

Comparative Politics of East Asia
IR 6645
Term I, 2015-2016
Weekend Format, Kadena Air Base
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Joel R. Campbell

Meeting dates: August 22-23, September 26-27, 2015

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Advising: Before or after Weekend class sessions or at a mutually convenient time.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An examination of Asia politics, legal systems, economics, culture, military power, geography, and their impact on regional relations and linkages to the world system.

OVERALL OBJECTIVES: Students will learn the core principles and methods of East Asia's politics, economic development, and foreign relations. These are applied to sectoral issues and studies. Students will also focus on the interconnectedness of East Asia with international political developments and issues. It is hoped that you will demonstrate improved analytical and communications skills, as well.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast competing mainstream academic perspectives on East Asian politics and economic development.
2. Understand the basic approaches to studying East Asia's international relations, and how comparison is done.
3. Discuss specific characteristics of East Asia's foreign policy.
4. Explain the inter-relationships between the East Asian regional system and international issues.

All dates and time provided in this syllabus refer to Japan time (GMT + 09:00).

TEXTBOOKS

Christopher M. Dent, *East Asian Regionalism* (New York: Routledge, 2008). ISBN 978-0415434843, 041543484X

Timothy C. Lim, *Politics in East Asia: Explaining Change and Continuity* (Boulder, CO.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2014). ISBN 978-1626370517, 1626370516

Derek McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics* (Boulder, CO.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2007). ISBN 978-1588261700, 1588261700

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Lectures, Class Discussion/Questions/Small groups, Student presentations, Student research papers

The Troy University MSIR program uses the Blackboard educational technology system for its courses. Your professor will explain to you any use of Blackboard activities in the course.

COURSE GRADES

GRADE SCALE

Final Examination	25%	A: 90-100
Book Review	10%	B: 80-89
Review Essays	20%	C: 70-79
Weekly Summaries	10%	D: 60-69
Student Presentations	10%	F: 0-59
Discussion/participation/ Small groups	25%	

A. Exams

This course will include a Final Exam. The Final Exam will include material covered in the readings, items discussed in class, course videos and other in-class materials. Exams will be submitted online to the professor. The exam will account for 25% of the course grade.

B. Reading Summaries

Students will provide summaries of each week's readings from the textbooks on the last day of the week listed below in the course schedule. For example, summaries for week 1 are due no later than (NLT) August 17, 2015; summaries for week 2 are due NLT August

25, 2015. Together, the summaries will account for 10% of the course grade. Summaries should briefly identify the main concepts and arguments in each work assigned. The purpose of summaries is to have students process the readings and articulate the ideas in their own words, as well as to build a ready study resource for both this class and comprehensive exams.

C. Review Essays

Students will draft two review essays; each should be at least five pages. Each review essay will account for 10% of the course grade, for a total of 20% of the course grade.

Essay 1: Due 9/10 – As presented in the textbooks and lecture/discussion/videos, discuss what you believe are three important domestic issues shared among East Asian countries.

Essay 2: Due 9/30 – Discuss the three most important issues of the international relations of East Asian countries, with reference to both the textbooks and lectures/discussion/videos.

D. Student Presentations

Students will brief the class on the politics, economics, and foreign policy of an East/Southeast Asian country. Presentations will be limited to ten minutes per student. You will be given detailed instructions on these presentations in class.

E. Web-Enhanced Portion (Book Reviews)

This is a Web-Enhanced (W-E) course that combines instruction inside and outside of the classroom. Troy requires forty-five hours of instruction for a three-unit course. We will meet for a total of thirty-six hours in the classroom, so nine hours must be covered outside of class. Troy regulations stipulate that the out-of-classroom portion may be Blackboard, CD/DVD, memory stick, reading/study/writing, and other methods, or a combination of these.

The W-E portion in this course will consist of a written review of Christopher Dent's *East Asian Regionalism*. The literature review should be at least five pages in length, and completed during the time between our class meetings and submitted by September 23, 2015. This assignment should summarize the main themes in the chapters and provide analysis of the topic and critique of the book. I will provide feedback to your reviews by e-mail.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are expected to attend ALL class sessions. Students should complete the assigned readings BEFORE the class session (see schedule below), so that you can discuss topics raised by them and answer questions about them. Any absences for TDY, military exercises, and family/medical/other emergencies must be verified with appropriate documentation. Failure to provide such documentation will result in a lower course grade. Excessive absence may result in either a failing grade or dropping of the student from the course.

MAKEUP POLICY: In exceptional cases, such as medical or family emergencies, official duty requirements and military exercises, or TDY/TAD, an authorized absence may be permitted upon consultation with the instructor. TDY, official duty/military exercises, and family/medical/other emergencies must be verified with appropriate documentation. Failure to provide such documentation will result in a lower course grade. In such cases, the student **MUST** meet with the instructor as soon as possible for a comprehensive review of the missed material. Unauthorized absences will require a mandatory review of missed material **AND** an additional assignment. Failure to do assigned makeup activities will negatively affect the course grade.

INCOMPLETES: A grade of “INC” will only be given in cases of medical emergency, job or military duty, or other significant personal event to be judged by the instructor. Students must submit a petition form, and sign a written commitment to the instructor for completion of course work. Upon satisfactory completion of course work, the instructor will submit a “Change of Grade” form to the office. If the course work is not completed in the following term, the student will receive a grade of “F” for the course.

