the article. Then I would like you to present one critique of the article (you can point out somewhere you disagree and why, talk about a misinterpretation, or some important fact you feel they left out and what it means). Finally, I would like you to lead a brief (10~ minute) discussion, for which you should have 2-4 thought provoking questions prepared in advance. These questions should not be simple factual questions, but ones like "what does this mean for X?" I would like you to bring a second copy of your presentation notes to give to me, but these do not need to be typed or even written in complete sentences.

d) There will also be a small map quiz during the second week of class to make sure no one gets lost when we talk about various places. Since I will tell you the exact questions and answers in advance, everyone should be able to get a perfect score on this (5%).

THE SCHEDULE

W 8/21:

- Introductions. Map assignment handed out.

CHINA

Week 1: F 8/23 Introduction to China

- Nathan and Ross: Ch. 1

Week 2: 8/25, 8/28: Legacy of the Past

- Yahuda: Ch. 1 & 2
- Nathan and Ross: Ch. 2,3, & 4

- Wednesday, 8/28: **Map Quiz at beginning of class**
- Friday 8/30: **NO CLASS**

Week 3: 9/3 - 9/6: Domestic Politics and Human Rights

- (Note: Monday/Tuesday Class Exchange Day)

- Nathan and Ross: Ch. 7 & 10
- Electronic Reserve: Selections from *The Tiannanmen Papers*

Week 4: 9/9 - 9/13: Economic Powerhouse

- Nathan and Ross: Ch. 9
- Many of the articles in FEER deal with the Chinese economy, so this might be a good week to do your presentations.

Week 5: 9/16 - 9/18: Dealing with the World

- Yahuda: Ch. 3 & 6
- Nathan and Ross: Ch. 5, 6, & 8

Week 6: 9/23 – 9/25 Taiwan

- Nathan and Ross, Ch. 11 & 12

9/27 China Quiz

KOREA

Week 7: 9/30 – 10/4: About Korea

- Electronic Reserve: Breen: 1998. *The Koreans*
- Oberdorfer: Ch. 1
- *Evening Movie: Joint Security Area (Korean) Time and Place TBA.
 - This will replace the regular 4 October class.

Week 8: 10/7 – 10/11: Domestic Politics

- Oberdorfer: Ch. 2, 5, & 7
- Electronic Reserve: Cumings: "Nation of the Sun King: North Korea"

Week 9: 10/14 – 10/16 (No class on 10/18): Dealing with the Outside World

- Oberdorfer: Ch. 8-10

Week 10: 10/21 – 10/23: Dealing with North Korea

- Oberdorfer: Ch. 6, 11-15

10/25 Korea Quiz

Japan

Week 11: 10/28 – 11/1 About Japan

- Electronic Reserve: Barry: "Dave Barry does Japan"
- Electronic Reserve: Van Wolferen: "The Enigma of Japanese Power" Ch. 16

Week 12: 11/4 – 11/8 The US-Japan Alliance

- Electronic Reserve: Funabashi "Alliance Adrift" ch 12,13,14

Week 13: 11/11 – 11/15 Japan's Place in Asia

- Yahuda: Ch. 7

- Oberdorfer: "The Struggle with Japan" p.51-56

Week 14: 11/18 – 11/20 Economics

- Electronic Reserve: Lincoln: "Japan's Unequal Trade"

11/22 Japan Quiz

Epilogue: How should the US deal with Asia?

Week 15: 11/25 (No class 11/27 or 11/29)

- Electronic Reserve: Bernstein and Munro: "The Coming Conflict with America"
- Electronic Reserve: Sigal, Gerald: "Does China Matter?"

Week 16: 12/2 – 12/6

- Yahuda: Ch. 8

Lawyerly Stuff:

Late assignments will be penalized one full letter grade for every 24 hours that they are overdue. I understand that sometimes difficult situations arise and make it impossible to meet assignment deadlines, so rather than asking you to make excuses, I will allow each student to be late for one assignment, whatever the reason. However, late assignments will not be accepted after that assignment has been handed back to other students and discussed.

In the papers I expect you to use footnotes whenever you refer to something you read. I don't care what format you use as long as you tell me where the information is from. If you want, you can learn one popular format at <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/citing.html>. I want you to use footnotes for two reasons. The first is that it makes your argument much more convincing when you say that a respected newspaper or author says something rather than just you. Second, it is plagiarism if you don't. Don't feel like you have to be original about everything—I'll be just as happy if you find a good argument in a book or magazine and use that as long as you say where you got it.

Academic dishonesty on any of these assignments will at a minimum result in the perpetrator receiving a score of 0 for the assignment in question. Other sanctions up to and including receiving an F for the course may be imposed.