

Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies

Fall 2021: Tentative Syllabus

Japan in East Asia

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Time: Monday 1:10- 4:25pm

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Course Description

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. Importantly, we will be focusing on perspectives from Japan.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to both understand, and apply, the primary theories of international relations. In this way, students will become familiar with the theories and concepts of international relations as an academic subject. Students will also gain an understanding of the international relations of East Asia, focusing on Japan.

Students are expected to be masters of their own learning. All students will be expected to do a considerable amount of reading. Students will also be expected to take turns in making in-class presentations on the reading. The purpose of these presentations is to give students practice in presenting complex concepts in a clear and stimulating manner. Discussions will be centered around these student presentations. Students will be expected to participate fully in class discussions and presentations.

Students will be expected to write a number of short discussion papers, as well as a longer academic essay.

Grading Criteria

- 30% Presentations
- 20% Participation
- 30% Discussion Papers
- 20% Final Essay

Schedule

What follows is a tentative schedule. It includes the topic for each class, as well as the necessary reading for each class.

PART ONE: Theories of International Relations

Class 1 – **Introductions; us and our subject**

- Read the following report from the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)[https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/strategic_comment/pdf/StrategicAnnualReport2020en.pdf]
- “The significance of Japan’s international relations”, pp. 3-22 in, *Japan’s International Relations: Politics, economics and security* (3rd Ed), Glenn D. Hook, Julie Gilson, Christopher W. Hughes, Hugo Dobson. (Routledge, 2012).

Class 2- **International Relations Theory: Realism**

- Read a selection of the reports from the JIIA on the following webpage [<https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/topic-security/>].
- Chapter 3, in, *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches* 7th Edition, by Robert Jackson and Georg Sørensen (Oxford Univ Press, 2019)

Class 3- **International Relations Theory: Liberalism**

- Read a selection of the reports from the JIIA on the following webpage [<https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/region-indo-pacific/>]
- Chapter 4, in, *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches* 7th Edition, by Robert Jackson and Georg Sørensen (Oxford Univ Press, 2019)

Class 4- **International Relations Theory: International Society**

- Chapter 5 in, *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches* 7th Edition, by Robert Jackson and Georg Sørensen (Oxford Univ Press, 2019)
- History, Psychology, and the Rule of Law in East Asian Security Lecture by Professor David Welch, , in *The Japan Review*, Vol 2, No 4, Spring 2019 [https://www.jiia-jic.jp/en/japanreview/pdf/JapanReview_Vol2_No4_06_REPORT.pdf]

Class 5- **International Relations Theory: International Political Economy**

- Chapter 6 in, *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches* 5th Edition, by Robert Jackson and Georg Sørensen (Oxford Univ Press, 2019)

- “Overview: Making of A Miracle” - World Bank, pp. 109-132 in, *International Relations Theory in Northeast Asia Vol II* - Stephan Haggard (Sage, 2010)

Class 6- **Field Trip**

PART TWO: Issues and Case Studies

Class 7- **South China Sea**

- “Beijing’s Reach in the South China Sea” Collin Koh Swee Lean, in *The Japan Review*, Vol 4, No 1, Summer 2020. [https://www.jiia-jic.jp/en/japanreview/pdf/02JapanReview_4-1_summer_Collin_web.pdf]
- “The South China Sea: ASEAN’s Security Concerns About China” - Liselotte Odgaard pp. 321-334 in, *International Relations Theory in Northeast Asia, Vol. II* - Stephan Haggard (Sage, 2010)

Class 8- **East China Sea**

- “The Challenges and Responses to Japan’s Maritime Security”, Masashi Murano, in *The Japan Review*, Vol 4, No 1, Summer 2020. [https://www.jiia-jic.jp/en/japanreview/pdf/01JapanReview_4-1_summer_Murano.pdf]
- Territorial Issues in the Indo-Pacific: the East China Sea... and Beyond, June Teufel Dreyer, in *The Japan Review*, Vol 3, No 3, Winter 2018. [https://www.jiia-jic.jp/en/japanreview/pdf/JapanReview_Vol2_No3_05_Dreyer.pdf]

Class 9- **Japan and China**

- Read a selection of the reports from the JIIA on the following webpage [<https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/region-china/>]
- “Fostering Stability or Creating a Monster? The Rise of China and U.S. Policy Toward East Asia” - Thomas J. Christensen, pp. 363-404 in, *International Relations Theory in Northeast Asia, Vol. II* - Stephan Haggard (Sage, 2010)

Class 10- **Japan and the Korean Peninsula**

- Read a selection of the reports from the JIIA on the following webpage [https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/region-korean_peninsula/]
- “The North Korean Nuclear Crisis and US Strategy in Northeast Asia” - Gilbert Rozman, pp. 335-354 in, *International Relations Theory in Northeast Asia, Vol. II* - Stephan Haggard (Sage, 2010)

Class 11- **Japan and Southeast Asia**

- "ASEAN's Political and Security Relations with Japan," ASEAN-Japan Cooperation: A Foundation for East Asian Community; (ed. Japan Center for International Exchange), Tokyo: Japan Center for International Exchange, 2003, pp. 145-153. [http://www.jcie.org/researchpdfs/ASEAN/asean_jawhar.pdf]

- “ASEAN Plus Three: Towards A New Age Of Pan-East Asian Regionalism? A Skeptic's Appraisal” - Markus Hund, pp. 295-328 in, *International Relations Theory in Northeast Asia, Vol. IV* - Stephan Haggard (Sage, 2010)

Class 12- Final Review, general discussions and tentative conclusions