

**PSC 3633: Politics of East Asia**  
**David Stroup**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**Fall 2016**

Zarrow Hall, Room 0120  
MW 3:00-4:15pm

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**Course Description:**

During his first term, in a speech in Tokyo in 2009, President Barack Obama declared himself to be “America’s first Pacific President.” Later, in 2011, President Obama announced a “strategic pivot to Asia,” declaring that U.S. foreign policy would turn away from the Middle East and toward the Pacific Rim. In an article in *Foreign Policy*, then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton argued that the 21<sup>st</sup> century would be “America’s Pacific Century.” Secretary Clinton explained, “The Asia-Pacific region has become a key driver of global politics.” The Asia-Pacific region is undeniably of pivotal importance to world politics. Despite such obvious importance, the Asia-Pacific region remains remarkably complicated geographically, socially, and politically. The region is home to a variety of political regimes ranging from multi-party democracies, to dynastic totalitarian dictatorships. Economically it is home to some of the world’s most vibrant free market economies as well as some of the world’s most closed state-planned systems. Moreover, with the ongoing rise of China, and renewed American involvement in regional politics, the region’s social and political landscape is rapidly evolving. Put shortly, the Asia-Pacific Region is geographically vast, politically diverse, and hugely important to global stability. For these reasons, gaining a nuanced understanding of the politics of the region is vitally important. This course will provide an introduction to the politics of East Asia, and address important questions of vital importance to the region: How do East Asia’s various regimes differ? What are “Asian Values”? How does China’s rise impact the political and economic systems of its neighbors, and how have they responded? This course will attempt to answer these questions first by examining the institutional dynamics of the major powers in the region (Japan, Korea, Taiwan and China), and then examining issues of regional importance in-depth.

**PREREQUISITE:** PSC 1300 American Federal Government

**RECOMMENDED:** PSC 2603 Governments Around the World

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

There is not a required textbook for this course. Required course readings, which consist of academic journal articles, book chapters, and newspaper/magazine articles have been collected by the instructor. Chapters and journal articles will be posted to the course website, while all newspaper/magazine articles are hyperlinked in the electronic version of this syllabus. **If you experience any complications or problems in accessing course materials, please inform me immediately.**

**RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:**

Students are encouraged to keep up with current events in the Asia-Pacific region as they may become relevant to the course. The following sources provide good coverage of news from the Asia-Pacific.

*The Asia Society:* <http://asiasociety.org/>

BBC News Asia: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world/asia>

The New York Times Asia: <http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/asia/index.html>

ChinaFile: <https://www.chinafile.com/>

Foreign Policy- Asia Channel: <http://foreignpolicy.com/channel/asia-2/>

The Diplomat (Asia-Pacific focused magazine): <http://thediplomat.com/>

Sinica Podcast: <http://supchina.com/sinica/>

Asia Society Podcast: <http://asiasociety.org/podcast>

### **ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:**

This class will use a variety of different types of assessment to gauge students' performance. Grades for the semester will be proportioned as follows:

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Midterm Exam (25%):</b>     | The midterm exam will be given in class on October 17, and will cover all material from Unit I of the course. Students must remember to bring a blue book to the exam.  |
| <b>Final Exam (25%):</b>       | The final exam will cover all material from the semester. This will be a blue book exam that follows a format roughly identical to the midterm exam.  |
| <b>Issue Brief (25%):</b>      | An analytical paper of no more than 5 pages that summarizes one of the topics covered in Unit II, and proposes how US policy-makers ought to respond. In addition to the analysis, the paper should also provide any relevant annexes and lists of additional reading for policy-makers. Further detail will be given after the midterm exam. |
| <b>Discussion Posts (25%):</b> | Prior to each class students must make a short, one paragraph response post on the course's D2L Discussion Board for the day. Posts should include one question for discussion concerning the reading material for the day.   |

In addition, students are expected to come to class having already read the assigned readings in preparation for class discussion. This is a reading intensive class. We will continually revisit topics as the course progresses, so plan ahead to ensure that you do not fall behind.

### **LATE WORK POLICY:**

**All assignments must be completed prior to the beginning of class on the day it is due.** Work turned in after the start of class will be considered late. The policy of this class will be to accept late work, at an initial penalty of 1 letter grade, with an additional letter grade penalty assigned for every subsequent day the work is late. If you are having personal or scholastic problems that will lead to you having trouble turning work in on time, please come see me *before* the work is due.

### **MAKE-UP POLICY:**

**No early exams will be given.** Make-up exams are allowed only in cases of documented emergencies. **Documentation for an absence and resulting missed exam is due within one week of the absence and prior to the make-up exam. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor in order to make up an exam.** If you do not notify me prior to the scheduled exam period that you will not make it to the exam, you may not be able to make up the exam.

#### **CLASS COMMUNICATION:**

Please check your OU email account daily. I will use email to communicate with you individually and collectively from time to time. Please also check "Canvas" ([www.canvas.ou.edu](http://www.canvas.ou.edu)) often to download course content and other materials, to see course announcements.

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

The time and location for my office hours are listed at the top of the syllabus. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of them. If you are unable to attend at any of the listed times, please see me to arrange a time which will be more amenable to both of us.

#### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

While academic honesty is presumed and required on the part of students in this course, you are encouraged to read and familiarize yourself with the university's guide to academic integrity ([http://integrity.ou.edu/students\\_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)) which I will adhere to. I have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty including **cheating and plagiarism**. Students who engage in those practices will receive an F on the assignment, and will be sanctioned according to university policy.

#### **ACCOMMODATION POLICY**

The University of Oklahoma is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities. Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally at the beginning of the semester so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities. If you encounter a problem throughout the course of the semester, it is imperative that you let me know. Please, don't hesitate to contact me. If I can't solve the problem, I will find someone who can. The university requires students with disabilities to register with the Office of Disability Services (located in Goddard Health Center, Suite 166, phone 325-3852 or TDD only 325-4173) prior to receiving accommodations in this course.

#### **RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required classwork that may fall on religious holidays. Students who plan to observe a holiday should notify me immediately in order to make appropriate arrangements.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Final day to register or add a class:** August 26

**Midterm Exam:** October 17 (in class)

**Final day to drop a course with an automatic W:** September 2

**Issue Brief Due:** November 21

**Final Exam:** December 12, 4:30-6:30 pm

## **SOME GENERAL ADVICE:**

A few suggestions for how to get the most out of this course:

- Give yourself ample time to do readings and writing assignments, and come to class prepared.
- Read actively and take good notes in class and on readings. Engaging the material critically will help you to better understand the subject.
- Participate in class discussions and activities.
- Ask questions. If there's something you don't understand, don't hesitate to ask for clarification.
- Ask for help. Come to office hours or schedule an appointment to meet with me if you find yourself having trouble.

Also remember to take advantage of the resources the University offers you. Services are available for students, particular with regard to questions about writing assignments. Visit the OU Learning Resource Center on the second floor of Lissa and Cy Wagner Hall in Room 280 (At the top of the main staircase), or online at [http://www.ou.edu/univcoll/home/Departments/learning\\_center.html](http://www.ou.edu/univcoll/home/Departments/learning_center.html) For the Writing Center visit: <http://www.ou.edu/content/writingcenter/Students.html>.

## **READINGS AND COURSE SCHEDULE:**

*(NOTE: Readings are to be completed by the assigned date. Schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion)*

### **UNIT I: Dramatis Personae: Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and China**

#### **Week 1: Introductions**

M, 8/22- Syllabus Day

W, 8/24- What is Asia? Where is Asia? Why is it important?

- Samuel S. Kim, "Regionalization and Regionalism in East Asia," *Journal of East Asian Studies* 4, no. 1 (2004): 39-67.
- Christopher Hemmer and Peter J. Katzenstein "Why is There No NATO in Asia? Collective Identity, Regionalism, and the Origins of Multilateralism," *International Organization* 56, no. 3 (Summer 2002): 575-607

#### **Week 2: Background: History from (1800-1989)**

M, 8/29- The Opium Wars, The Meiji Restoration and the World Wars (1800-1945)

- R. Keith Schoppa "From Empire to People's Republic" in *Politics in China: An Introduction*, 37-62
- Edwin O. Reischauer and Marius B. Jansen, *The Japanese Today: Change and Continuity*, 78-111
- [YouTube Video: History of Japan](#)
- [YouTube Video: Crash Course World History #37: Communists, Nationalists and China's Revolutions](#)

W, 8/31- China and Japan: Two Economics Miracles in the Post War Period? (1945-1989)

- Marius B. Jansen, *The Making of Modern Japan*, 681-701, 716-736
- Bruce Gilley, "Deng Xiaoping and His Successors (1976 to the present), in *Politics in China: An Introduction*, 103-128
- [History of Japan Podcast: Episode 21, "The Crash"](#)

### Week 3: Developmental Democracy and the East Asian Model

M, 9/5: **NO CLASS LABOR DAY**

W, 9/7: The Rise, Fall, and Resurgence(?) of "The East Asian Model"

- Ziya Onis. 1991. "The Logic of the Developmental State," *Comparative Politics* 24 no. 1 (1991): 109-126.
- Paul Krugman. "The Myth of Asia's Miracle", *Foreign Affairs* (Nov.-Dec. 1994), 62-78
- John Minns. "Of miracles and models: the rise and decline of the developmental state in South Korea." *Third World Quarterly* 22, no. 6 (2001): 1025-1043.

