

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	CASS
Programme:	MA International Relations
FHEQ Level:	7
Course Title:	International Politics of East Asia
Course Code:	INR 7424
Course Leader:	Dr Luke Cooper
Student Engagement Hours:	200
Lectures:	39
Seminar / Tutorials:	6
Independent / Guided Learning:	155
Semester:	SPRING
Credits:	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

This course provides students with an advanced-level overview of the international politics of East Asia. Focusing on the post-war era, it examines the “East Asian Miracle”, from the rise of Japan and the Asian Tigers to the relatively more recent emergence of China on the world stage as a major industrial superpower. The course encourages students to locate East Asian development within the global context, examining the complex relationship of these states to US economic and political hegemony, the importance of the Asia-Pacific to the international balance of power, and the role that communism and the Cold War played in shaping the contemporary trajectories of these polities. Geographically the course focuses on China, Korea, Japan, and Taiwan, and appraises their relationship to the two major global actors that most shaped their historical evolution: the Soviet Union/Russia and the United States.

Prerequisites: MA International Relations and MA International Development students only

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop a strong factual comprehension of the major events and processes which have shaped the geopolitics and political economy of Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea, and the development of the region as a whole.
- To comprehend the major themes of East Asian politics and develop a strong grasp of the major debates and issues within the academic scholarship.
- To establish an understanding of the way that East Asia has reshaped - technologically, socially and economically - the global political economy.
- To provide empirical cases suitable to testing and elaborating the major theoretical paradigms within IR, ID, and IPE, and to develop an appreciation of the empirical significance of conceptual debates and arguments within IR.

Programme Outcomes:

A, C, D, E, G

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrates a deep and systematic understanding of key texts, thinkers, intellectual paradigms, themes and debates in the study of the international politics of East Asian, while reflecting on empirical evidence.
- Demonstrates a deep, systematic and innovative ability to adapt and apply knowledge in the discipline of international relations to the East Asian context
- Designs and undertakes substantial investigations addressing a key aspect of the international politics of East Asia, using selected advanced methodological approaches.
- Engages with and evaluates complex, incomplete or contradictory evidence in regard to the international politics of East Asia, while critically reflecting on the different theoretical and methodological tools used
- Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and diverse information in the context of the international politics of East Asia, while reflecting upon and improving the skills required for effective communication

Indicative Content:

- Rise of post-war Japan
- East Asian Economic Miracles; causes and consequences
- Communism in East Asia
- US hegemony and the Asia Pacific

- Regional economic co-operation and conflict
- Northeast Asia and the Asian Financial Crisis
- Territorial conflicts in contemporary East Asia

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

The course will consist of weekly postgraduate seminars, which will follow the structure set out within the course syllabus and will serve a number of functions: seminars provide a framework for the course; address critically the relevant literature in specific areas, examine concepts, theories and case studies, and enable students to engage in group discussion and dialogue, and autonomous learning. Seminars rely upon active student participation, mediated by the course instructor. By examining and discussing issues and problems in a seminar setting, students as junior research colleagues will be able to learn from each other and resolve questions that arise in the course of the lectures and readings. Seminars will only be useful to the extent that they are prepared for and participation in discussions and debates is an essential aspect of this. All students will be required to participate. Tutorial opportunities will also be available for research supervision and other academic support.

Bibliography:

Chang, H., 2006, *The East Asian Development Experience; the Miracle, the Crisis and the Future*, Palgrave Macmillan: London and New York
 Goldstein, A., Mansfield, E., D., 2012, *The Nexus of Economics, Security, and International Relations in East Asia*, Stanford University Press: Stanford
 Tan, T., H., 2013, *East and South East Asia; International Relations and Security Perspectives*, Routledge: Abingdon and New York

See syllabus for complete reading list

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry

