

Boston University
Dept of International Relations

CAS IR 275/PO 350 – spring, 2015
Mon, Wed, and Fri: 10:00-11:00
Classroom: CAS B36

THE PACIFIC CHALLENGE

Professor Min Ye

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COURSE CONTENT

This course provides undergraduates with a broad introduction to the diversity and development in Asia Pacific. The course is divided into three parts. Part I introduces historical and political legacies in Asia before WWII. It focuses on the rise and decline of a Sino-centric and a Japan-centric order in East Asia and discusses the impacts of these two historical periods on today's domestic politics and international relations in the region. Part II focuses on political-economic developments in Pacific Asia after WWII. It first examines the economic miracles in Japan and the four "Asian tigers," and then discusses democratization in these high-growing regions. Part II also presents the process and nature of economic reform in China and explains how China's economic resurgence challenges the existing order in the Pacific region. Part III focuses on the 1997/8 Asian financial crisis and its impacts on individual countries in the region as well as transnational regional politics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There will be an in-class midterm exam, one paper and a final exam in the regularly scheduled exam period. The midterm exam will be on March 4, Wednesday, in-class. The paper will be about 10 pages long (double-space) and will be due on April 27, Monday. Paper topics will be distributed and discussed in class. They are intended to give students an opportunity to think critically about an important topic covered in the course and to hone their analytical writing. The paper ought to be written independently. The final exam will be held on the time decided by the university

NOTE: The paper must be submitted on time. "On time" means the start of class on the day the paper is due. Late papers will be downgraded.

Important Dates!!

FIRST DAY OF CLASS: JANUARY 21, WEDNESDAY

FIRST MIDTERM: MARCH 4, WEDNESDAY

SPRING RECESS: MARCH 7-15

DUE DATE OF ESSAY: APRIL 27, MONDAY

GRADING

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Midterm exam	30%
Paper	30%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	10%

(The final evaluation of a student's performance will reflect the amount of learning and efforts he or she demonstrates during the semester.)

COURSE READING

Most readings will be assigned from the following books available for purchase at the BU Bookstore:

Mark Borthwick, *Pacific Century: The Emergence of Modern Pacific Asia* (Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 2007)

James W. Morley, ed., *Driven by Growth* (Armond, N.Y: ME Sharpe, 1999)

Kent Calder and Min Ye, *The Making of Northeast Asia* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2010).

You are expected to finish required reading before the lectures.

POLICY ON ABSENCES

You are expected to attend all classes. Absences may be excused for medical, religious, official and personal reasons. The stated University policy reads: "Any student who has been excessively absent from a course may be required to withdraw from that course without credit." I define "excessively absent" for this course to be six absences, excused or not.

POLICY ON "INCOMPLETES"

No incomplete grades will be reported.

POLICY ON PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the passing off of the ideas or words of another as your own. It is taken very seriously at Boston University. I reserve the right to use computer software for plagiarism detection. Consult

<http://www.bu.edu/cas/academics/programs/conductcode.html> for a systematic discussion of Academic Conduct Code of the College of Arts and Sciences.

SESSION SCHEDULE

(subject to change)

Week 1: INTRODUCTION

Jan 21, Wed: Introduction

Jan 23, Fri: Traditional Political System and Intellectual Thinking

Reading: Borthwick, 1-13 (1-21)

Week 2: CHINA & JAPAN IN PRE-MODERN ASIA

Jan 26, Mon: China's Impact on Asia (Han and Tang Dynasty)

Reading: Borthwick, 13-38 (21-55)

Jan 28, Wed: "Century of Humiliation" & "Self-Strengthening Movement"

Reading: Borthwick, 80-108 (90-117); Borthwick, 132-135 (142-145)

Jan 30, Fri: Japan, "Meiji Restoration"

Reading: Borthwick, 109-130 (119-140)

Week 3: MODERN JAPAN & POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

Feb 2, Mon: Japan's Impact on Asia

Reading: Borthwick, 130-150 (140-160)

Feb 4, Wed: Nationalism and Communism in Asia

Reading: Borthwick, 151-175, 183-190 (161-184, 190-201)

Feb 6, Fri: Japan's Militarization

Reading: Borthwick, 191-201 (201-211)

Week 4: THE LOSS OF CHINA AND THE COLD WAR IN THE PACIFIC

Feb 9, Mon: The Pacific War & US Occupation

Reading: Borthwick, 203-219 (213-230)

Feb 11, Wed: "The Loss of China" & The Korean War

Reading: Borthwick, 365-376; Borthwick 376-387, 401-405

Feb 13, Fri: The Vietnam War & U.S-China Rapprochement

Reading: Borthwick 387-401 (388-402)

Week 5: ECONOMIC MIRACLES IN THE POST-WWII PACIFIC ASIA

Feb 16, Mon: NO CLASS

Feb 17, Tuesday: SUBSTITUTE MONDAY CLASS

Japan's Resurgence in Post-WWII era

Reading: Borthwick, 241-270

Feb 18, Wed: Political Development in Japan

Reading: Morley, 275-312

Feb 20, Fri: Variety of Asian Experiences

Reading: Morley, 3-34

Week 6: DEVELOPMENT & DEMOCRATIZATION IN ASIA

Feb 23, Mon: South Korea

Reading: Morley, 197-223

Feb 25, Wed: Taiwan

Reading: Morley, 224-251

Handout: Study Guide for the Mid-term Exam on March 4. The remaining classes by Mar 4 are included in the test.

Feb 27, Fri: Singapore

Reading: Morley, 255-274

Week 7: DEMOCRATIZATION, CONTINUE

March 2, Mon: In-class discussion & debate & review

March 4, Wed: Midterm Exam

Mar 6, Fri: Philippines

Reading: Morley, 142-160

SPRING RECESS

Week 8: CHINA OPENS ITS DOOR

Mar 16, Mon: Pre-reform China

Reading: Borthwick, 409-419 (403-413)

Mar 18, Wed: Economic Reform in China

Reading: Morley, 83-91

Mar 20, Fri: Political Development in China

Reading: Morley, 91-119; Morley, 313-354

Week 9: GLOBALIZATION, REGIONALISM, AND DOMESTIC POLITICS

Mar 23, Mon: The U.S and Asia Pacific

Reading: Clinton, “America’s Asia Century” & TPP

Mar 25, Wed: Critical Junctures and Regionalism

Reading: Calder and Ye, Intro & Theory

March 27, Fri: Asian Financial Crisis & Regionalism

Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch 4 AFC

Week 10: DOMESTIC SOURCES OF REGIONALISM

Mar 30, Mon: Japan

Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on Japan

Apr 1, Wed: China

Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on China

Apr 3, Fri: South Korea

Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on South Korea

Week 11: Regional Institutions

Apr 6, Mon: APT, EAS, RCEP

Reading: [Article](#)

Apr 8, Wed: CMI

Reading: [Article](#)

Apr 10, Fri: China’s Silk Road

Reading: [Article](#)

Week 12: EMERGING CHALLENGES IN ASIA

April 13, Mon: The Rise of China

Reading: Johnston 2010, “How Assertive Is China’s New Assertiveness?”

Apr 15, Wed: Taiwan’s Democracy & Development

Reading: Article

Apr 17, Fri: Democratization in Hong Kong

Reading: Article

Week 13: Regional Security

Apr 20, Mon: No Class

April 22, Wed (Monday Schedule): East China Sea

Apr 25, Fri: North Korea

Week 14:

April 27, Mon: Paper Due

In-class discussion, debate, and review

Handout: Study Guide for the final exam

April 29, Wed: Q&A on final exam, and course evaluation

FINAL EXAM: TBA