### Week 4 and Week 5: Japan- Consolidated Democracy

M, 9/12: Japan's Political System- Ideology and Institutions

- Takashi Inoguchi, *Japanese Politics*, 1-17
- Patrick H. O'Neil, Karl Fields, and Don Share, "Japan" in *Cases in Comparative Politics*, 200-244

W, 9/14 Japan: A true multi-party system?

- Gerald L. Curtis, "The Politics of Electoral Reform" in *The Logic of Japanese Politics*, 137-169
- [Michido Ueda, "Split, Merge and Lose? The Future of Party Politics in Japan" \*The Diplomat\*](#)
- J.A.A. Stockwin "Party Politics in Japan" in *Japanese Politics Today: From Karaoke to Kabuki Democracy*, 89-108
- Jonathan Soble, "Portrait of Japan's Main Political Parties" *The Financial Times*

M, 9/19: Bureaucracy and the Economy in Japan

- Brian J. McVeigh, *The Nature of the Japanese State*, 1-15, 70-100
- Takashi Inoguchi, *Japanese Politics*, 40-66

W, 9/21: Japanese Nationalism and the Age of Abe

- "Japan is Back: A Conversation with Shinzo Abe" *Foreign Affairs* (July/August 2013), 2-8
- Gerald L. Curtis "Japan's Cautious Hawks" *Foreign Affairs* (March/April 2013), 77-86
- [Motoko Rich, "Japan Election, a Landslide for Abe, Could Allow a Bolder Military" \*The New York Times\*](#)
- [Norihiro Kato "Tea Party Politics in Japan: Japan's Rising Nationalism" \*The New York Times\*](#)

- Thomas U. Berger “Abe’s Perilous Patriotism” *Center for Strategic & International Studies* (October 2014), 1-13

## Week 6: Korea and Taiwan- Recent Transitions to Democracy

M, 9/26: Transitioning to Democracy

- Dorothy Solinger, “Ending One Party Dominance: Korea, Taiwan, Mexico” *Journal of Democracy* 12, no. 1 (January 2001) 30-42
- Masahiro Wakabayashi, “Democratization of the Taiwanese and Korean Political Regimes: A Comparative Study,” *The Developing Economies* 35, no. 4 (1997), 422-439.

W, 9/28: Post-Authoritarian government in Taiwan and S. Korea

- YouTube Videos: The All-Time Best Parliament Fights from [South Korea](#) and [Taiwan](#)
- David I. Steinberg and Myung Shin “Tensions in South Korean Political Parties in Transition: From Entourage to Ideology?” *Asian Survey* 46 no. 4 (2006), 517-537
- Shelley Rigger, *Why Taiwan Matters*, 1-11, 187-197
- [Dave Hazzan “Is South Korea Regressing Into a Dictatorship?” \*Foreign Policy\*](#)
- [“Sizing Tsai Up” \*The Economist\*](#)
- [Charlie Campbell, “Tsai Ing-Wen Becomes Taiwan’s First Female President” \*TIME\*](#)
- [Emily S. Chen “Taiwan’s Election Results Reflect Shift in Attitudes” Jamestown Foundation China Brief 16, no. 4 \(2016\)](#)

## Week 7 and Week 8: China- Single Party Authoritarianism

M, 10/3: The Party, The State, and Ideology

- William A. Joseph, “Ideology in Chinese Politics,” in *Politics in China: An Introduction*, 129-164
- Anthony Saich, “Ch. 5: The Chinese Communist Party,” in *The Governance and Politics of China*, 108-141

W, 10/5: China’s Political Economy: Past, Present, and Future

- [Sinica Podcast: Arthur Kroeber vs. the Conventional Wisdom](#)
- [Arthur Kroeber, “Making Sense of China’s Stock Market Mess” \*Brookings Institution\*](#)
- [Oscar Williams-Grut “China’s Economy in 4 Terrifying Charts” \*Business Insider\*](#)
- Barry Naughton and Kellee Tsai, “State Capitalism and the Chinese Economic Miracle” in *State Capitalism, Institutional Adaptation and the Chinese Economic Miracle*, 1-24

