Course Description and Objectives. This course has three goals: (1) to introduce students to salient issues in East Asian international politics; (2) to situate current events within a historical context, and (3) to provide students with analytic tools to analyze contemporary issues. We begin with an examination of the regional balance of power: what is power, who has it, and how is the balance of power shifting? We then focus on the military relations between key countries, assessing the conventional and nuclear balance of power, and the prospects for stable deterrence. We next move to the realm of ideas, where we explore how history and national identities affect the security strategies of states, and how they affect regional relations. We will then consider the prospects for a “liberal peace” in the region, made possible through increasing economic interdependence and through democratization. The course ends with a discussion of future American strategy toward the East Asian region.

Readings. Readings are drawn from academic journals, the popular press, and book excerpts. Readings not located in required books are posted on Blackboard. You should purchase the following books (available at Wheelock Books or online booksellers). Both are on reserve at Baker Library.


Requirements

Class participation 10%
1 mid-term examination (in-class, July 24) 30%
1 policy paper, due at latest on August 8 25%
Final exam (Sunday, August 24, 8am) 35%

Regular class participation is strongly encouraged. Based on your participation I may “bump up” your grade if you are on the edge of two grades.

Class Meetings and Office Hours. The class meets in the 2A slot (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00pm to 3:50pm). Students must also be available during the X-hour period (Wed 4:15pm–5:05pm), in which office hours and occasional class meetings may be held. Office hours are Wednesdays, 3:00–5pm, in 203 Silsby.

Policies. Class attendance is mandatory. Students should make sure that travel plans do not coincide with exams or paper deadlines; extensions or makeups will only be made in case of illness or emergency. If you have a sudden illness before an exam, no makeup will be given unless you contact your class Dean, and ask him/her to contact me to confirm that you have a legitimate excuse for missing the exam. The Dean will contact your doctor and should confirm to me 1) that you were seen about your illness, and 2) that your medical situation was serious enough that you were unable to take an exam or meet a paper deadline. I need no specific information about your condition.

Disabilities. If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact me within the first two weeks of class so that we can make appropriate arrangements.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism will not be tolerated; at a minimum it will result in a “F” grade for the course. Plagiarism is “a piece of writing that has been copied from someone else and is presented as being your own work.” This includes ideas as well as specific phrases, sentences or paragraphs. For guidelines see https://www.dartmouth.edu/~sources/index.html.
EAST ASIAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (GOVT 50)
Course Schedule and Reading List

TH June 19
NO CLASS

TU June 24
NO CLASS


I. The Distribution of Power

TH June 26

Fundamentals of Social Science Theory
Unipolarity and the Regional Balance of Power

Avery Goldstein, Rising to the Challenge, pp. 49-75

Recommended:

TU July 1

China’s Rise

Shirk, China: Fragile Superpower, Chapter 2.

Recommended:

II. Conventional Deterrence

TH July 3

Deterrence in the Taiwan Strait

Shirk, Fragile Superpower, Chapters 3 and 7.
1979 Joint Communiqué
1979 Taiwan Relations Act

TU July 8

Deterrence on the Korean Peninsula


W July 9
X-HOUR

Inside the Hermit Kingdom


*Video in class: “North Korea: A Day in the Life”*

TH July 10

Toward Korean Unification

Stephan Haggard and Marcus Noland, *Famine in North Korea*, pp. 221-228 (read from “Predictions of Collapse” to end of section.

III. Nuclear Deterrence

TU July 15

Nuclear Weapons and Regional Stability

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Daryl Press, Dept. of Government


TH July 17

Nuclear Proliferation to North Korea

Scott Sagan and Kenneth Waltz, *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate*
Read Waltz, pp. 3-23; 38-45; Sagan, pp. 46-82. (63 pp)
TU July 22  
*Review for Midterm* AND *How to Write a Paper*

TH July 24  
*Midterm Exam* (in class)

**IV. Ideas and Identity**

TU July 29  
*Norms and Japanese Security Policy*

Cohen, *East Asia At the Center*, pp. 280-291; 303-310; Chapter 11; 370-376.


TH July 31  
*Memory and Identity*

Review Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories” on constructivism.


TU August 5  
*Class Debate: Yasukuni Shrine*

Read 10 articles on this topic from Lexis-Nexis


****Policy Paper assignment is due at latest on August 8, 4:00pm, Govt Dept Office (211 Silsby)******

**V. A Liberal Peace in East Asia?**

TH August 7  
*Economic Interdependence*


Read at least ONE of the following:


TU August 12

Energy Competition


TH August 14

Democratization

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, “The Perilous Path to the Democratic Peace,” from Electing to Fight, Chapter 1 (10 pg)

TU August 19

East Asia and the Future of American Grand Strategy

Review Gholz and Press (see August 7)

FINAL EXAM: Sunday, August 24th at 8:00am