

Prof. Mel Gurtov
(mgurtov@aol.com)

Fall 2008
Office hrs.: Tues., 9-12

PS 410/510: KOREA AND ITS NEIGHBORS: POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY

Course Objectives

We employ a variety of international-relations and comparative-politics frameworks to understand the functioning, interests, and objectives of the political and foreign-policy systems of the two Koreas. Our goal is to appreciate the unusual domestic and international environments in which these two parts of a divided state must operate. The role of outside actors has always been crucial to Korea's history, and that role also receives considerable attention.

Texts

Lynn Hyung Gu, *Bipolar Orders*
Y. W. Kihl, *Transforming Korean Politics*
Samuel Kim, *The Two Koreas and the Great Powers*
KEI, *In Korea 2008* (to be distributed in class)

Course Requirements

(1) **Consistent attendance** and reading of required materials; (2) **research paper, due Nov. 18**; (3) **midterm exam, Oct. 28**; (4) comprehensive **final exam**. **Graduate students** are expected to do additional readings (*) and write two ten-page papers (one due Nov. 18, the other at the last class) or one 20-page paper (due at the last class) besides meeting the above requirements.

(**Please take note:** Students are responsible for being aware of the date and time of the final examination, and taking it then. Only in exceptional circumstances will a final exam be given at another time. Likewise, an Incomplete grade will only be given in extraordinary circumstances, and then only if the student has attended class regularly and completed all other assignments. Late papers are accepted until the final class, with penalty in proportion to lateness.)

Introduction: Understanding Modern Korea

Kim, ch. 1
Lynn, Introduction

Part 1: Politics in South and North Korea

Session 1 (ROK politics to 2002) - Kihl, chs. 1-4; Lynn, ch. 1
Internet: www.korea.net ("government" link: Executive Branch, Legislature, Business & Economy)
Session 2 (ROK economic and social conditions) – Lynn, ch. 2; Kihl, chs. 5-6
Session 3 (ROK politics since 2003) – Kihl, ch. 8 to end of book

Session 4 (DPRK political-economy) – Lynn, chs. 3-4; articles from the KEI reader; Congressional Research Service, *The North Korean Economy* (Aug. 2008), at www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32493.pdf

“Giving Until It Hurts” (a US foundation battles the NK bureaucracy to provide health care): www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/04/AR2008030402500_pf.html

*D. Hawk, *The Hidden Gulag* at <http://www.hrnk.org/hiddengulag/toc.html>

Part 2: Korean (Re-)Unification

Lynn, chs. 5-6

Kim, ch. 6 and

www.nytimes.com/2008/08/21/business/worldbusiness/21korea.html

*KEI – Shin chapter

Part 3: International Relations of the Two Koreas

Overview: Former President Roh Moo-hyun on nationalism in East Asia: http://globalasia.org/articles/issue2/iss2_1.html

Politics of Foreign Policy: Kihl, ch. 7

Korea-US Relations

Kim, ch. 5

KEI – Roehrig chapter

*T. Shorrock, “The US Role in Korea in 1979 and 1980”:

<http://kotaji.blogspot.com/2006/02/06/tim-shorrock-kwangju/>

*Sung-Chul Yang, “Arbitrator or Antagonist,” www.globalasia.org (Fall 2007)

Korea-China and Korea-Russia Relations

Kim, chs. 2 and 3

*KEI – Marumoto and Weitz chapters

Korea-Japan Relations

Kim, ch. 4

KEI – Easley chapter

www.nytimes.com/2008/08/31/world/asia/31islands.html?

The North Korea Nuclear Issue

Congressional Research Service, “North Korea’s Nuclear Weapons” (12/5/07): www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/RL34256.pdf

Ctr. for International Security and Cooperation (Stanford), *Negotiating with North Korea: 1992-2007*, at http://iis-db.stanford.edu/pubs/22128/Negotiating_with_North_Korea_1992-2007.pdf

Documents:

- (1) The Oct. 1994 US-DPRK Agreed Framework (Stanford, doc. 3):
www.armscontrol.org/documents/af.asp
- (2) US-DPRK Joint Communiqué of Oct. 2000 (Stanford, doc. 7):
www.nautilus.org/DPRKBriefingBook/agreements/CanKor-VTK-2000-10-12-joint-communicue-usa-dprk.pdf
- (3) Nov. 2005 US-ROK (Bush-Noh) Joint Declaration:
www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/11/20051117-6.html
- (4) Feb. 2007 Six Party Talks agreement (Stanford, doc. 11):
www.nautilus.org/fora/security/07013Statement.html

