

**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*

**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/academicssupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicssupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html), (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) [ability@usc.edu](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 (✍️). 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****25%**

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****10%**

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****15%**

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****(25%)**

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****25%**

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)**

Michael Yahuda. *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* (Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, 2011). (Yahuda).

Ming Wan. *The Political Economy of East Asia: Striving for Wealth and Power*. (Washington DC: CQ Press, 2008) (Wan).

**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)

***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)

*Map Quiz*

**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), Lipsy (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**

 Acronyms Quiz


### **Conclusion and Review**

**November 27 (M): Trump Administration's Asian Strategy**

Reading: TBA

**November 29 (W): Conclusion: Future of Asia Pacific**

Reading: TBA

 Option paper due

## **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**

David C. Kang, "Hierarchy and Legitimacy in International Systems: The Tribute System in Early Modern East Asia." *Security Studies*; Vol. 19, 2010: 591-622.

**Pyle**

Kenneth B. Pyle. 2007 "Stature among Nations." A chapter in *Japan Rising: The Resurgence of Japanese Power and Purpose*, Century Foundation Book. 98-136.

**Shin and Izatt**

Gi-Wook Shin and Hilary Jan Izatt. (2011). "Anti-American and Anti-Alliance Sentiments in South Korea." *Asian Survey*, Vol. 51 (6): 1113–1133.

**Clinton**

Hillary Clinton, 2011. "America's Pacific Century," *Foreign Policy*, Vol. 47, No. 4.

**Campbell**

Kurt Campbell, 2016. *The Pivot: The Future of American Statecraft in Asia*. Hachette, 2016. Chapter 5.

**Goh**

Evelyn Goh 2014. "The modes of China's Influence." *Asian Survey* 54.5: 825-848.

**Breslin**

Shaun Breslin 2010. "China's Emerging Global Role: Dissatisfied Responsible Great Power." *Politics* Vol. 30, issue. 1 (2010): 52-62.

**Maslow**

Sebastian Maslow, 2015. "A Blueprint for a Strong Japan? Abe Shinzō and Japan's Evolving Security System." *Asian Survey* 55.4: 739-765.

**Pan**

Chengxin Pan (2014) "The 'Indo-Pacific' and Geopolitical Anxieties about China's Rise in the Asian Regional order," *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 68:4, 453-469.

**Chacko**

Priya Chacko (2014), "The Rise of the Indo-Pacific: Understanding Ideational Change and Continuity in India's Foreign Policy," *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 68:4, 433-452.

**Medcalf**

Rory Medcalf (2014) "In Defence of the Indo-Pacific: Australia's New Strategic Map," *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 68:4, 470-483.

**Moore**

Gregory J. Moore (2008) "How North Korea Threatens China's Interests: Understanding Chinese 'Duplicity' on the North Korean Nuclear Issue." *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 8.1 (2008): 1-29.

**Cha**

Victor D. Cha. 2016. "The North Korea Question." *Asian Survey* 56.2: 243-269.

**Scott**

David Scott. (2012). "Conflict Irresolution in the South China Sea." *Asian Survey*, Vol. 52 (6): 1019–1042.

**Yahuda**

Michael Yahuda (2013) "China's New Assertiveness in the South China Sea," *Journal of Contemporary China*, 22:81, 446-459.

**Caballero-Anthony**

Mely Caballero-Anthony. 2006. "Combating Infectious Diseases in East Asia: Securitization and Global Public Goods for Health and Human Security." *Journal of International Affairs*. 59 (2): 105-127.

**Arase**

David Arase, 2010. "Non-Traditional Security in China-ASEAN Cooperation: The Institutionalization of Regional Security Cooperation and the Evolution of East Asian Regionalism." *Asian Survey*, Vol. 50 (4): 808-833.

**Sheen**

Seongho Sheen, 2013. "Northeast Asia's Aging Population and Regional Security: Demographic Peace?" *Asian Survey*, Vol. 53 (2): 292-318.

**Dewitt**

Dewitt, David. 1994. "Common, Comprehensive, and Cooperative Security." *The Pacific Review*. Vol. 7 (1). 1-16.

**Wirth**

Christian Wirth (2015) "'Power' and 'stability' in the China–Japan–South Korea Regional Security Complex," *The Pacific Review*, 28:4, 553-575.

