

**University of Toronto  
Department of Political Science**

**POL 215Y  
Politics and Transformation of the Asia-Pacific**

**Summer, 2015  
Mr. Falkenheim**

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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?

**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 @25% each

2 Term Papers@20% each (Instruction sheets, due dates, length requirements to be posted)

Participation: 10% (Tutorial Participation)

**Note: Tutorials will begin in Week 1. Times and locations will be posted on Blackboard shortly.**

**Course Materials: Posted by lecture date on *Blackboard* in *Course Materials***

## **Topics and Readings:**

### **Course Overview**

May 11                      **Perspectives on the Asia Pacific**

1. Yoichi Funabashi, "The Asianization of Asia," Foreign Affairs, November-December, 1993.
2. Xiaoming Huang, Politics in Pacific Asia, Chapter 1.
3. Video ("The 2 Coasts of China: Part I)

### **I: Modernization and Political Development: Macro-Historical Perspectives**

May 13                      **Failed Modernization: The China Puzzle**

1. Frances Fukuyama, The Origins of Political Order, pp. 3-25.
2. Martin Jacques, When China Rules the World, pp. 70-99.
3. Video ("Two Coasts of China")

May 18                      **No Class: Victoria Day**

May 20                      **Defensive Modernization: The Case of Japan**

1. Martin Jacques, When China Rules the World, pp. 23-69.
2. Video ("The Meiji Revolution")

May 25                      **Imperialism, Nationalism, Peasants and Revolution:  
Asia Pacific Perspectives**

1. Sam Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, 264-308.
2. Jeff Goodwin, No Other Way Out: States and Revolutionary Movements, 1945-1991, pp.72-133.
3. Video ("Pacific Century", Part 3-"From the Barrel of a Gun")

May 27	<b>The Cold War Reshapes the Pacific</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Robert J. McMahon, <u>The Limits of Empire: The U.S. and Southeast Asia</u>, pp. 1-41.</li> <li>2. Video. ('Sentimental Imperialists')</li> </ol>
June 1	<b>The Cold War and The Rise of the 'Tigers'</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. William Overholt, <u>The Rise of China</u>, pp.313-336.</li> <li>2. Richard Stubbs, "Whatever Happened to the Asian Developmental State," <u>Pacific Review</u>, 2009.</li> <li>3. Video (Pacific Century)</li> </ol>
<b>II: Post-World War II Regimes in the Pacific: Four Cases</b>	
June 3	<b>Japan: Transplanted Democracy</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. James Fallows, <u>Looking at the Sun</u>, Chapter 6</li> <li>2. Video ('Reinventing Japan')</li> </ol>
June 8	<b>Democratization in Taiwan</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shelley Rigger, "Taiwan's Best-Case Democratization," <u>Orbis</u>, 2004.</li> <li>2. Yun-han Chu, "The Taiwan Factor," <u>Journal of Democracy</u>, January, 2012.</li> </ol>
June 10	<b>Mao-Era China: Radical Authoritarianism in Action</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kenneth Lieberthal, <u>Governing China</u>, Chapter 4.</li> <li>2. Video ('Mao's China' Part I)</li> </ol>
June 15	<b>Developmental Authoritarianism in South Korea</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Song-Joo Han and Oknim Chung, "South Korea: Economic Management and Democratization," in James Morley, <u>Driven by Growth</u>, pp. 197-223.</li> <li>2. Video ( <i>Pacific Century</i> # 8: "The Struggle for Democracy.")</li> </ol>
June 17	<b>Term Test # 1</b>
June 22/24	<b>No Class: Semester Break</b>

## **Term II: Case Studies in Democratic and Authoritarian Consolidation**

June 29

### **Democracy, Authoritarianism, and the Asian Developmental State (Asif Farooq)**

1. William Stiglitz, "Lessons from the East Asian Miracle," The World Bank Research Observer, Vol. 11 (1996)
2. Mark Thompson, "Late industrializers, late democratizers: developmental states in the Asia Pacific," Third World Quarterly, 1996
3. Randall Peerenboom, China Modernizes, Chapter 2 (pp. 26-81)

July 1

### **No Class: Canada Day**

July 6

### **Authoritarian Resilience: China's Trapped Transition? (Asif Farooq)**

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.

July 8

### **Protest and Change in a Chinese SAR: The 'Umbrella' Movement in Hong Kong (Paul Whittam)**

1. TBA

July 13

### **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).
3. Video

July 15

### **Myanmar/Burma**

1. Ian Holliday, Burma Redux, Chapter 1.
2. Zin and Joseph, "The Democrats' Opportunity" Journal of Democracy, 2012.

July 20

**Reform and Change in Vietnam**

1. Martin Gainsborough, "Political Change in Vietnam," Asian Survey, 2002.
2. TBA

July 22

**Authoritarian Outliers: Singapore and Malaysia**

1. Marco Verweij and Riccardo Pelizzo, "Singapore: Does Authoritarianism Pay?" Journal of Democracy, April, 2009.
2. Soek-Fang Sim, "Asian Values, Authoritarianism and Capitalism in Singapore," Vol. 8, No. 2 (2001).
3. Stephan Ortman, "Singapore: Authoritarian but Newly Competitive," Journal of Democracy, October, 2011.

July 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.

August 3

**No Class: Civic Holiday**

August 5

**Regionalism and Security in the Asia-Pacific**

1. TBA

August 10

**Term Test # 2**