

# INTL 4360: East Asian Political Systems\*

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Assistant Professor

Department of International Affairs

Class Time: TR, 11:00 - 12:15 (MLC 274)

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00-4:00pm or by appointment (322 Candler Hall)

**\*\* See the instructor if you have a disability that needs classroom accommodations. \*\***

## Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces students to the dynamics of East Asian political systems, including China, Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea and North Korea. We will trace critical historical trajectories of these systems, focusing on political evolution, economic development, and social transformation. We will survey important contemporary issues in these regimes before situating them in the regional context to examine the rivalry and cooperation among them. There are three primary goals: (1) to familiarize students with basic facts of East Asian political systems, (2) to present important theories and methods that have been applied to analyze East Asian societies, and (3) to help students develop analytical skills that are essential to understand political phenomena in and beyond East Asia.

**Required Books** (available in UGA Bookstore and reserved in Library):

- Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (W. W. & Norton Company, 2003).
- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008).

**Suggested books** (available in UGA Bookstore and reserved in Library):

- Han Park, *North Korea: The Politics of Unconventional Wisdom* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002).
- Denny Roy, *Taiwan: A Political History* (Cornell University Press, 2003).
- John Kie-Chiang Oh, *Korean Politics: The Quest for Democratization and Economic Development* (Cornell University Press, 1999).

## Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

Final Grade Ranges:

	A 93-100	A- 90-92.99
B+ 87-89.99	B 83-86.99	B- 80-82.99
C+ 77-79.99	C 73-76.99	C- 70-72.99
D 60-69.99	F 0-59.99	

*Attendance* (10%) One absence is allowed for any reason. Additional absences will only be excused with legitimate reasons and documentation (ex. doctor's note). Please report to the instructor if you are late. Failing to do so may result in absence in record not disputable. No electronic device is allowed except note taking.

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\* The syllabus is a general plan for the course; updates and revisions may be necessary.

*Participation* (20%) You are required to read and reflect upon assigned readings before coming to class. You are expected to engage in class discussion actively. You are also write one mini response paper (one-page summary of the reading, single spaced) on the date you select. Then you shall bring one or two questions or interesting points about the reading and lead the discussion for 10 minutes or shorter.

*Pop Quizzes* (10%) Three pop quizzes will be administrated on selected dates. Your lowest score will be dropped and remaining three will each be 5% of the total grade.

*Mid-term* (25%) and *Final Exam* (35%) The exams will be based on the readings, lectures and discussion. Detailed instructions will be announced before the exams. **No make-up exams except under the circumstances of serious illness or family emergency and only with proper documentation.** Please contact the instructor in advance if you need some special assistance to take the exams.

For the final exam, *you have the option to write a research paper instead of taking the final exam.* You will select your topics with the instructor's guidance. Only two restrictions on selection of topics: (1) It must involve one or more political systems in East Asia; (2) It must be empirical rather than normative. The end product shall be a 15-page paper. If you choose this option, please report to the instructor before November 8<sup>th</sup>, with a brief outline that includes your research topic, question, and potential data sources. Grading of the paper is similar to that of essay questions in exams. In both cases, you have to answer the question properly and sufficiently. The major difference is, if you opt to write a paper, you can pick your own question. You are expected to **make an argument and try to convince readers with your analysis.** Additional attention shall be paid to **organization of the paper, the coherence of the analysis and the elaboration of your argument.** You also have to **cite sources properly and try your best to get rid of grammatical errors** as you have more time and more preparation for the paper.

**\*\*\*\*\* Important Dates \*\*\*\*\***

October 4<sup>th</sup> Midterm Exam

November 1<sup>st</sup> Report to Instructor if you choose to do a research project instead of taking final

December 11<sup>th</sup> Final Exam (12:00-15:00) and Research Paper due

**Grade Dispute:**

If you have any questions about your exam grade, you shall report to the instructor **within one week** from the time you receive the grade. You need to present a written appeal explaining why you think your grade should be changed. Please also bear in mind that disputing grade may end up with higher, lower or no change in your grade.

**Academic Honesty:**

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: [www.uga.edu/honesty](http://www.uga.edu/honesty). Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### ***Week 1***

#### **August 14 *Welcome! Course Introduction***

No required reading. Suggested reading:

Horace Miner, "Body Ritual among the Nacirema," *American Anthropologist*, 58:3 (1956), pp. 503-507.

#### **August 16 *Traditional Political Order in East Asia***

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), pp. 5-19.

# John K. Fairbank, "A Preliminary Framework" in John K. Fairbank (ed.), *The Chinese World Order* (Harvard University Press, 1973), pp. 1-14.

### ***Week 2 Collapse of Traditional Order: Similar Crisis, Different Responses***

#### **August 21 *The Collapse of Qing Dynasty and The Founding of the Republic***

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), pp. 19-39.

#### **August 23 *The Tokugawa Polity and Its Crises***

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008), Chapters: Introduction, 1 and 4.

### ***Week 3 Meiji Restoration in Japan***

#### **August 28**

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008), Chapters 5, 6 and 8.