M, 10/10: State and Society in Contemporary China

- Elizabeth J. Perry “Chinese Conceptions of ‘Rights’: From Mencius to Mao and Now,” *Perspectives on Politics* 6, no. 1 (2008) 37-50
- Andrew Mertha “Society in the State: China’s nondemocratic political pluralization” in *Chinese Politics: State, Society and the Market*, 69-84
- Mark Frazier, “Popular Responses to China’s emerging welfare state,” in *Chinese Politics: State, Society and the Market*, 243-257

W, 10/12: Xi Jinping, The Chinese Dream and China’s Future

- [YouTube Video: Who is Xi Dada?](#)
- [“Chasing the Chinese Dream” \*The Economist\*](#)

- [Macabe Keliher and Hsinchao Wu “How to Discipline 90 Million People,” \*The Atlantic\*](#)
- [Arthur Kroeber, “Here Is Xi’s China: Get Used to It” \*ChinaFile\*](#)
- David Shambaugh “The Coming Chinese Crackup” *The Wall Street Journal*
- [Eric Fish, “I Have No Idea What’s Going to Happen in China and Neither Do You” \*Sinostand\*](#)

## **M, 10/17: MIDTERM EXAM**

### **UNIT II: Issues in East Asian Politics**

#### **Week 9: Asia in the US Elections**

W, 10/19: Asia in the 2016 Race

- [YouTube Video: “Donald Trump Says ‘China’”](#)
- [Jessica Meyers “An American-Politics Junkie in China” \*The Atlantic\*](#)
- [Amitai Etzioni “China’s Role in the US Presidential Campaign” \*The Diplomat\*](#)
- [Linda Sieg, “Trump Candidacy Stirs Alliance Angst in Japan” \*Reuters\*](#)
- [2016 Presidential Candidates on Asia, \*Asia Matters for America\* \(Skim\)](#)
- [Hillary Clinton, “America’s Pacific Century” \*Foreign Policy\*](#)

#### **Week 10: ASEAN, the South China Sea, and S.E. Asian Perspectives**

M, 10/24: ASEAN and Greater Asia

- SKIM: [ASEAN Charter, p. 1-19](#)
- Amitav Acharya and See Seng Tan, “Betwixt balance and community: America, ASEAN, and the security of Southeast Asia” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, vol. 6 (2006): 37-59
- Catherine Jones, “Great Powers, ASEAN, and Security: Reason for Optimism?” *Pacific Review* 28, no. 2 (2015), 259-279

W, 10/26: Vietnam, The Philippines, China, and the sea

- [YouTube Video: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver “Rodrigo Duterte: Trump of the East”](#)
- [Howard French, “China’s Dangerous Game” \*The Atlantic\*](#)
- [Jeff Himmelman, “A Game of Sharks and Minnow” \*The New York Times\*](#)
- [Andrew Browne “Man in the Middle: Rodrigo Duterte Gets a Taste of China’s Heavy Hand” \*Wall Street Journal\*](#)
- [Helen Clarke, “Vietnam Careful, Not Jubilant After South China Sea Ruling Against China” \*The World Post\*](#)
- [Tom Phillips, Oliver Holmes, and Owen Bowcott, “Beijing Rejects Tribunal’s Ruling in South China Sea Case” \*The Guardian\*](#)
- [Reuters Infographic: The South China Sea Ruling](#)

#### **Week 11: Dealing with the Hermit Kingdom: North Korea**

M, 10/31: Understanding North Korea’s Political System

- Kongdan Oh and Ralph C. Hassig, *North Korea through the Looking Glass*, 1-11, 81-105
- [Ruediger Frank, “The 7<sup>th</sup> Party Congress in North Korea: A Return to a New Normal,” \*38 North\*](#)
- [YouTube video: John Oliver “North Korea”](#)

W, 11/2: The Two Koreas and Their Neighbors

- Samuel S. Kim, *The Two Koreas and the Great Powers*, 1-38
- [Bradley O. Babson "Could the New Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Change the Dynamics of Economic Engagement with North Korea?" 38 North](#)
- [Richard Nephew "UN Security Council's New Sanctions on the DPRK" 38 North](#)

## Week 12: China and the US in Greater Asia: "One Belt, One Road" and TPP

M, 11/7: One Belt, One Road and China's Push into Greater Asia

- [China's New Silk Route: The Long And Winding Road](#)
- [Tim Winter, "One Belt, One Road, One Heritage: Cultural Diplomacy and the Silk Road," \*The Diplomat\*](#)
- [Sarah Lain, "China's Silk Road in Central Asia: transformative or exploitative?" \*Financial Times\*](#)
- [John Hudson, "China Has a Plan to Take Over Eurasia—and America Loves It," \*Foreign Policy\*](#)
- [Keith Johnson, "China's New Silk Road Into Europe Is About More Than Money" \*Foreign Policy\*](#)

