IR 360
International Relations of the Pacific Rim

MW 8:30am-9:50 am
VKC 156

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Office Hours: M 5:00-6:00 pm, W 10:00 am -noon
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Course Objectives

The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the political and economic issues of the countries in the Pacific Rim. This course puts heavier emphasis on business and economics issues, particularly from international political economy (IPE) perspectives, than other Asia-related courses taught at School of IR. The regional focus of this class is on East and Southeast Asia, and occasional comparisons are made between Asia and Latin America. In addition, the role of industrialized countries in the region and beyond, such as the United States, Japan, Europe, and Australia, is discussed. Because the course does not cover in detail the political and economic factors of every country in the region, students are encouraged to follow on their own the news and developments of the countries in the region.

Students are expected to do all the assigned readings before class in order to have the foundation necessary to understand the lectures, and participate in class discussions. They are also expected to take quizzes and exams, prepare a report, and/or complete a group presentation.

Pre-requisites (recommended)

• Basic knowledge of the Asia Pacific countries. Students are encouraged to read relevant sections of The Los Angeles Times or other major newspapers, as well as weekly magazines such as Time, Newsweek, the Economist, and other websites covering Asian news. I can also give recommendation to other policy and academic sources of information upon request.

• IR 210 (Introduction to International Relations) and IR 213 (The Global Economy) or its equivalent knowledge of international relations, world affairs and global economy.

Official Notes

Statement for Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in VPD 115 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP:
http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html, (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Statement on Academic Integrity

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using
another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these
principles. SCampus, the Student Guidebook, (www.usc.edu/scampus or http://scampus.usc.edu)
contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11.00),
while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A.

Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for
further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can
be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/. Information on intellectual property at
USC is available at: http://usc.edu/academe/acsen/issues/ipr/index.html.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership
will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or
homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies.

Please activate your course in Blackboard with access to the course syllabus. Whether or not you
use Blackboard regularly, these preparations will be crucial in an emergency. USC's Blackboard
learning management system and support information is available at blackboard.usc.edu.

Assignments and Course Grades

Grading scale: All the assignments are graded by letter grade on an A-to-F scale with a
possibility of A+ as the highest grade. Quizzes and Midterm have numerical grade assignment
and the scale is set; A+ (at or above 100), A (95 to 99), A- (90 to 94), B+ (85 to 89) etc. There is
no A+ for the final course grade.

Class participation 10%

Attendance and timely submission of assignments are very important. Attendance is
occasionally taken, and regular absence or tardiness without legitimate and documented
reasons is subject to penalty. Please make sure to communicate with me if you have to
miss class.

On the other hand, simply attending class and handing in assignments on time will only
guarantee the maximum of B+ in this category. Be proactive. Ask questions, come to
my office hours, take leadership in discussions, and be an active member of the class!

If a student is caught using his/her computer in class for purposes other than taking class
notes, he/she will have his/her participation grade reduced one letter grade (from A to B,
or B- to C-) per incident. All cellphones have to be turned off during class, and no
texting of any sort is allowed.

Quizzes 15%

There are three quizzes throughout the course (5 percent of course grade each); map quiz,
“who is who” quiz and acronym quiz ($\ast$). The map quiz is on the Pacific Rim countries
(Asia and Western Hemisphere) and their capitals. The name quiz is on the past and
current leading figures from the region. The acronym quiz is on the acronyms related to
the Asia-Pacific international relations introduced in class. You will not be able to make-
up the quiz without a documented excuse and/or a prior agreement.
**Mid-term exam**

A semi-closed book mid-term exam is scheduled on **October 11 (W)**. There is no make-up exam without prior agreement between the student and myself. The university rules require that those who have to miss an exam due to illness or other emergencies turn in the proof in writing (doctor’s note, police report etc.)

**Group Project**

**Group Presentation**

A group of four to five students gives a 20-minute in-class presentation on important issues concerning the Asia Pacific during the semester. A list of topics will be announced and groups are formed on September 8 (Thu). See Attachment 1 for the process.

