

CAS IR 788/PO 789: International Relations of the Asia-Pacific

Fall 2007
Monday, 1-4 p.m.
IRC 220 (152 Bay State Rd.)

Professor William Grimes

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This course provides an overview of international relations in the Asian-Pacific region. The Asia-Pacific is a region of extraordinary importance across virtually all aspects of global politics and economics. It is also a region filled with apparent contradictions and unresolved questions. It is thus vitally important for students and practitioners of international relations to develop a reasonable grasp of what is going on there.

The countries of the Asia-Pacific include both the three great nuclear powers and its most brazen proliferators. As the world looks to the future of China, China itself looks to the past in dealing with Japan. Territorial issues remain unresolved more than half a century since the end of World War Two. The United States, China, and Japan comprise the world's three largest economies by purchasing power, but China is also a developing economy with a non-convertible currency. East Asian states are involved in an ambitious attempt to create regional institutions to support their growing economic integration, and yet suspicions between the two natural leaders of East Asia – China and Japan – have been conspicuous in numerous ways. The US-Japan security alliance, which has been the lynchpin of the Asia-Pacific security environment for decades, is seen as both stabilizing and destabilizing – sometimes simultaneously and by the same observers. The list goes on and on. Even the conception of the “Asia-Pacific” as a region is problematic; the dispute over how to understand the boundaries of the region in turn builds off of and in turn may affect existing political divisions.

The Asia-Pacific is being pushed together and pulled apart on an ongoing basis by military and economic trends arising both locally and globally. The key questions are whether the region is headed toward greater cooperation or conflict and how states and other actors may be able to affect the direction. Fundamentally, these are questions of how to manage the rise of China. But that simple question cannot be answered – or even addressed – in a simple manner. This course will take a multi-faceted approach to doing so. Among the topics it addresses are the current balance of power, sources of regional economic dynamism, states' strategies, stability of alliance relationships, venues for discussion and cooperation, key territorial disputes, and Japan's “history problem.” The analytical approach is eclectic, drawing from the traditions of realism, liberalism, and constructivism; students are expected to think through the applicability of different approaches to specific situations.

Requirements

This course will be conducted as a seminar. Students are expected to attend all classes, keep up with the weekly reading assignments (approximately 150-200 pp. per week), and participate actively in class discussions. Written assignments include a 5-7 page paper on an assigned question and a research paper of approximately 20 pages on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. In addition, students are also required to post at least three short “thought papers” on the CourseInfo bulletin board over the course of the semester, and to comment on at least three thought papers posted by other students. Students will also be expected to comment anonymously on the short papers of other students. (Papers will be distributed randomly for comments, with no identifying information.) The weights for grades are as follows:

Short Paper	25%
Research Paper	40%
CourseInfo Postings	15%
Attendance/Participation	20%

ACADEMIC HONESTY: You are expected to provide citations in papers for all quotations, paraphrases, and ideas taken from any source other than your own original thoughts. Boston University has very strict standards for intellectual integrity. Punishment for plagiarism is severe, and can include permanent expulsion from the university. For details, see <http://www.bu.edu/grs/academics/resources/adp.html>.

NOTE: If you miss class for any reason, it is **your** responsibility to ensure that you obtain any assignments or handouts. All assignments and handouts, as well as the syllabus, will be available through CourseInfo.

Required Texts:

Victor Cha and David Kang, *Nuclear North Korea: A Debate on Engagement Strategies*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno, eds., *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

Samuel S. Kim, ed., *The International Relations of Northeast Asia*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2003.

Naoko Munakata, *Transforming East Asia: The Evolution of Regional Economic Integration*. Washington, DC: Brookings, 2004.

T.J. Pempel, ed., *Remapping East Asia: The Construction of a Region*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005.

Robert Ross and Alastair Iain Johnston, eds., *New Directions in the Study of China's Foreign Policy*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2006.

Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2005.

The above books are on sale at the bookstore and on reserve in the library. Copies of all other chapters and articles in the syllabus are available through CourseInfo or through the BU Library system – via E-Journals or on reserve in either Mugar or Pardee (SMG) library.