**Chang**

Chang, Jun Yan Chang. 2016. "Essence of Security Communities: Explaining ASEAN." *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 16.3 (2016): 335-369.

**Kohli**

Atul Kohli, 1994. "Where do High Growth Political Economies Come from? The Japanese Lineage of Korea's "Developmental State." *World Development*. Vol. 22, 9; 1269-1293.

**Haggard and Kaufman**

Stephan Haggard and Robert Kaufman. 1997. "The Political Economy of Democratic Transitions." *Comparative Politics*. Vol. 29, 3: 263-283.

**Pye**

Lucian Pye, 1997. "Money Politics and Transitions to Democracy in East Asia," *Asian Survey*, Vol. 37; 3: 213-228.

**Chi and Kwon**

Eunju Chi and Hyeok Yong Kwon (2012). "Unequal New Democracies in East Asia: Rising Inequality and Government Responses in South Korea and Taiwan." *Asian Survey*, Vol. 52 (5): 900–923.



**Hayashi**

Shigeo Hayashi (2010) “The Developmental State in the Era of Globalization: Beyond the Northeast Asian Model of Political Economy,” *The Pacific Review*, 23:1, 45-69.

**Knight**

John B. Knight. 2014. “China as a Developmental State.” *The World Economy* 37.10 (2014): 1335-1347.

**Higgott**

Richard Higgott, 1998. “The Asian Economic Crisis: A Study in the Politics of Resentment,” *New Political Economy*, Vol. 3, 3: 333-356.

**Katada**

Saori N. Katada (2011) “Seeking A Place for East Asian Regionalism: Challenges and Opportunities under the Global Financial Crisis.” *The Pacific Review*, 24 (3): 273-290.

**Krugman**

Paul Krugman, 1994. “The Myth of Asia’s Miracle,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 73, 6: 62-78.

**Cary**

Eve Oleta Cary (2011) “Explaining Overheating in China through Institutional Analysis (1992–2010).” *Asian Survey*, Vol. 51 (30): 540–558.

**Peng**

Dajin Peng, 2002. “Invisible Linkages: A Regional Perspective of East Asian Political Economy?” *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 46, 3: 423-447.

**Athukorala**

Athukorala P. (2011) “Production Networks and Trade Patterns in East Asia: Regionalization or Globalization?” *Asian Economic Papers* Winter2011;10 (1): 65-95.

**Baldwin**

Richard Baldwin, 2006. “Managing the Noodle Bowl: The Fragility of East Asian Regionalism,” Center for Economic Policy Research Discussion Paper 5561. 2006.

**Haggard**

Stephan Haggard, *Pathways from the Periphery: The Politics of Growth in the Newly Industrializing Countries*, Chapter 2 “Explaining Development Strategies.” Cornell University Press, 1990: 23-48.

**Bown and McCulloch**

Chad Bown and Rachel McCulloch, 2009. “US-Japan and US-China Trade Conflict: Export Growth, Reciprocity, and the International Trading System.” *Journal of Asian Economics*. Vol. 20, 6: 669-687.

**Ravenhill 2010**

John Ravenhill, 2010. “The ‘new East Asian regionalism’: A political domino effect.” *Review of International Political Economy* 17.2 (2010): 178-208.

**Wilson**

Jeffrey D. Wilson. 2015. “Mega-regional trade deals in the Asia-Pacific: Choosing between the TPP and RCEP?” *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 45.2 (2015): 345-353.

**Ravenhill 2016**

John Ravenhill, 2016. "The Political Economy of an "Asian" Mega-FTA." *Asian Survey* 56.6 (2016): 1077-1100.

**Lipsy**

Phillip Y. Lipsy. 2015. "Who's Afraid of the AIIB?" *Foreign Affairs*, May 7 (2015).

**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**

Hyoung-Kyu Chey, 2013. "Can the Renminbi Rise as a Global Currency? The Political Economy of Currency Internationalization" *Asian Survey*, Vol. 53 (2), 2013: 348-368.

**He**

Kai He 2014. "A Strategic Functional Theory of Institutions and Rethinking Asian Regionalism" *Asian Survey*. 54 (6): 1184-1208.

**Kahler**

Miles Kahler. 2018. "Regional Challenges to Global Governance." *Global Policy* 8.1 (2017): 97-100.