

University of Toronto
Department of Political Science

**POL 215Y: POLITICS AND TRANSFORMATION
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC
FALL 2015-2016**

Tuesday: 10am-12pm
Location: SS 2106

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FALL TERM ONLY: Mondays, 2-3pm (or by appointment)

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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/non-communist 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:

We are using Blackboard in this course. You will need your UTORid and password. Logon 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. There are special services that you should consult. You should access the course regularly to check for announcements, broadcasts, etc.

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 News magazines

BBC News – Asia Pacific (http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/asia_pacific)

Yahoo Asia News (<http://asia.news.yahoo.com/asia.html>)

The Economist

The Asian Wall Street Journal

The Financial Times

The New York Times

The Straits Times (Singapore)

Journals

Pacific Affairs

Pacific Review

Asian Survey

Asia-Pacific Viewpoint

Journal of Asian Studies

Journal of East Asian Studies

Journal of Contemporary Asia

Journal of Southeast Asian Studies

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. Yahoo and BBC News are a good start, as well as The New York Times and the Financial Times. The Economist features updates on all the countries that we are studying. The *Asian Survey* features annual national surveys written by specialists.

Asian Institute website: <http://www.munk.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 interdisciplinary programs on Asia.

Course requirements:

Due dates:

Map Quiz	5%	TBD (test given in tutorial)
First Essay –12 pages	20%	November 3, 2015
Mid-term test (in class):	20%	December 8, 2015
Second Essay – 12 pages	20%	March 22, 2016
Final test	20%	April 5, 2016
Tutorial participation and presentation	15%	Weekly

Please note: We are using a university wide service called **Turnitin**. Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

You must submit an electronic copy of your essay to Turnitin (unless prior permission is granted by the TA), AS WELL as a hardcopy. Login information for Turnitin is as follows (and will be provided again with assignment):

- 1) Go to www.turnitin.com
- 2) Create your new account or login to pre-existing account
- 3) Enroll in Class ID: 8357235
- 4) Enrollment Password: asiapacific
- 5) Submit assignments via Essay 1 and Essay 2

Textbooks:

The following book is required reading for the course:

- **Bertrand, Jacques. 2013. *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. Cambridge University Press.** Available at the University of Toronto Bookstore, Koffler Centre, 214 College Street (416) 640-7900. Monday - Friday: 8:45 am - 6:00 pm; Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday: CLOSED.

Reserves: A copy of the readings will be available on reserve at the Short-Term Loan Library at **Robarts Library**. The books and articles on reserve should also appear by searching by the course number, POL 215Y. *Please note that many of the articles will only be available online!*

READING LIST:

NOTE: Weekly assignments are the “Required” readings. “Recommended” are interesting and helpful but **not** required for exam purposes. The related readings are not posted on Blackboard.

Items marked with “@” are available online (links provided on Blackboard under “Course Material”). Items marked with # are in Bertrand 2013 (textbook).

FALL TERM: Topics and Readings

Sept. 15 Introduction

Sept. 22 Explaining Political Change

Required:

#Bertrand, Jacques. “Understanding political change in Southeast Asia” in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 1-30

Recommended:

Morley, James (ed). 1999. *Driven by Growth: Political change in the Asia-Pacific Region*, (rev. ed.) M.E. Sharpe. Conclusion, up to p.329

Historical antecedents

Sept. 29 Colonialism and Nationalism

Required:

@Tipton, Frank. 1998. “Asian nationalism,” in *Rise of Asia: Economics, Society, Politics in Contemporary Asia*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. Chap. 8, pp. 245-288.

@ Fung, Edmund. 2000. "Chinese Nationalism in the Twentieth Century," in *Eastern Asia: an introduction history* (3rd ed.), ed. Colin Mackerras. New South Wales, Australia: Longman. pp. 139-148.

@Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. 2000. "Japanese Nationalism From Meiji to 1937," in *Eastern Asia: an introduction history* (3rd ed.), ed. Colin Mackerras. New South Wales, Australia: Longman. pp. 149-162.

Oct.6 The Cold War, Communism and its effects

Required:

@Dreyer, June T. 2006. "The Communist Road to Power", in *China's Political System: Modernization and Tradition*. New York: Longman (5th ed.). Chap. 4, pp. 63-80.

@McVey, Ruth. 1996. "Nationalism, Revolution, and Organization in Indonesian Communism," in *Making Indonesia*, eds. Daniel Lev and Ruth McVey. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. pp. 96-117

Oct. 13 Cambodia, Laos

Required:

Bertrand, Jacques. "Cambodia and Laos" in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 165-189.

@McCargo, Duncan. 2005. "Cambodia: getting away with authoritarianism?" *Journal of Democracy*, vol.16, no.4: pp. 98-112.

Oct. 20 Thailand

Required:

Bertrand, Jacques. "Thailand" in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 133-140.

@McCargo, Duncan. 2005. "Network monarchy and legitimacy crises in Thailand" *Pacific Review*, vol.18, no.4: pp. 499-519.