TDY, official duty or military exercises, and family/medical/other emergencies must be verified with appropriate documentation. Failure to provide such documentation will result in lowered grades on late assignments. All other Incomplete work is considered late, and accordingly will receive reduced grades

ACADEMIC ETHICS: Details on ethical standards for research papers can be found in Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association. The current “Standards of Conduct” of the Troy University Graduate Catalog should also be consulted. The following will not be tolerated in this course:

1. **Cheating** on examinations or assignments, in any form. This includes submitting another’s work as your own, providing answers to others, or using any unauthorized aids during an examination.
2. **Plagiarism** on research papers, in any form. This includes failure to give credit to the sources of your work, copying of someone else’s work, downloading text as part or all of an assignment, or using an author’s exact words without quotations.

Cheating or plagiarism will result in a grade of F in the course. For more on plagiarism, consult the Troy University Writing Center (www.troy.edu/campus/onlinegraduateprograms/writingresources.htm). Purdue University and the University of North Carolina also have excellent writing web sites.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Troy University supports Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which insure that post-secondary students with disabilities have equal access to all academic programs, physical access to all buildings, facilities and events, and are not discriminated against on the basis of disability. Eligible students, with appropriate documentation, will be provided equal opportunity to demonstrate their academic skills and potential through the provision of academic adaptations and reasonable accommodations. Further information, including appropriate contact information, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.troy.edu/humanresources/ADAPolicy2003.htm>

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Students can access online resources through the Troy University web site at www.troy.edu or www.library.troy.edu. These resources include a variety of text data bases that give complete articles from many journals, magazines and newspapers. The MSIR Journal List, for instance, has over 90 publications, including *Foreign Affairs* and *World Politics*.

Access to all of the data bases is through “remote services,” the university’s remote patron authentication system, which involves a three-step process (log on, select a service, and select an individual data base). The main full text information services are EBSCOhost, FirstSearch, InfoTrac and ProQuest. Tutorials and overviews are available on the library home page.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Textbooks for the course

M = McDougall

L = Lim

WEEKEND #1 (August 22-23)	TOPICS	READINGS
Sat. Morning	Asian Background	L, Chaps. 1-2
Sat. Afternoon	Economic Development, Crisis	L, Chaps. 3-4
Sun. Morning	Major N.E. Asian Economies	L, Chaps. 5-6

Sun. Afternoon	Political Change in Asia Immigration	L, Chaps. 7-9
WEEKEND #2 (September 26-27)		
Sat. Morning	Major Powers in East Asia	M, Chaps. 1-3
Sat. Afternoon	Major Powers in East Asia	M, Chaps. 4-7
Sun. Morning	Asian Conflicts, Dynamics	M, Chaps. 8-10
Sun. Afternoon	Other Asian Players	M, Chaps. 11-14

Final Exam (take home) is on material up to Weekend #2, Sun. morning. The Final Exam is due by the last Friday of Term I.

SCHEDULE FOR WEEKLY SUMMARIES

- Week 1: Lim, Chaps. 1-2
- Week 2: Lim, Chaps. 3-4
- Week 3: Lim, Chaps. 5-6
- Week 4: Lim, Chaps. 7-8
- Week 5: McDougall, Chaps. 1-3
- Week 6: McDougall, Chaps. 4-6
- Week 7: McDougall, Chaps. 7-9
- Week 8: McDougall, Chaps. 10-11, 13

CELL PHONES, COURTESY: You may not make or receive cell phone calls, send or read text messages or check e-mail, during class. Turn off cell phone and messaging functions of any phones during class. Please be courteous to other students during class, especially during discussions. Courtesy shows mutual respect and maturity.

ESSAY PAPER INSTRUCTIONS: Pursuant to the syllabus, there will be two critical essay papers that will each account for 10% of the course grade, for a total of 20% of the course grade. These papers will be essays intended to demonstrate the student's comprehension of the concepts contained in the reading assignments, critical thinking

skills, and analytical writing skills. The essays are not intended to be research papers. However, papers should be careful to cite as appropriate if using ideas from reading assignments or other works.

Writing well is among the most important skills you can possess in your professional career. In many cases, you will find you are judged based on written documentation that you present. The quality of your writing will often serve, fairly or not, as an indicator of your intelligence. Poor grammar, misspelled words, confused syntax, and incoherent organization will reflect poorly upon you. Thus, it is imperative when undertaking a writing assignment to have a basic plan (an outline), to pay attention to detail, and to proofread the final product carefully.

A key goal in writing is to communicate with clarity and precision. Often, simpler is better. As Strunk and White advise, “omit unnecessary words.” Never use words that you are not certain you can define. Avoid cluttering up sentences with numerous clauses. Even if grammatically correct, a sentence that requires multiple readings is poorly drafted. Include an introduction explaining what your essay is about and how it is organized (provide a road map to your essay). Use paragraphs in a logical fashion (paragraphs are structured by idea, not length). Conclude with a brief summary, recapping your main point(s). Do not use the conclusion to introduce new ideas.

When you have finished your essay, review it through the eyes of potential critics. In other words, look for ambiguities or weaknesses that are open to misunderstanding and attack. If you were tasked with arguing a contrasting position to that in your paper, what sections would you attack?

Students will be assigned topics as listed below for each of the essays. Upon careful consideration of the topic, students should draft well-thought-out, well-structured, well-proofread essays that directly address the specified issues. Papers are expected to be between 4-7 pages with a maximum length of 8 pages, exclusive of title page.

Format: The paper must be typed, double-spaced, in black twelve-point Times New Roman font, with one inch margins. Do not place additional space between paragraphs. Necessary citations may follow either the Turabian or the APA system. A references list should be included as appropriate.

Grading: Papers will be graded on demonstrated understanding of the issues, coherence of argument, and attention to detail. Poor spelling, grammar, punctuation or style will negatively affect the grade. Plagiarism will result in an F.

Papers are due as noted below; late papers will lose ten points per 24 hour period late.

Please **PROOFREAD YOUR PAPERS**.