Part 4: The Northeast Asia Strategic Picture

International Crisis Group, *North East Asia's Undercurrents of Conflict* (Dec. 15, 2005), at www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?l=1&id=3834

The China Factor

*John Ikenberry, “The Rise of China”:

www.foreignaffairs.org/20080101faessay87102-p0/g-john-ikenberry/the-rise-of-china-and-the-future-of-the-west.html

*Robert Zoellick on “responsible stakeholder”

www.state.gov/s/d/rem/50498.htm

*Office of Sec. of Defense, *Military Power of the PRC 2008*:

www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pdfs/China_Military_Report_08.pdf

*Zhang Xiaoming and Ruan Zongze, articles on China’s “community building” in Southeast and Northeast Asia, in *Asian Perspective*, No. 3 (2006), online at www.asianperspective.org.

Guide to the Research Paper

1. Topic: Choose any topic within the scope of the course, but *check with me to make certain your choice is appropriate*. Besides topics having to do with North-South Korea relations and most any aspect of the politics or international relations of the two Koreas, you may also research: (1) Korea’s relations with East Asia (incl. Southeast Asia) multilateral groups, such as ASEAN; (2) South Korea’s role in international organizations, such as the UN and WTO; (3) the role of particular Korean institutions, such as the military or the judiciary; (4) trade, investment, and aid issues; (5) the impact on Korea of region-wide issues (e.g., environment, commerce, human rights, migration, energy); (6) origins and nature of international conflict in the region.

2. Approach: It is important that your essay be first and foremost a foreign-policy *analysis* and not merely a description of events. *Clarify the purpose of your paper in the first paragraph. Fulfill that purpose in your text and conclusion.*

3. The Paper: about 8 double-spaced pages (10-12 for grad students), using a *minimum* of 6 sources (10 for grad students, including primary sources). You may cite the course

texts, but they will not count among your sources. The *Internet* may be used for official documents, newspapers, and published, signed scholarly articles. Do *not* use news magazines such as *Time* or *Newsweek*, or encyclopedias (including Wikipedia); but *do* use scholarly periodicals (*see* the separate guide) and well-informed media such as *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Nikkei Weekly*, *Asahi Shimbun*, and the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*.

4. Citing sources: Use any consistent form for citing sources: footnotes, endnotes, in-text notes. A bibliography is *not* needed; include relevant information (author, article and journal or book title, and *page numbers*) in your notes. **See your texts** for proper citation styles. Cite all your sources actually used, but none other. Regarding Internet sources, *identify* specific reports or papers within the URL, not just the basic URL address.

5. Check spelling, punctuation, and grammar. A sloppily written paper will count heavily against you. Don't forget to title and paginate your essay. 12-point font, please.

6. Do not rely too heavily on any one source. Avoid lengthy quotations from sources; paraphrase instead.

6. Questions? I'm here; and I would like to see each of you at some time during your research.

Sources for Up-to-Date Information in English on Northeast Asia

1. Scholarly Periodicals

Far Eastern Economic Review (monthly, Hong Kong)

Asian Survey (monthly, U.S.)

China Quarterly (quarterly, UK)

China Journal (quarterly, Australia)

Asian Perspective (quarterly, S.Korea and U.S.)

Journal of Contemporary Southeast Asian Studies

Journal of Northeast Asian Studies

Pacific Affairs (quarterly, Canada)

2. Newspapers in English on-line

Korea Herald, Korea Times (Seoul)

Asahi Shimbun, Yomiuri Shimbun, Nikkei Weekly (Tokyo)

Asia Wall Street Journal.

China Daily (Beijing)

NAPSNet daily news roundup via e-mail (subscribe free at www.nautilus.org)

3. Documentary and Statistical Sources

APEC home page: www.apecsec.org.sg

ASEAN home page: www.asean.or.id

Asian Development Outlook (annual) and Key Indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries.

Asian Development Bank, Manila.

World Development Report. Annual from World Bank, Washington, DC.

WorldWatch Institute papers, including the annual *State of the World*.