#### **August 30**

Film: The Meiji Revolution from *The Pacific Century*.

### ***Week 4: Japan's Expansion***

#### **September 4 *Japan's Rise and WWII***

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008), Chapters 10, 11, and 12.

#### **September 6 *Re-establishing Order in Japan***

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008), Chapter 13.

# The Constitution of Japan (1947), available at: <<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/1947con.html>>

## ***Different Paths of Development in Post-WWII East Asia***

### ***Week 5 Divided China***

#### **September 11 *China: The Communist Rise to Power***

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), pp. 39-56.

#### **September 13 (Thursday) *Taiwan***

# Denny Roy, *Taiwan: A Political History* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003), Chapter 3, 4 (76-96).

*Suggested readings:*

# Denny Roy, *Taiwan: A Political History*, Chapter 5 (105-123; 128-142)

## **Week 6**

### **September 18 *The Korean War and Divided Korea***

# Karunakar Gupta, "How Did the Korean War Begin?" *The China Quarterly* 52 (October-December 1972), pp. 699-716.

# *North Korea: A Country Study* (2008 version), pp. 37-58.

Suggested Reading:

# Bruce Cumings, *North Korea: Another Country* (New York: The New Press, 2004), Chapter 1.

# John Kie-Chiang Oh, *Korean Politics: the Quest for Democratization and Economic Development* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1999), Chapter 2.

### **September 20 *The East Asian Miracle***

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 243-248.

# Bruce Cummings, "The Origins and Development of the Northeast Asian Political Economy," *International Organization*, 38: 1 (Winter 1984).

Suggested readings:

# Chalmers A Johnson, *MITI and the Japanese Miracle: the Growth of Industrial Policy, 1925-1975* (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 1982), Chapter 1.

# Paul Krugman, "The Myth of Asia's Miracle," *Foreign Affairs* 73: 6 (Nov/Dec 1994).

## **Week 7 Democracies in East Asia: Japan, South Korea and Taiwan**

### **September 25 *Democracy without Competition in Japan?***

# Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*, Chapter 15.

Suggested reading:

# Junnosuke Masumi, "1955 System in Japan and Its Subsequent Development," *Asian Survey*, 28: 3 (March 1988), pp. 286-306.

### **September 27 *Democratization of South Korea and Taiwan***

# Masahiro Wakabayashi, "Democratization of the Taiwanese and Korean Political Regimes: A Comparative Study," *The Developing Economies*, 35: 4 (1997), pp. 422-39.

Suggested readings:

# John Kie-Chiang Oh, *Korean Politics: the Quest for Democratization and Economic Development* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1999), Chapters 3, 4 and 5.

# Denny Roy, *Taiwan: A Political History* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003), Chapter 6.

## **Week 8**

**October 2** – Midterm Review

**October 4** – Midterm

## **Week 9 China's Path to Communism**

### **October 9 *Consolidating Communist Rule in Mainland***

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), pp. 77-112.

### **October 11 *Mao Zedong and Cultural Revolution***

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), pp. 59-77; 112-122.

## **Week 10 Stuck North Korea and Reforming China**

### **October 16 “Juche” & “Songun” in North Korea**

# *Library of Congress Country Report: North Korea* (2009 version), Chapters 3 (pp. 135-141; 153-172) and 4 (pp. 183-191, 196-208).

*Suggested reading:*

# Han S Park, *North Korea: The Politics of Unconventional Wisdom* (Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002), particularly Chapters 2-4, and 9.

### **October 18 Economic Reform and Opening Up in China**

# Barry Naughton, *The Chinese Economy: Transitions and Growth* (Cambridge, MA & London, England: The MIT Press, 2007), Chapter 4.

*Suggested readings:*

# Yingyi Qian, “How Reform Worked in China,” William Davidson Institute Working Paper Number 473, June 2002. Available at: <[http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=317460](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=317460)>

# Wing Thye Woo, “The Real Reasons for China's Growth,” *The China Journal*, No. 41 (January 1999), pp. 115-137.

# Yu-Shan Wu, “Chinese Economic Reform in a Comparative Perspective: Asia vs. Europe,” *Issues & Studies*, 38: 4/ 39: 1 (December 2002/March 2003).

## **Week 11 Contemporary Chinese Political System and Its Challenges**

### **October 23 Governing China**

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), Chapters 6 (pp. 171-188) and 7 (pp. 206-240).

### **October 25 Movie Day!**

In Class Movie (*Blind Shaft* by Li Yang)

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**November 1<sup>st</sup>**

***Deadline: term paper or final. Please prepare a brief outline if you decide to do a term paper.***

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## **Hot-Button Issues and Regional Order in East Asia**

### **Week 12 China's Rise and Its Implications**

#### **October 30 China Rise and Its Regional/Global Impact**

# John J. Mearsheimer, "China's Unpeaceful Rise," *Current History*, 105: 690 (April 2006), pp. 160-162.

# Zheng Bijian, “China’s ‘Peaceful Rise’ to Great-Power Status,” *Foreign Affairs*, 84: 5 (Sep/Oct. 2005), pp. 18-24.

# Thomas J. Christensen, “Fostering Stability or Creating a Monster? The Rise of China and U.S. Policy toward East Asia,” *International Security*, 31: 1 (2006), pp. 81-126.

