

POL 300: Asia and the Global Economy
Tuesdays 12-2, UC 179

Professor Joseph Wong
Munk 357S | Office hours: Monday, 9-11
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TA: Carmen Ho

This lecture course examines Asia's economic rise.

Attendance at lectures is mandatory.

Readings: Readings are available in the course blackboard (either as a PDF or a UT library link). In addition, students are required to purchase Katherine Boo's, Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity (Random House, 2014), available at the U of T Bookstore.

Evaluation: This is a writing intensive course. Students will complete FIVE written assignments throughout the term; assignments, requirements and due dates are listed in the syllabus. All papers are to be double-spaced, 12 font. Students should draw from both lectures and readings to support their arguments in the writing assignments. There is NO examination for this course.

Assignment #1, due October 13	20%
Assignment #2, due October 27	20%
Assignment #3, due November 17	20%
Assignment #4, due December 1	15%
Assignment #5, due December 8	25%

Assignments 1 to 3

These will be handed in as a hard copy to Professor Wong at the beginning of class.

Assignments 4 and 5

Students must submit Assignments 4 and 5 to TA Carmen Ho electronically by logging in to Blackboard and uploading the assignment. The guidelines for doing so can be found below.

- All papers are to be double-spaced, size 12 font.
- Files names must have the following format: Last name_First name_Student number
- Files must be submitted as Word documents (either as DOC or DOCX)
- Files must be uploaded by 5pm on the due date

If there are any problems uploading the assignments, please send them as an email attachments to Carmen Jacqueline Ho at carmenj.ho@mail.utoronto.ca. Graded assignments will be emailed back to students.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and plagiarism are serious academic offences and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information, as well as advice on writing, please see <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize> and <http://guides.library.utoronto.ca/plagiarism>.

Accessibility Needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodation for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible (disability.services@utoronto.ca or studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility).

SCHEDULE

September 15: Asia in America's Shadow

James Fallows, *Looking at the Sun: The Rise of the New Asian Economic and Political System* (1995), pp. 3-20

September 22: Defying Expectations (and Marx)

Chalmers Johnson, "The Developmental State: Odyssey of a Concept" (1999), pp. 32-60

Carolynne Wheeler, "How Singapore Creates its Economic Miracles," *Globe and Mail* (May 2, 2013)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/canada-competes/how-singapore-creates-its-economic-miracles/article11674683/?page=all>

September 29: The Authoritarian Advantage

John Williamson, "Is the Beijing Consensus Now Dominant?" *Asia Policy* (2012), pp. 1-16

Daniel Bell, "Chinese Democracy Isn't Inevitable," *The Atlantic* (May, 2015)

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/05/chinese-democracy-isnt-inevitable/394325/>

William Pesek, "After Lee, Singapore Needs a Rethink," *Bloomberg View* (March, 2015)

<http://www.bloombergview.com/articles/2015-03-23/after-lee-kuan-yew-singapore-needs-an-economic-overhaul>

October 6: The Democratic Advantage

Yu-Shan Wu, "Taiwan's Developmental State: After the Economic and Political Turmoil," *Asian Survey* (2007), pp. 977-1001

Daniel Kliman, "Advantage India: Why China Will Lose the Contest for Global Influence," *Global Asia* (2012), p. 92-98

*****ASSIGNMENT #1 (20%)**

Write a 750 word editorial for *The Globe and Mail* entitled EITHER "Economic Growth and the Advantages of Authoritarianism," OR "Economic Growth and the Advantages of Democracy."

DUE ON October 13

October 13: The Cold War Boom

Richard Stubbs, *Rethinking Asia's Economic Miracle* (2005), pp. 63-91, 125-152

October 20: Development or Imperialism?

Atul Kohli, *State-Directed Development* (2004), pp. 27-61

The Economist, "One Among Many: China has become big in Africa. Now for the backlash" (January 17, 2015)

<http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21639554-china-has-become-big-africa-now-backlash-one-among-many>

*****ASSIGNMENT #2 (20%)**

Write a 500 word blog piece answering the following question: Is foreign direct investment modern-day imperialism?

DUE ON October 27

October 27: From Copying to Creating

K.Tan and S. Phang, "From Efficiency-driven to Innovation-driven Economic Growth: Perspectives From Singapore," *World Bank Policy Paper* (2005), pp. 1-45

<http://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/pdf/10.1596/1813-9450-3569>

November 3: Redistribution

Ian Holliday, "Productivist Welfare Capitalism: Social Policy in East Asia," *Political Studies* (2000), pp. 706-723

Jagdish Bhagwati, *Why Growth Matters* (2014), pp. 27-56

*****ASSIGNMENT #3 (20%)**

Write a book review of Katherine Boo's *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* (2014) for the New York Times book review section. 750 words.

DUE ON November 17

November 17: Misery

Katherine Boo, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* (2014)

November 24: Not-so-green Asia

Elizabeth Economy, "The Great Leap Backward," *Foreign Policy* (2007)

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/asia/2007-09-01/great-leap-backward>

Thomas Thompson, "Choking on China: The Superpower That is Poisoning the World," *Foreign Affairs* (April 8, 2013): <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/139141/thomas-thompson/choking-on-china>

Aaron Reuben, "Carbon Copy: Why China's Air Pollution Problem Isn't Unique," *The Atlantic* (March, 2013). <http://www.theatlantic.com/china/archive/2013/03/carbon-copy-why-chinas-air-pollution-problem-isnt-unique/274221/>

*****ASSIGNMENT #4 (15%)**

Write a 500 word blog piece answering the following question: What's new about the "new normal"?

DUE ON December 1

December 1: The New Normal

Douglas Fuller, "The Cross-Strait Economic Relationship's Impact in Taiwan and China," *Asian Survey* (2008), pp. 239-264

Jesook Song, *South Koreans in the Debt Crisis: The Creation of a Neoliberal Welfare Society* (2009), pp. 73-94

*****ASSIGNMENT #5 (25%)**

“The 21st Century is Asia’s century.” Many assume the decline of Western hegemony to be associated with the ascendance of Asia as the leader of the global economy. Do you agree or disagree with this assertion? Write a 1000 word essay.

DUE ON December 8

December 8: Re-centering the Global Economy

Wendy Dobson, *Gravity Shift: How Asia’s Economic Powerhouses Will Shape the 21st Century* (2009), pp. 148-184