Political Science 117
Political Economy of East Asia

Course Description

We will examine the origins of economic development and contemporary international political economy in East and South East Asia. The course materials are designed for advanced undergraduates with some previous coursework in political science, although there are no prerequisites.

Course Requirements

Section Participation (20%)
Short Essays (10% x 2 = 20%)
Midterm Examination (30%): In-class midterm to be administered on 2/11
Final Examination (30%)

Essays

Each short essay (300-500 words) should briefly synthesize and critique two or three readings from a particular week. They are due at the beginning of section during which those readings are to be discussed. One essay should be submitted for Part I of the class (Weeks 2-6) and another for Part II (Weeks 7-10).

General Policies

Weekly participation in Section is required – unexcused absences will result in a half-grade reduction in the student’s final grade, e.g. an A becomes an A-, a B+ become a B, etc. Late assignments will be penalized by half a letter grade each day the assignment is late.

Readings

Readings will be made available on course work.
Overview:

Week 1 (1/7) Introduction

Part I
Week 2 (1/12 & 1/14) Early Political Economy
Week 3 (1/21) Institutional Foundations
Week 4 (1/26 & 1/28) Economic Development and the East Asian Miracle
Week 5 (2/2 & 2/4) Japan’s Lost Decade
Week 6 (2/9) Sources of Chinese Development

(2/11) In-Class Midterm Examination
At least one short essay must be submitted by the beginning of section on Week 6.

Part II
Week 7 (2/18) The Asian Financial Crisis
Week 8 (2/23 & 2/25) The Asian Financial Crisis and Implications
Week 9 (3/2 & 3/4) Regional Cooperation
Week 10 (3/9 & 3/11) East Asia in the International System

(3/16) Final Examination
Second short essay must be submitted by the beginning of section on Week 10.
Week 1:

1/7

Introduction

(Get started on the readings for Week 2)

Week 2: Early Political Economy

1/12


1/14


Week 3: The Origin of Institutions

1/19 (University Holiday No Class)

1/21


**Week 4: Economic Development and the East Asian Miracle**

**1/26 Overview**


**1/28**

Chalmers Johnson, *MITI and the Japanese Miracle* (Stanford University Press, 1982), pp. 3-34.


**Week 5: Japan’s Lost Decade**

**2/2**


2/4


**Week 6: Sources of Chinese Development**

2/9


2/11 Midterm Examination
Week 7: The Asian Financial Crisis (2/16)

2/16


Week 8: The Asian Financial Crisis and Lessons

2/23


2/25


Articles on Recent Events

Week 9: Regional Cooperation in East Asia

3/2


Eisuke Sakakibara and Sharon Yamakawa, *Regional Integration in East Asia: Challenges and Opportunities* (World Bank East Asia Project, 2003), pp. 45-65.

3/4


Week 10: Asia in the International System

3/9


3/11


Hitoshi Tanaka, “With Asia's Rise, Global Governance Must Be Reformed” http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,590168,00.html