

Political Science 439G-001
Contemporary International Problems: East Asian Security
(Fall 2004)

Instructor: Tae-Hyung Kim

Class Times: MWF 12:00-12:50 PM, CB 201

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Office Hours: T 3:00-4:30 PM, Th 3:00-4:00 PM or by appointment

Course Description

The course is designed to provide the principal security issues and trends in East Asia. As one of the most dynamic region, both politically and economically, in the world, East Asia has also attracted much attention for its strategic importance and current vigorous military activity. With the four major powers' (the US, China, Japan, and Russia) interests converging in the region, the focus of the course will be primarily on the major and middle Northeast Asian powers (the four major powers and the two Koreas and Taiwan). Beginning with historical and theoretical backgrounds on the region's security dynamics, the course will move on to deal with the major players' security concerns and their interactions. Then we will address regional efforts to bring peace and deal with lingering security problems in East Asia. The course will end with the US policy towards the region and its perspective.

Required Texts

Michael Brown, Sean Lynn-Jones, and Steven Miller, (eds.), *East Asian Security: An International Security Reader* (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1998)—Hereafter EAS

Muthia Alagappa, (ed.), *Asian Security Order: Instrumental and Normative Features* (Stanford: CA: Stanford University Press, 2003)—Hereafter ASO

Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific, 1945-1995* (London and New York: Routledge, 1996)—Hereafter Y

Selig S. Harrison, *Korean Endgame: A Strategy for Reunification and US Disengagement* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2002)—Hereafter KE

Additional readings will be available through designated websites, on reserve in the Young Library and the #1643 at POT.

Course Assignments

Exams: Students will have one midterm exam and one final exam. You will be tested on your understanding of both reading materials and lectures.

Term paper: Each student is required to write a 10-12 page argumentative paper. The paper (typed and double-spaced) will be an analysis of debatable issues in East Asian security. Paper topics should be approved in advance (by 9/29), and the requirements of the paper will be distributed later during the course.

Readings: Besides the course materials, students are also encouraged to read regularly and widely about East Asia in prominent newspapers (*New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *CNN*, *BBC* etc.) weekly or other foreign affairs publications (e. g. *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Foreign*

Affairs, The Economist, etc.). Generally, the first five or ten minutes of each class will be devoted to discussing such material. Dependent upon how well students are prepared for the current situations in East Asia, I will reserve a right to include it in the exams.

Class Participation: Students are encouraged to attend class and vigorously participate in discussions. I will not take attendance every time. I will pass an attendance sheet occasionally, and that will count for your attendance grade. I will also reserve the right to give pop quizzes if it appears that attendance or participation is slacking off. **Sleeping, chatting with classmates, reading the newspaper during class period, letting your cell-phones ring, putting away your things before I finish the class, and leaving the classroom in the middle of the class without telling me in advance are very disrespectful to not only the instructor but also to your fellow students. So don't do it, or you will have to bear the consequences!**

Late Assignments and Exam Make-Ups

Your paper is due at the beginning of the class period on the announced due date. A late paper will have its grade reduced by 10 points for each 24 hour period it is late (not accepted more than 5 days late). Lateness will be excused only upon written confirmation of exceptional hardship, and only if you had no opportunity to communicate with me prior to the due date. As for exams, missed exams will be allowed to be made up only upon written confirmation of sudden, exceptional hardship, and only if you had no opportunity to communicate this to me prior to the exam. Therefore, "I overslept," "I forgot when the exam was," etc. will not work.

Communication

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of talking to me. If you are having problems with anything, please come see me. I want you to succeed in the course, and will be more than happy to help you to do so, but I can't help you if I don't know that you are struggling.

Grading

10% Attendance and Participation
30% Midterm Exam
30% Final Exam
30% Term Paper

Grading Scale

A 90-100
B 80-89
C 70-79
D 60-69
E 0-59

Ethical Policy

Both cheating and plagiarism are very serious crimes and are dealt with harshly by the university. According to the university rules, the minimum punishment for plagiarism is an E for the course without an option to repeat. The maximum punishment is expulsion from the university.

Class Schedule

8/25 Introduction of Class

8/27, 30: Brief Historical Overview (Y Part I)

9/1, 3: Theoretical Overview (ASO p. 52-105)

9/6 Labor Day—No Class

9/8, 10: East Asia after the Cold War (EAS Part. 1, ASO Intro)

China

9/13: Historical Background (Y Ch. 6)

9/15: Strategy (“China’s New “Old Thinking,” in EAS)

9/17, 20: “The Rise of China” (EAS p. 113-187; and Alastair Iain Johnston, “Is China a Status Quo Power?” *International Security* Vol. 27, No. 4 (Spring 2003) p. 5-56. **Reserve**)

9/22 Video: TBA

9/24, 27: Taiwan (ASO p.361-6); Chen Qimao, “The Taiwan Strait Crisis: Its Crux and Solutions,” *Asian Survey* Vol. 36, No. 11 (Nov. 1996) p. 1055-66 **JSTOR** and **Reserve**; and Denny Roy, “Tensions in the Taiwan Strait,” *Survival*, Vol. 42, No. 1 (Spring 2000) p. 79-96 <http://www.survival.oupjournals.org/>and **Reserve**)

9/29: Discussion-Is China a Threat? **Paper Proposal Due**

10/1 Fall Break—No Class

Japan

10/4: Historical Background (Y Ch. 7)

10/6, 8: Strategy and Security (EAS Part III; and Eric Heginbotham and Richard Samuels, “Mercantile Realism and Japanese Foreign Policy,” *International Security* Vo. 22, No. 4 (Spring 1998) p. 171-203. **JSTOR** and **Reserve**)

10/11: Midterm Review

10/13: **Midterm Exam**

The Korean Peninsula

10/15, 18: North Korea (KE Part I)

10/20, 22: South Korea and Unification (KE Part II,; and ASO p. 353-61)

10/25: Discussion: Unification of the Korean Peninsula and its Implications

10/27: Video: TBA

10/29: No Class-Conference Participation

Russia

11/1, 3: Russia's quest for security in East Asia (Y Ch. 5; KE CH. 25; and an article TBA)

Regionalism

11/5: Regional Institutions (ASO Ch. 6)

11/8: Economic Interdependence (ASO Ch. 8)

Lingering Problems

11/10, 12, 15: Proliferation of WMD (ASO Ch.13; and KE Part IV)

11/17: Territorial Disputes (ASO Ch. 14)

11/19, 22: Internal Security and Terrorism (ASO Ch. 14; and an article TBA) **11/22 Term Paper Due**

11/24 – 26 No Class—Thanksgiving Holidays

11/29: Human Security (ASO Ch. 15)

The US

12/1, 3, 6: US Policy towards East Asia (Y Ch. 4, ASO Ch. 4, KE Part III, and US Department of Defense, "The US Security Strategy for the East Asia-Pacific Region, <http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/easr98/> and **Reserve**

12/8: Future of East Asian Security (ASO Ch. 16)

12/10 Final Review

12/15 **Final Exam (10:30 AM)**