*Suggested readings:*

# David Kang, “Getting Asia Wrong,” *International Security*, 27: 4 (Spring 2003), pp. 57-85.

# Amitav Acharya, “Will Asia's Past Be Its Future?” *International Security*, 28: 3 (Winter 2003/2004), pp. 149-164.

## November 1 Resilient Authoritarianism?

# Kenneth Lieberthal, *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform* (Norton, W. W. & Company, Inc., 2003), Chapter 5 (123-167).

# Andrew Nathan, "China at the Tipping Point? Foreseeing the Unforeseeable," *Journal of Democracy*, 24: 1 (January 2013), pp. 20-25.

*Suggested readings* (search the title and you shall find them):

# Guoli Liu and Lowell Dittmer, "Introduction: The Dynamics of Deep Reform," Lowell Dittmer and Guoli Liu (Eds.), *China's Deep Reform* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006).

# Edward Wong, "As Pollution Worsens in China, Solutions Succumb to Infighting," *New York Times* (March 21, 2013); Andrew Jacobs, "Residents Vote in Chinese Village at Center of Protest," *New York Times* (February 1, 2012); Michael Wines, "Crackdown on Chinese Bloggers Who Fight the Censors With Puns," *New York Times* (May 28, 2012); *The Economist*, "No ordinary Zhou," *The Economist* (August 2, 2014).

## Week 13 War and Peace in East Asia?

### November 6 South China Sea Dispute

# Zhiguo Gao and Bing Bing Jia, "The Nine-Dash Line in the South China Sea: History, Status and Implications," *The American Journal of International Law* 107:98 (2013): 98-123.

# Michael Yahuda, "China's New Assertiveness in the South China Sea," *Journal of Contemporary China* 22:81(2013), 446-459.

### November 8 North Korean Nuclear Crisis

# Jacques E. C. Hymans, "Assessing North Korean Nuclear Intentions and Capacities: A New Approach," *Journal of East Asian Studies* 8 (2008), pp. 259-92.

# Choe Sang-Hun, "North Korea Perfects Its Diplomatic Game: Brinkmanship," *New York Times* (April 2, 2009), <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/03/world/asia/03korea.html>.

Suggested reading:

# GJ Moore, "How North Korea Threatens China's Interests: Understanding Chinese' Duplicity on the North Korean Nuclear Issue." *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, 8: 1 (2008), pp. 1-29.

Evan Osnos, "How Xi and Trump Can Make Real Progress on North Korea," *The New Yorker* (July 7, 2017),

<http://www.newyorker.com/news/daily-comment/how-xi-and-trump-can-make-real-progress-on-north-korea>

## Week 14 Troubling Bi-lateral Relations

### November 13 Sino-Japanese Relations

# Paul J. Smith, "China-Japan Relations and the Future Geopolitics of East Asia," *Asian Affairs: An American Review*, 35: 4 (2009), pp. 230-256.

*Suggested readings*:

# Yinan He, "History, Chinese Nationalism and the Emerging Sino-Japanese Conflict," *Journal of Contemporary China*, 16: 50 (2007), pp.1-24.

On Diaoyu (Senkaku) Islands:

# "BBC Q&A: China-Japan islands row,"

<<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-11341139>>

# David Cohen, "Japan and Taiwan's Senkakus Play,"

<<http://thediplomat.com/china-power/japan-and-taiwans-senkakus-play/>>

### **November 15 Cross-Strait Relations and Taiwan's Future**

# Yinan He, "Identity Politics and Foreign Policy: Taiwan's Relations with China and Japan, 1895-2012," *Political Science Quarterly* (forthcoming). Available:  
<[http://works.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1018&context=yinan\\_he](http://works.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1018&context=yinan_he)>

### **Week 15 Thanksgiving, No Class**

### **Week 16**

#### **November 27 East Asian Democracies in Crises?**

# T. J. Pempel, "Regime Shift: Japanese Politics in a Changing World Economy," *Journal of Japanese Studies*, 23: 2 (Summer 1997), pp. 333-361.

# Jin Min Chung, "The Impact of Electoral Environment and Political Institutions on Post-Democratization Party Change in South Korea and Taiwan," *Korea Observer*, 44: 1 (Spring 2013), pp. 1-30.

Suggested readings:

# Willy Jou, "Electoral Reform and Party System Development in Japan and Taiwan: A Comparative Study," *Asian Survey*, 49 (September-October 2009), pp. 759-785.

#### **November 29 *Regionalization and Regionalism***

# Samuel S Kim, "Regionalization and Regionalism in East Asia," *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 4: 1 (Jan.-April 2004), pp. 39-67.

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### **Final Exam – December 11<sup>th</sup> (12:00-15:00)**

**Note: If you opt to write the research paper, please hand it in before the final exam ends, i.e. before 15:00 on this very date!**