Course Outline

- 9/4 Course Introduction & Key Themes
- 9/11 Postwar Asia – Strategic and Economic Fundamentals
Ikenberry and Mastanduno, chapt. 7, 9, Conclusion; Weatherbee, Chapt. 3
- 9/18 Current Strategic & Institutional Framework
Kim, chapt. 1, 11; Aaron L. Friedberg, "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (Fall 2005), pp. 7–45; Robert Jervis, "Thinking Systemically About China," *International Security*, Volume 31, Number 2, (Fall) 2006, pp. 206-208; David Shambaugh, "China Engages Asia: Reshaping the Regional Order," *International Security*, Vol. 29, No. 3 (Winter) 2004/05, p. 64-99; Nicholas Khoo, M.L.R. Smith, David Shambaugh, "China Engages Asia? Caveat Lector," *International Security*, Volume 30, Number 1, (Summer) 2005, pp. 196-211; Kent Calder and Min Ye, "Regionalism and Critical Junctures: Explaining the 'Organization Gap' in Northeast Asia," *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 4, no. 2 (May-August) 2004, pp. 191-226.
- 9/25 Challenges for the United States
Ikenberry and Mastanduno, chapt. 1; Thomas Christensen, "Posing Problems without Catching Up: China's Rise and Challenges for U.S. Security Policy," *International Security*, 25:4 (Spring 2001), pp. 5-40; Peter Hays Gries and Thomas Christensen, "Correspondence: Power and Resolve in US-China Policy," *International Security*, 26:2 (Fall 2001), pp.155-165. First and Second Armitage-Nye Reports: <http://www.ndu.edu/inss/strforum/SR_01/SR_Japan.htm> and <http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3729/type,1>.
- 10/1 The Rise of China and China's Grand Strategy
Kim, Chapt. 2, 3; Ross and Johnston, Chapt. 7; Avery Goldstein, "China's Grand Strategy and U.S. Foreign Policy," Foreign Policy Research Institute E-Note, September 27, 2005
<<http://www.fpri.org/enotes/20050927.asia.goldstein.chinagrandstrategy.html>>; Lampton, "Faces of Chinese Power," *Foreign Affairs*, Jan/Feb. 2007; Zheng Bijian, "China's "Peaceful Rise" to Great-Power Status," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2005; Evan S. Medeiros and M. Taylor Fravel, "China's New Diplomacy," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2003; Alice D. Ba "China and ASEAN: Renavigating Relations for the 21st Century," *Asian Survey*, 43:4 (July/August) 2003, pp. 622-648.
- 10/9 Japan's Grand Strategy
Kim, Chapt. 4, 5; Heginbotham, Eric and Richard J. Samuels, "Mercantile Realism and Japanese Foreign Policy," *International Security*, vol. 22, no. 4, 1998 (Spring), pp. 170–202; Richard Samuels, "Securing Japan: The Current

- Discourse,” *Journal of Japanese Studies*, vol. 33, no. 1 (Winter) 2007, pp. 125-152; Walter Hatch, “Japan’s Agenda for Asian Regionalism: Industrial Harmonization, Not Free Trade,” *The Japanese Economy*, vol. 32, no. 2, Summer 2004, pp. 86-97.
- 10/15 The “History Problem”
 Kent Calder, “China and Japan’s Simmering Rivalry,” *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2006; Thomas Berger, “Of Shrines and Hooligans: The Structure of Memory in East Asia” (mimeo); Johnston and Ross, Chapt. 6, 11; Parks M. Coble, “China’s ‘New Remembering’ of the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance, 1937–1945,” *The China Quarterly*, Volume 190, June 2007, pp 394-410.
- 10/22 Korean Peninsula
 Kim, Chapt. 8, 9; Johnston and Ross, Chapt. 4; Cha and Kang, Chapt. 1-4.
- 10/29 Taiwan Strait
 Kim, Chapt. 10; Johnston and Ross, Chapt. 2; Robert Ross, “Navigating the Taiwan Strait: Deterrence, Escalation Dominance, and U.S.-China Relations,” *International Security*, Volume 27, Number 2, Fall 2002, pp. 48-85; Allen Whiting, “China’s Use of Force, 1950-96, and Taiwan,” *International Security*, Volume 26, Number 2, Fall 2001, pp. 103-131; Scott L. Kastner, “Does Economic Integration across the Taiwan Strait Make Military Conflict Less Likely?,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 6.3 (Sept-Dec 2006), pp. 319-356; Ming Wan, “Economics Versus Security in Cross-Strait Relations: A Comment on Kastner,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 6, no. 3 pp. 347-349; Scott L. Kastner, “The Economics of Cross-Strait Relations: A Reply to Ming Wan,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 6, no. 3 (Sept-Dec 2006), pp. 350-351; Yun Han Chu, “Taiwan’s National Identity Politics and the Prospect of Cross-Strait Relations,” *Asian Survey*, vol. 44, no. 4 (July-August 2004), pp. 484-512
- 11/5 Southeast Asia
 Weatherbee, chapt. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7.
- 11/19 Economic Regionalization
 NEAT Report; Munakata 1, 3, 9; Pempel, Chapt. 6, 7
- 11/26 Economic Regionalism
 Samuel Kim, “Regionalization and Regionalism in East Asia,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 4, no. 1 (Jan-April 2004), pp. 39-67; Munakata, Chapt. 2, 4-6; Pempel, Chapt. 1, 8; William Grimes, “East Asian Financial Regionalism in Support of the Global Financial Architecture? The Political Economy of Regional Nesting,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 6, no. 3, 2006, pp. 353-380.
- 12/3 Regionalism as Arena for Cooperation and Competition

Munakata, Chapt. 7-8; Pempel, Chapt. 2, 5, 11; John Ravenhill, *APEC and the Construction of Pacific Rim Regionalism* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), Chapt. 1.

12/10 Regional Identities?

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Chapt. 3, 6; Amitav Acharya, *Constructing a Security Community in Southeast Asia: ASEAN and the Problem of Regional Order* (New York: Routledge, 2000), chapt. ??; Yong Wook Lee, "Japan and the Asian Monetary Fund: An Identity–Intention Approach," *International Studies Quarterly* 50, no. 2, 2006, pp. 339–366.