@Hewison, Kevin. 2010. "Thailand's conservative democratization," in *East Asia's New Democracies*, pp. 122-140.

Oct. 27 Indonesia and Timor-Leste

Required:

#Bertrand, Jacques. "Indonesia and Timor-Leste" in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 41-70.

@Aspinall, Edward. 2010. "Indonesia: The Irony of Success" *Journal of Democracy*, vol.21, no.2: pp 20-34.

@Myrntinen, Henri. 2009. "Timor-Leste: A Relapsing "Success" Story" *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, vol.5, no.1: pp. 219-239.

Recommended:

Mietzner, Marcus. 2008. "Comparing Indonesia's party systems of the 1950s and the post-Suharto era: from centrifugal to centripetal inter-party competition." *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* vol.39, no.3: pp. 431-453.

Nov.3 Indonesia and Timor Leste

Same as last week

****Fall Break – No class on November 10th****

Nov. 17 Philippines

Required:

Bertrand, Jacques. "The Philippines" in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 71-91.

@Dressel, Björn. 2011. "The Philippines: how much real democracy?" *International Political Science Review*, vol.32, no.5: pp. 529-545.

Recommended:

Putzel, James. 1999. "Survival of an imperfect democracy in the Philippines." *Democratization*, vol.6, no.1: 198-223.

Nov. 24 Burma/Myanmar

Required:

Bertrand, Jacques. "Burma/Myanmar" in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 190-208.

@Diamond, Larry. 2012. "The Need for a Political Pact." *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 23, no. 4: pp. 138-149.

@Farrelly, Nicholas. 2013. "Discipline without democracy: military dominance in post-

colonial Burma.” *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, vol.67, no.3: 312-326.

Dec. 1 Southeast Asia and Democracy: new directions?

#Bertrand, Jacques. “Southeast Asia in the Twenty-First Century” in *Political Change in Southeast Asia*. pp. 209-228.

@Jayasuriya, Kanishka and Rodan, Garry. 2007. “Beyond Hybrid Regimes: More Participation, Less Contestation in Southeast Asia” *Democratization* vol.14, no.5: pp. 773-794.

Dec. 8 **Mid-term test**

WINTER TERM: Topics and Readings

Jan. 12 Regime Change in the Asia Pacific

1. @Larry Diamond, “The Coming Wave,” Journal of Democracy, January 2012.

Jan. 19 Japan: Transplanted Democracy

1. @James Fallows, Looking at the Sun, Chapter 6
2. Video (‘Reinventing Japan’)

Jan. 26 Communizing China: Radical Authoritarianism in Action

1. @Kenneth Lieberthal, Governing China, Chapter 4.
2. Video (‘Mao’s China’ Part I)

Feb. 2 Developmental Authoritarianism in South Korea

1. @Song-Joo Han and Oknim Chung, “South Korea: Economic Management and Democratization,” in James Morley, Driven by Growth, pp. 197-223.
2. Video (*Pacific Century* # 8: “The Struggle for Democracy.”)

Feb. 9 Democratization in Taiwan

1. @Shelley Rigger, "Taiwan's Best-Case Democratization," Orbis, 2004.
2. @Yun-han Chu, "The Taiwan Factor," Journal of Democracy, January, 2012.

Feb. 16 Reading Week

Feb. 23 Authoritarian Resilience: China's Trapped Transition?

1. @Minxin Pei, China's Trapped Transition: The Limits of Developmental Autocracy, pp. 1-44.
2. @Andrew Nathan, "Authoritarian Impermanence," Journal of Democracy, 2012.
3. @Li Cheng, "The End of Authoritarian Resilience," The China Quarterly, 2013.

March 1 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).

March 8 Reform and Change in Vietnam

1. @Martin Gainsborough, "Political Change in Vietnam," Asian Survey, 2002.
2. #Jacques Bertrand, Political Change in Southeast Asia, Chap.6.

March 15 Singapore: Emergent Competitive Authoritarianism?

1. Daniel Ortman, "Singapore: Authoritarian, but Newly Competitive," Journal of Democracy, 2011
2. Verveij and Pelizzo, "Singapore: Does Democracy Pay?" Journal of Democracy, 2009.
3. Soek-Fang Sim, "Asian Values, Authoritarianism and Capitalism in Singapore," The Public, 2001.

March 22 Civil Society and Political Change in Hong Kong

1. Daniel Ortman, “The Umbrella Movement and Hong Kong’s Protracted Democratization Process,” Asian Affairs, 2015.
2. Sebastien Veg, “Legalistic and Utopian: Hong Kong’s Umbrella Movement,” New Left Review, 2015
3. Samuel Yuen, “Hong Kong After the Umbrella Movement” China Perspectives, 2015

March 29 Democratic Consolidation: Comparative Perspectives

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.
2. @Donald K. Emmerson, “Minding the Gap between Democracy and Governance,” Journal of Democracy, April, 2012.

April 5 Term Test