Group Presentation: The students are expected to (a) do research in preparation for the presentation, (b) prepare and implement a 20-minute presentation, and (c) turn in as a group the presentation materials including sources.

**Individual Report**

Individual Report: Each student is to write a 3,000-word report on an aspect of the group presentation that he/she was in charge of. The report should be written in the form of a research paper with a research question (or questions), background, analyses, and the findings. This report is due within a week after the group presentation.

**Back up Option: Individual 15-page paper**

If there is a strong reason (distant commute, family obligations, work commitment and/or athletic or other university obligations) that a student cannot participate in a group project, he/she can, instead, write a 15-page paper on the topic given to him/her. The paper topics are on important issues related to the Pacific Rim. The list of topics and details of the paper are to be announced on September 6 (W). The paper is due on **November 27 (M) before class**. No late paper is accepted. The students choosing this backup option are expected to (a) research the topic, (b) write the research paper on his/her own with full citation, and (c) turn in the 15-page paper. If a student is booted off the island during the group presentation preparation, he/she can take this option to make up for the lost grade.

**Final Exam**

A take-home final exam is scheduled. The question will be distributed on the last day of class and the exam is due on **December 6 (W) noon**.

**Extra Credit Option**: You can choose to do ONE of the following two extra credit options to earn one additional notch (from B to B+) on your participation grade at the end of the course. 
(a) participate in TIRP; TIRP has to send in the verification 
(b) participate in a JEP Service Learning Program; JEP has to send in the verification
Main Books for the Course (in the bookstore and one copy on reserve at Leavey Library)


Articles on Blackboard (LL)

Readings marked (LL) are on electronic reserve through Blackboard (http://blackboard.usc.edu). See Attachment 2 for their complete titles.

Course Schedule

Getting Ready and Getting Started

*August 21 (M): Setting up; What are we studying?*
- Reading: No Reading Assignment

*August 23 (W): Concept of East Asia and the Asia-Pacific*
- Reading: Yahuda (Intro), Wan (Ch. 1)

History

*August 28 (M): China in the Center*
- Reading: Wan (Ch. 3), Kang (LL)

*August 30 (W): Western and Japanese Imperialism*
- Reading: Wan (Ch. 4), Pyle (LL)

*September 4 (M): NO CLASS; Labor Day Monday*
- Reading: But try to read Yahuda (Ch. 1)

*September 6 (W): Bipolarity to Tripolarity*
- Reading: Yahuda (Ch.1, 2 and Ch. 3)
  - Map Quiz, Group presentation and paper topics distributed

Major Powers and Asia

*September 11 (M): End of Cold War to War on Terror*
- Reading: Yahuda (Ch. 8 and 9), Shin and Izatt (LL),

*September 13 (W): The US Pivot to Asia*
- Reading: Yahuda (Ch. 4), Clinton (LL), and Campbell (LL)

*September 18 (M): China's Increased Presence*
- Reading: Yahuda (Ch. 6 and 10), Goh (LL), Breslin (LL)

*September 20 (W): Japan, a major power or a middle power?*
- Reading: Yahuda (Ch. 7 and 11), Maslow (LL)

*September 25 (M): India, Australia and Indo-Pacific*
- Reading: Pan (LL), Chacko (LL) and Medcalf (LL)

*Name Quiz*

*September 27 (W): Region’s Security Threat I: Korean Peninsula*
- Reading: Moore (LL), Cha (LL),

*October 2 (M): Region’s Security Threat II: South China Sea*
- Reading: Scott (LL), Yahuda (LL)
October 4 (W): Non-Traditional Security and New Security Challenges  
   Reading: Caballeros-Anthony (LL), Arase (LL), Sheen (LL)

October 9 (M): Regional Security Concepts  
   Reading: Dewitt (LL), Wirth (LL), Chang (LL)

**MIDTERM**

October 11 (W) in class (one hour and 20 minutes)

Development and Political Transformation in East Asia

October 16 (M): Colonial and Authoritarian past  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 2), Kohli (LL)

