

SPRING 2021 (4 points each. All course numbers begin with: EAAS OC3993:)

Japan in East Asia (Patrick Strefford)

The East Asian region is perhaps *the* success story of post- World War Two economic development. First Japan, then the Asian Tiger economies, then China and the Tiger Cub economies all experienced periods of sustained economic growth that transformed their societies. Japan was a key player in transforming the East Asian region. As the economies of East Asia have become increasingly integrated, linkages between these societies have also become both deeper and broader.

However, the region is also facing considerable challenges. Security issues are dominant, examples being the Korean peninsula, and territorial disputes. Environmental/ natural resource issues provide another set of key challenges. How do we understand these challenges and how do we assess Japan's responses? This course will begin by outlining the prominent theories of international relations, which will then become the tools we use to analyze the important issues and challenges facing Japan in East Asia. We will pick up a number of prominent case studies from contemporary East Asia, and investigate from the perspective of Japan's international relations.