Making of Asia, Challenges from Asia

Professor Min Ye

Office: 156 Bay State RD, #205
Office Hours: Mon, 1-2 pm; Wed 11-12 pm; Fri, 11:30-12:30 pm
Office Phone: 617-353-8700
E-mail: ye@bu.edu

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 China-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 1, Wednesday, in-class. The paper will be about 10 pages long (double-space) and will be due on May 3, Wednesday. They are based on research conducted in pre-assigned groups, but are written individually. They give students an opportunity to research together, think critically about an important topic in the region, and hone their analytical writing. 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 20, FRIDAY
MIDTERM: MARCH 1, WEDNESDAY
SPRING RECESS: MARCH 4-12
DUE DATE OF ESSAY: MAY 3, WEDNESDAY
FINAL EXAM: TO BE ARRANGED

GRADING
Grades will be determined on the following basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(including group research &amp; presentation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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(The final evaluation of a student’s performance will reflect the amount of learning and efforts he or she demonstrates during the semester.)

SPECIAL EVENTS
Group research and share: in the beginning of the semester, the professor selects 6-8 research questions submitted by the students and divides the class into 6-8 groups. The groups conduct their collaborative research on the designated questions, and share their findings in class. During the semester, each team has at least two chances to share their research with the class.

Surprise visits: when scheduling works, the professor will arrange 1-2 surprise visits by other specialists on a subject or a country that is not dealt in dept in the class.

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


There are additional readings that will be posted on course website. 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/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/ for a systematic discussion of Academic Conduct Code of the College of Arts and Sciences.

SESSION SCHEDULE
(subject to change)

Week 1: INTRODUCTION

Jan 20, Fri: Introduction of the course; Self-introduction; Submission of questions

Week 2: CHINA IN PRE-MODERN ASIA

Jan 23, Mon: Traditional Political System and Intellectual Thinking
Reading: Borthwick, 1-13 (1-21)

Jan 25, Wed: China’s Impact on Asia (Han and Tang Dynasty)
Reading: Borthwick, 13-38 (21-55)

Jan 27, Fri: “Century of Humiliation” & “Self-Strengthening Movement”
Reading: Borthwick, 80-108 (90-117); Borthwick, 132-135 (142-145)
Group sharing: two teams

Week 3: MODERN JAPAN & POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

Jan 30, Mon: Japan, “Meiji Restoration”
Reading: Borthwick, 109-130 (119-140)
Group Sharing: two teams
Feb 1, Wed: Japan’s Impact on Asia
Reading: Borthwick, 130-150 (140-160)

Feb 3, Fri: Nationalism and Communism in Asia
Reading: Borthwick, 151-175, 183-190 (161-184, 190-201)

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

Feb 6, Mon: Japan’s Militarization
Reading: Borthwick, 191-201 (201-211)

Feb 8, Wed: The Pacific War & US Occupation
Reading: Borthwick, 203-219 (213-230)

Feb 10, Fri: The Korean War
Reading: Borthwick 376-387, 401-405
Group sharing: two teams

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

Feb 13, Mon: The Vietnam War & U.S-China Rapprochement
Reading: Borthwick 387-401 (388-402)
Group sharing: two teams

Feb 15, Wed: Japan’s Resurgence in Post-WWII era
Reading: Borthwick, 241-270

Feb 17, Fri: Politics in Post-War Japan
Reading: Morley, 275-312

Week 6: DEVELOPMENT & DEMOCRATIZATION IN ASIA

February 20, Mon: No Class

Feb 21, Tue: South Korea
Reading: Morley, 197-223

Feb 22, Wed: Taiwan
Reading: Morley, 224-251

Handout: Study Guide for the Mid-term Exam on March 1. The remaining classes by Mar 1 are included in the test.
Feb 24, Fri: Singapore
Reading: Morley, 255-274

Week 7: DEMOCRATIZATION, CONTINUE

Feb 27, Mon: In-class discussion & debate & review

March 1, Wed: Midterm Exam

Mar 3, Fri: Philippines
Reading: Morley, 142-160

SPRING RECESS

Week 8: CHINA OPENS ITS DOOR

Mar 13, Mon: Pre-reform China
Reading: Borthwick, 409-419 (403-413)

Mar 15, Wed: Economic Reform in China
Reading: Morley, 83-91

Mar 17, Fri: Authoritarian Politics in Contemporary China
Reading: Morley, 91-119; Morley, 313-354

Group sharing: two teams

Week 9: GLOBALIZATION, REGIONALISM, AND DOMESTIC POLITICS

Mar 20, Mon: The U.S and Asia Pacific
Reading: Clinton, “America’s Asia Century” & TPP

Group sharing: two teams

Mar 22, Wed: Critical Junctures and Regionalism
Reading: Calder and Ye, Intro & Theory

March 24, Fri: Asian Financial Crisis & Regionalism
Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch 4 AFC

Week 10: DOMESTIC SOURCES OF REGIONALISM

Mar 27, Mon: Japan
Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on Japan

Mar 39, Wed: China
Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on China

Mar 31, Fri: South Korea
Reading: Calder and Ye, Ch on South Korea

Week 11: Regional Institutions

Apr 3, Mon: APT, EAS, RCEP
Reading: Article

Apr 5, Wed: CMI
Reading: Article

Apr 7, Fri: China’s Silk Road
Reading: Article
Group sharing: two teams

Week 12: EMERGING CHALLENGES IN ASIA

April 10, Mon: The Rise of China
Reading: Johnston 2010, “How Assertive Is China’s New Assertiveness?”
Group sharing: two teams

Apr 12, Wed: Taiwan’s Democracy & Development
Reading: Article

Apr 14, Fri: South China Sea
Reading: Article

Week 13: Regional Security

Apr 17, Mon: No Class

April 29, Wed (Monday Schedule): East China Sea

Apr 21, Fri: North Korea

Week 14:

April 24: In-class discussion, debate, and review of security

April 26, Wednesday: Handout: Study Guide for the final exam

April 28, Wed: Q&A on final exam, and course evaluation
Week 15: May 1 & 3

Paper due on May 3

FINAL EXAM: TBA