International Politics of the Asia Pacific

PS456/556
(Winter 2007)
Bexl 102
T/TH 9:00-10:50

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Office Hours:
Tuesdays 3:00-4:00
Thursdays 3:00-4:00
or by appointment

In this course, our primary concern will be to examine the political, energy, and immigration dimensions of Asian Pacific security. Relevant social and cultural factors will also be discussed. Particular attention will be given to analyzing the different interests and perspectives of the major regional players: China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Taiwan, Russia, and the United States as an Asian Pacific power.

Required books:


Requirements

1. Midterm: The midterm will be an in-class examination and will be on Tuesday, Feb. 13. The midterm will contain several short essay questions, from which the student will select two, and possibly some IDs.

2. Class Presentation: Each student is required to make one class presentation on one of the assigned readings. The presentation should be about 5-10 minutes and should summarize the major arguments of the reading. The student should also pose 3-4 questions to the class from the readings and lead the class discussion.

3. Research Paper: Each student is required to write a research paper which provides a political analysis of a regional security issue. Each student should discuss the proposed research topic with the instructor prior to beginning work on the paper. The paper should be 8-10 pages in length; for graduate students, it should be 15 pages. The paper is due on March 13, 2007, at 5 p.m.
4. **Class Attendance:** Students are required to attend classes regularly and to participate actively in class discussion.

**Final Grade:**

- Class Participation = 15%
- Midterm = 25%
- Class presentation = 20%
- Research paper = 40%

100%

**Some useful links:**


This syllabus is subject to change.
Course Outline

Week 1  January 9 & 11
Course Introduction
Asia Pacific and its Historical Context
Yahuda, Chapters 1-3

Week 2  January 16 & 18
The Policies of the Regional Powers (1)
Yahuda, Chapter 4-5

Week 3  January 23 & 25
The Policies of the Regional Powers (2)
Yahuda, Chapters 5-7

Week 4  January 30 & February 1
The Structure of International Relations in the Asia Pacific after the Cold War
Yahuda, Chapters 8-11

Week 5  February 6 & 8
China as a Rising Power
Shambaugh, Chapters 1-4

Week 6  February 13 & 15
China’s Security Strategy and its Implications for the United States
Shambaugh, Chapters 11-14
Week 7  February 20 & 22

Japan’s Security Strategy since 9/11)

Kliman, Chapters 1-4 & 7-8

Week 8  February 27 & March 1

A Regional Security Flash Point: North Korea

Kliman, Chapter 5
Shambaugh, Chapters 6-7

Week 9  March 6 & 8

Energy Security

“Asia’s Great Oil Hunt,” at: http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/04_46/b3908044.htm
“Russia, China to Sign Joint Oil Pipeline Agreement,” at: http://en.rian.ru/russia/20051103/41985685.html

Week 10  March 13 & 15

The Immigration Security Dilemma
Conclusion

“Fears Grow of Chinese Moving into Russia’s Sparsely Populated Far East,” Financial Times (handout)
Shambaugh, Chapters 15-16
Yahuda, pp. 338-44