

POL 215Y
POLITICS AND TRANSFORMATION OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC

2011-2012
Falkenheim/Ong

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Course objective and description

This course provides a broad survey of politics in East and Southeast Asia (the Asia-Pacific region). The region is vast and diverse. While many countries experienced centuries of colonial rule, others were only indirectly affected. The rise of nationalism and communism in the early twentieth century transformed the region's political systems in fundamental ways. The Cold War, during which the United States and the Soviet Union competed on a global scale, also divided the region along communist/noncommunist lines.

Industrialization and rapid economic growth transformed many countries from peasant societies to modern, urban and industrial countries. Other countries remained poor and were left behind as their neighbours often underwent vast political and economic changes. All of these forces of change have greatly influenced the political systems in the region, the ways in which groups and individuals participate in politics, and the degree to which political institutions are representative.

The course offers an analysis of the political systems of the region with an emphasis on understanding political change and its relationship to socio-economic transformation. How can we characterize the various political systems of the region? How can we explain why and how they have changed? Are Asian countries becoming more democratic? Are they developing political systems that reflect their unique historical and cultural experiences? How has the vast socio-economic transformation of the region influenced politics?

Blackboard:

***YOU WILL NEED a UTOR login and password to have access to Blackboard. No other email address will be accepted. Login, passwords, and tutorials can be accessed at: <http://portal.utoronto.ca/>

For help and information, **please contact:** blackboard@utoronto.ca.
DO NOT direct your Blackboard specific questions to instructors or TAs. We are unable to provide support for the web-based software.

General Resources:

The following list of resources in English should be useful to keep up with current events, as well as sources of general information on Asia.

Newspapers and Magazines:

The Economist
The Asian Wall Street Journal
The Financial Times
The New York Times
The Straits Times (Singapore)
Far Eastern Economic Review
For links to on-line Asian newspapers see:
<http://www.kidon.com/media-link/asia.shtml>

Journals:

Pacific Affairs
Pacific Review
Asian Survey
Asia Yearbook (Far Eastern Economic Review)
Asia-Pacific Viewpoint
Journal of Asian Studies
Journal of East Asian Studies
Journal of Contemporary Asia
Positions
Journal of East Asian Studies
Journal of Southeast Asian Studies
Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy
Journal of Asian Culture
Southeast Asian Affairs
Contemporary Southeast Asia
Sojourn
Critical Asian Studies (formerly the Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars)

Note: How to keep up with the news. Canadian news coverage of Asia is appallingly thin. As indicated above, you need to use web-based electronic journals and news sources subscribed to by the University of Toronto library. Coverage is fairly good. The New York Times and the Financial Times cover Asia reasonably well. The Economist features updates on all the countries that we are studying. The *Asian Survey* features annual national surveys written by specialists. A number are among required course readings

Asian Institute web-page: <http://webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca/ai/>

Check this web-page for seminars, conferences, and events on Asia at the University of Toronto. You will also find useful information on undergraduate and graduate programs.

Course requirements:

2 Term Tests @20% each

2 Term Papers@20% each

Participation: 20% (Tutorial Participation and Presentations)

Note: Tutorial times and locations will be posted on Blackboard shortly. It is expected that the first tutorials will begin in week 3 of the term.

Textbooks:

- Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, (Columbia University Press). (Note: This **book** is on order with the University Textbook Store and is **delayed** due to reprinting. I will let you know when it arrives)

Course Reader: (Fall Semester) Available for purchase at **T &T Copy**, 333 Bloor St. West (St. George and Bloor) (NB: **Reader will not be available until week of December 26.**) Asterisked items available online.

Topics and Readings:

September 15 **Perspectives on the Asia Pacific**

1. Yoichi Funabashi, "The Asianization of Asia," Foreign Affairs, November-December, 1993. *

September 22 **Democratizing the Asia Pacific**

1. Chu, Diamond, Nathan and Shin, "Comparative Perspectives on Democratic Legitimacy in East Asia," in How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 1 and Chapter 10. (Note: An abbreviated version of Chapter 1 is available online under the title "Asia's Challenged Democracies," Washington Quarterly, January, 2009.*)
2. Mark Thompson, "Late industrializers, late democratizers: developmental states in the Asia Pacific," Third World Quarterly, 1996.*

September 29 **Asia and the Authoritarian Revival**

1. Randall Peerenboom, China Modernizes: Threat to the West or Model for the Rest?, Chapter 2.
2. Azar Gat, "The Return of Authoritarian Great Powers," Foreign Affairs, 2007.

3. Andrew Nathan, "Authoritarian Impermanence," Journal of Democracy, July, 2009

October 6

Japanese Democracy in Historical Perspective

1. James Fallows, Looking at the Sun: The Rise of the New East Asian Economic and Political System, Chapter 3 ("The American Years"), pp. 117-176.
2. Video: Pacific Century: "Re-inventing Japan"

October 13

Democracy and its Discontents: One-Party Democracy in Japan

1. Ken'ichi Ikeda and Masaru Kohno, "Japanese Attitudes and Values Towards Democracy," in Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 7.
2. Mary Alice Haddad, "The State-in Society Approach to the Study of Democratization with examples from Japan," Democratization, Vol 17, No.5 (October, 2010).

October 20

Korean Democracy in Flux

1. Sung-Joo Han and Oknim Chung, "South Korea: Economic Management and Democratization," in James W. Morley, Driven By Growth: Political Change in the Asia-Pacific Region, Chapter 9.
2. Doh Chull Shin and Chong-Min Park, "The Mass Public and Democratic Politics in South Korea: Exploring the Subjective World of Democratization in Flux," in Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 2.

October 27

Democratization in Taiwan and Hong Kong

1. Shelley Rigger, "Taiwan's Best-Case Democratization," Orbis, 2004.
2. Yu-tzung Chang and Yun-han Chu, "How Citizens View Taiwan's New Democracy," in Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 4.
3. Wai-man Lam and Hsin-chi Kuan, "Democratic Transition Frustrated: The Case of Hong Kong," in Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 8.

November 3

Authoritarian Resilience: China's 'Trapped Transition.'

1. Minxin Pei, China's Trapped Transition: The Limits of Developmental Autocracy, pp. 1-44 .

2. Tianjian Shi, "China: Democratic Values Supporting an Authoritarian Political System," in Chu, et.al, How East Asians View Democracy, Chapter 9.

November 10

North Korea under Siege

1. Andrei Lankov, "Why North Korea Will Not Change," Foreign Affairs, 2008.
2. Yun-Jo Cho, "The Sources of Regime Stability in North Korea: Insights from Democratization Theory," Stanford Journal of East Asian Affairs, Vol 5, No. 1 (Winter, 2005).

November 17

Political Change in Malaysia (Trevor Preston)

1. D.K. Mauzy and R.S. Milne, Malaysian Politics Under Mahathir, 1-28.
2. William Case, "New Uncertainties for an Old Pseudo-Democracy: The Case of Malaysia," Comparative Politics, Vol 37, No. 1 (2004).
3. Simon Montlake, "Race Politics Hobble Malaysia," Far Eastern Economic Review, 2008.

November 24

Democracy and its Challenges: The Case of Indonesia (Professor Jacques Bertrand)

1. Edward Aspinall, "Indonesia" The Irony of Success," Journal of Democracy, Vol. 21, No. 2 (April, 2010).
2. Muhammad Qodari, "Indonesia's Quest for Accountable Governance," Journal of Democracy, Vol. 16, No. 2 (2005)

December 1

Term Test # 1