

East Asian Economy and Politics

Professor: Cho-Hsin SU
Course Department: Graduate School of East Asian Studies
Language: English

Course objectives

This course aims to educate students to understand East Asia, anticipate probable developments in the region, and think critically about the potential long-term impact of those developments on institutions, countries, and individuals across the globe. By the end of the semester, the students are expected to develop the intellectual skills to effectively analyze key events and issues happening in East Asia.

Course description

The course will be a blocked course of four lectures. The first lecture contains a general introduction on the history, culture and international relations in East Asia. On the second lecture, the course will focus on the economic dimension of the East Asian studies, introducing the characteristic flying geese model and the regionalism/regionalization development in different pace. The third lecture of the course will bring forward the politics in East Asia, presenting the special political dynamics in the region and highlighting some hotspots where tension is at rise (e.g. Korean Peninsula, Taiwan Strait, etc.). Finally, on the fourth lecture, we will take an interregional perspective and examine the Europe-East Asia relationship. Throughout the course, students are expected to participate in gathering information and discussing with class with formed arguments. And on the final class, each student will select a dimension for comparative study between Europe and East Asia and present it to the class. The presentation should compose of an analytical framework and should also offer a viewpoint of the chosen topic.

Class schedule

Lecture	Topic	Reading list
1	Class Introduction: Discovering East Asia	Pencea, S. (2017). "A Look into the Complexities of the One Belt, One Road Strategy". In <i>Global Economic Observer</i> , 5 (1): 142-158; Dent, C. (2016). <i>East Asian Regionalism</i> . 2nd ed. Routledge.
2	East Asian Economy	Balding, C., Hoontrakul, P. and Marwah, R. (ed.) (2014). <i>The Global Rise of the Asian Transformation: Trends and Development in Economic Growth Dynamics</i> . Palgrave Macmillan.;

		Suehiro, A. (2008). <i>Catch-up Industrialization: The Trajectory and Prospects of East Asian Economies</i> . T. Gill (trans.). University of Hawaii Press.
3	East Asian Politics	Hsieh, F.-S. (2017). “Cross-Strait Relations in the Aftermath of Taiwan’s 2016 Elections”. In <i>Journal of Chinese Political Science</i> , 22 (1): 1-15; Wajjwalku, S., Ho, K. C. and Yoshida, O. (ed.) (2016). <i>Advancing the Regional Commons in the New East Asia</i> . Routledge; Virginie, G. (2015). “The Kim Dynasty and the North-East Asian Security: Breaking the Cycle of Crises”. In <i>North Korean Review</i> , 11 (2): 25-44.
4	Interregional perspective: Europe and East Asia	García, I. J. M. (2017). “Interregionalism in Transnational Interest Networks: Euro-Asian Civil Society and the EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement”. In <i>Globalizations</i> , 14 (4): 563-577. Björkdahl, A., Chaban, N., Leslie, J. and Masselot, A. (ed.) (2015). <i>Importing EU Norms: Conceptual Framework and Empirical Findings</i> . Springer.

Teaching approach

In each class, there will be lecture-giving and Q&A time, where students’ active participations are expected. On the fourth lecture, students are required to present a chosen topic in interregional studies with theoretical analysis and sound viewpoint. The topic could range from general structural comparative study (e.g. regional institutional design, regional historical development, etc.) to specific policy area comparative study (e.g. financial regionalism, refugee management, counter terrorism cooperation, etc.).

Course requirements/Grading standards

Class participation 30%

Weekly protocols of lecture and class discussion: 30%
Final presentation 40%

Textbook & references

- Balding, C., Hoontrakul, P. and Marwah, R. (ed.) (2014). *The Global Rise of the Asian Transformation: Trends and Development in Economic Growth Dynamics*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Björkdahl, A., Chaban, N., Leslie, J. and Masselot, A. (ed.) (2015). *Importing EU Norms: Conceptual Framework and Empirical Findings*. Springer.
- Dent, C. (2016). *East Asian Regionalism*. 2nd ed. Routledge.
- Hsieh, F.-S. (2017). “Cross-Strait Relations in the Aftermath of Taiwan’s 2016 Elections”. In *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 22 (1): 1-15.
- García, I. J. M. (2017). “Interregionalism in Transnational Interest Networks: Euro-Asian Civil Society and the EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement”. In *Globalizations*, 14 (4): 563-577.
- Pencea, S. (2017). “A Look into the Complexities of the One Belt, One Road Strategy”. In *Global Economic Observer*, 5 (1): 142-158.
- Suehiro, A. (2008). *Catch-up Industrialization: The Trajectory and Prospects of East Asian Economies*. T. Gill (trans.). University of Hawaii Press.
- Virginie, G. (2015). “The Kim Dynasty and the North-East Asian Security: Breaking the Cycle of Crises”. In *North Korean Review*, 11 (2): 25-44.
- Wajjwalku, S., Ho, K. C. and Yoshida, O. (ed.) (2016). *Advancing the Regional Commons in the New East Asia*. Routledge.