W, 11/9: The US as a Pacific Nation: TPP, The Pivot to Asia, and Asian Responses

- [Matt Schiavenza "What Exactly Does It Mean That the U.S. Is Pivoting to Asia?" \*The Atlantic\*](#)
- ["TPP: What is it and why does it matter?" \*BBC News\*](#)
- [Fareed Zarakia "Whatever Happened to Obama's Pivot to Asia?" \*The Washington Post\*](#)
- Kurt M. Campbell and Ely Ratner, "Far Eastern Promises," *Foreign Affairs*, (May/June 2014): 106-116

## Week 13: Social Movements and Democratization in Greater Asia: Hong Kong, Taiwan, Myanmar

M, 11/14: Umbrellas and Sunflowers: Hong Kong and Taiwan's Social Movements

- [Jeffrey Wasserstrom, "Taiwan's Sunflower Movement: Q&A with Shelley Rigger," \*Dissent\*](#)
- [Ralph Jennings "The Petals Fall off Taiwan's Anti-China Sunflower Movement: Now What?" \*Forbes\*](#)
- [Chris Yeung "Don't Call Hong Kong's Umbrella Protests an 'Umbrella Revolution'" \*The Atlantic\*](#)
- ["Losing Hearts and Minds" \*The Economist\*](#)
- [Matt Sheehan "Genesis of the Umbrella Movement" \*The World Post\*](#)

W, 11/16: Myanmar's Transition to Democracy

- [Asia Society Podcast: Myanmar's Road to Democracy](#)
- Priscilla Clapp and Suzanne DiMaggio "Sustaining Myanmar's Transition: Ten Critical Challenges" for The Asia Society, June 24, 2013
- [Doug Bandow "A Brighter Dawn in Burma: Myanmar Not yet a Democracy but No Longer A Dictatorship," \*The Cato Institute\*](#)
- [Editorial: "Burma's half-hearted commitment to democracy," \*The Washington Post\*](#)

## Week 14: Dealing with China's Rise

M, 11/21- China and the Global Order

\*\*\* ISSUE BRIEF DUE TO CANVAS ONLINE DROPBOX BY START OF CLASS\*\*\*

- John Ikenberry "The Rise of China and the Future of the West," *Foreign Affairs* (2008): 27-37
- Aaron L. Friedburg, "Bucking Beijing" *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2012): 48-58



- Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth, "The Once and Future Superpower: Why China Won't Overtake The United States" *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2016): 91-104
- Wang Shouren and Zhao Wenshu, "China's Peaceful Rise," *boundary 2*, 33 no. 2 (Summer 2006): 117-127
- Minxin Pei "How China and America See Each Other and Why They Are On a Collision Course," *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2014): 143-148

**W, 11/23- NO CLASS, Thanksgiving Break**

**Week 15: China, Consensus, and Confucius: Confucian ideology and World Order**

M, 11/28: A "Beijing Consensus"?: Does China fit the East Asian Model?

- Scott Kennedy "The Myth of the Beijing Consensus" *The Journal of Contemporary China* 19, no. 65 (2010): 461-477
- Xiaoshuo Hou "Dissecting China's Rise" *China Perspectives* (2014) 1-7
- [Andrew Leonard, "No Consensus on the Beijing Consensus," \*Salon\*](#)
- [Joshua Kurlantzick, "Why the 'China Model' Isn't Going Away" \*The Atlantic\*](#)

W, 11/30: What are "Asian Values?"

- [Francis Fukuyama "Confucianism and Democracy" \*The Journal of Democracy\* 6, no. 2 \(1995\) 20-33](#)
- Fareed Zakaria, "Culture Is Destiny: A Conversation with Lee Kuan Yew," *Foreign Affairs* (March/April 1994), 109-26

**Week 16: "Asian Values" Revisited (Dead Week)**

M, 12/5: Do "Asian Values" exist?

- Chong-min Park and Doh Chull Shin, "Do Asian Values Deter Popular Support for Democracy in South Korea?" *Asian Survey* 46, no. 3 (May-June 2006): 341-61
- Gerd Langguth, "Asian Values Revisited" *Asia Europe Journal* 1, no. 1 (2003) 25-42
- L.C. Yin "Do traditional values still exist in modern Chinese societies?" *Asia Europe Journal* 1, no. 1 (2003) 43-59

W, 12/7: EXAM REVIEW

**M, 12/12: FINAL EXAM**