October 18 (W): Democracy, Corruption, and Inequality  
   Reading: Haggard & Kaufmann (LL), Pye (LL), Chi & Kwon (LL)

Political Economy of East Asia

October 23 (M): East Asian Miracle and Developmental State  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 5), Hayashi (LL), Knight (LL)

October 25 (W): Asian Financial Crisis  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 6), Higgott (LL), Katada (LL)

October 30 (M): Production  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 7), Krugman (LL), Cary (LL)

November 1 (W): Regional Economic Networks  
   Reading: Peng (LL), Athukorala (LL), Baldwin (LL)

November 6 (M): Export Strategies and Trade conflict  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 8), Haggard (LL), Bown and McCulloch (LL)

November 8 (W): Regional Trade arrangements  
   Reading: Ravenhill 2010 (LL), Wilson (LL), Ravenhill 2016 (LL)

November 13 (M): Finance and Investment  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 9), Lipsey (LL), Yu (2017)

November 15 (W): Currency  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 10), Chey (LL)

November 20 (M): Economic integration and Regional governance  
   Reading: Wan (Ch. 11), He (LL), Kahler (LL)

November 22 (W): NO CLASS; Thanksgiving

Conclusion and Review

November 27 (M): Trump Administration’s Asian Strategy  
   Reading: TBA

November 29 (W): Conclusion: Future of Asia Pacific  
   Reading: TBA

FINAL Exam due December 6 (W) noon
Attachment 1: Group Project

List of Topics and Presentation Schedule will be distributed in class on September 6 (W).

Activities and process.

This group project involves the following exercises.
(1) **Research** on the topic using published articles, journal and news magazines, newspapers and internet sources.
(2) **Discussion** on the focus, structure, content and method of the group presentation.
(3) **20-minute Presentation**.
(4) **Compile** and turn in materials, slides, and bibliography from the presentation.

Steps for the Group Presentation:

- I provide the list of possible topics with presentation dates.
- Each student will choose a group/topic. If there could be a lottery if there are popular topics with too many students.
- Each group will engage in discussion on the focus, coverage of the presentation.
- Each group is required to meet with me at least once and at least two week prior to group presentation.
- Based on the group’s preliminary presentation summary, each group (or at least two of the group members) has to come and see me two to three days before the scheduled presentation date. If a group member is “free riding,” he/she can be excluded from the group at this time.
- Some members of the group make a 20-minute presentation in class. The group is also expected to hand in presentation slides (hardcopy), outline of its oral presentation, and list of sources.
- There will be only one grade for the entire group presentation (10 percent of your course grade).

The process for the Individual Report:

- Each student decides on a specific aspect related to his/her group project to write an individual report.
- The report should be around 3,000 words. Charts, tables and visuals will not be included in the word-count.
- Please also attach a bibliography, which is not a part of the word-count.
- Each student should use a part of the work from the group project for the report but do his/her own additional research.
- A good report has a concrete focus and your analysis of the issue with concrete information and data.
- The report is due seven days after his/her group presentation, and will constitute 15 percent of your course grade.
- No late report is accepted.
Attachment 2: Reserve Readings

Kang

Pyle

Shin and Izatt

Clinton

Campbell

Goh

Breslin

Maslow

Pan

Chacko

Medcalf

Moore

Cha
Scott

Yahuda

Cabblero-Anthony

Arase

Sheen

Dewitt

Wirth

Chang

Kohli

Haggard and Kaufman

Pye

Chi and Kwon
Hayashi

Knight

Higgott

Katada

Krugman

Cary

Peng

Athukorala

Baldwin

Haggard

Bown and McCullough

Ravenhill 2010

Wilson

Ravenhill 2016

**Lipsy**

**Yu**
Hong Yu (2017) “Motivation behind China’s ‘One Belt, One Road’ Initiatives and Establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank,” *Journal of Contemporary China*, 26:105, 353-368,

**Chey**

**He**

**Kahler**