

Political Economy of Asia

Global Cultures Flag/ Writing Flag
GOV 365E (#38255)/ANS 361-36 (#32680)
Spring 2023 (Updated Jan. 6/23)
MW 8:30-10:00 a.m., GAR 0.132

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This upper division course explores the distinctive structures and behavior of East Asian political economies, with emphasis on Japan, China, and South Korea. After examining contending explanations of the East Asian Miracle, we analyze the postwar political-economic trajectories of each of these countries in turn and with an eye to the following questions: How do the relationships between states and markets in East Asia differ from comparable relationships in the West?; How have East Asian countries influenced one another's growth trajectories?; Why is corruption such a prominent feature of the political-economic landscapes of East Asia, and what are its costs and benefits? and; What has been the fate of East Asian models of economic development in the contexts of globalization and slower growth?

This course carries two flags. In keeping with the Global Cultures Flag, we explore course themes with an eye to the cultural and institutional differences between East Asia and other parts of the world. To fulfill the objectives of the Writing Flag, students are required to complete a substantive research paper.

Prerequisites:

Students with 6 or more hours of Government coursework have priority access to this course. Some knowledge of East Asia and/or comparative politics/political economy is recommended but not required.

Course Requirements:

- 1. Attendance/Participation:** 15%
You are expected to come to class regularly (attendance will be taken), actively participate in class discussions, and comment on the projects of two of your peers.
- 2. Short writing assignment:** 10%
*2-3 double-spaced pages on the East Asian Miracle
Due Sunday, Jan. 29 at 9:00 pm (via Canvas)*
- 3. Quizzes on Japan, South Korea, and China Units** 15%
Focus on readings; administered during last class of each relevant unit.
- 4. Research paper proposal:** 10%
*2-3 double-spaced pages + annotated bibliography
Due Sunday, Feb. 26 at 9:00 pm*
- 5. Paper abstract and brief outline** 5%
*75-to-100-word abstract + 1 page outline
Due Sunday, Mar. 9 at 9:00 pm.*
- 6. Recorded paper presentation** 10%
Before submitting your paper, you will post a recorded lecture (10-12 minutes) and PPT presentation of your research findings. You will be expected to incorporate relevant feedback from the instructor, the TA, and 2 student peers into your final paper. Due Thursday, April 2 at 9:00 pm.
- 7. Research paper** 35%
*12-15 double-spaced pages.
Due Friday, April 28 at 9:00 pm.*

Readings:

No books have been assigned for this course. Required readings are posted under Modules on the Canvas site for this course.

Note on Research Papers:

Since this course carries the Writing Flag, we will spend lots of time developing advanced research and writing skills. The centerpiece is a 12-to-15-page research paper

on a research question of your choice—including East/Southeast Asian countries and/or political-economic themes that are not addressed in the lectures or required readings. We will complete the project in stages: 1) a 2-to-3-page paper proposal + annotated bibliography; 2) a brief abstract and paper outline; 3) a presentation of your main findings and argument; and 4) the paper.

Class Guidelines:

1. You are expected to attend all lectures, especially since they will introduce you to some of the terminology and analytical approaches necessary to complete your paper. Attendance will be taken, and your record will be reflected in your participation grade.

2. The readings for this course are fairly light so that you may focus on the research for your paper. But you are expected to stay up-to-date on the readings and to discuss them in class.

3. PowerPoint presentations will be posted on Canvas in advance of each session. The presentations are designed to provide you with outlines of basic concepts and themes. To do well on the quizzes, you should also take detailed notes during lectures.

4. Students with disabilities are welcome to request appropriate accommodations. Please contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement for more information: <https://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/about> Be sure to speak to me early in the semester to discuss your needs.

5. Students guilty of academic misconduct (e.g., cheating on a quiz or plagiarizing a writing assignment) will receive a “0” for that assignment. *No exceptions.* Please review the following tutorial of what plagiarism is and how to avoid it: <https://guides.lib.utexas.edu/c.php?g=539686&p=8083280>

6. Keep your cell phones switched off during class. You may use laptops or tablets, *but only for the purposes of taking notes and quizzes.*

7. All assignments must be completed on schedule. Late written submissions will be penalized 5% per day, beginning one hour after a deadline. You are eligible for extra accommodation if you fall ill or encounter a personal emergency, *but please alert me to your situation before—rather than after—an assignment is due.*

8. Please arrive for class on time and inform both *me and Keith* in advance of unavoidable absences, late arrivals, and early departures.

9. You have the right to miss class for religious purposes. But I encourage you to keep me informed of such absences.

10. Covid-19: Please don’t come to class if you feel ill or suspect that you’ve been exposed to the virus. We will help you catch up and access class notes from other students. For information about Covid-19 testing and assistance, consult the University Health Services website: <https://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/>

11. Take advantage of my office hours! (You may meet with me either in person or via Zoom.) Do not hesitate to see me periodically for individualized instruction on your research projects. Our TA, Keith Chew, will be your go-to instructor for feedback on data analysis.

Grading Scheme:

Letter Grade	GPA	Percentage Score
A	4.0	94-100%
A-	3.67	90-93
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3.0	84-86
B-	2.67	80-83
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2.0	74-76
C-	1.67	70-73
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1.0	64-66
D-	.67	60-63
F	0	59 & below

DATE	<i>LECTURES & DISCUSSIONS</i>	TUTORIALS	DUE DATES
Jan. 9	Intro to course		
Jan. 11	Intro to E. Asian political economies		
Jan. 16 & 18	Explaining the Econ “Miracle”		
Jan. 23	Discussion of Miracle readings		
Jan. 25		Overview of Research & Writing Processes	
Jan. 29 (Sun., 9pm)			Essay Assignment
Jan. 30		Library Session	
Feb. 1 & 6	Japan		
Feb. 8		Writing Proposals	
Feb. 13, 15 & 20	Japan		
Feb. 22	Discussion of Japan readings		Quiz: Japan
Feb. 26 (Sun., 9pm)			Paper Proposal
Feb. 27	S. Korea		
Mar. 1		Working w/ Data	
Mar. 6 & 8	S. Korea		
Mar. 9 (Th., 9pm)			Abstract/Outline
Mar. 13 & 15	No classes (break)		
Mar. 20		Tips on Writing & Presentations	
Mar. 22	S. Korea		
Mar. 27	Discussion of S. Korea readings		Quiz: S. Korea
Mar. 29	China		
Apr. 2 (Sun., 9pm)			Paper presentations
Apr. 3, 5, 10 & 12	China		
Apr. 17	Discussion of China readings		Quiz: China
Apr. 19	N. Korea		
Apr. 24	Final lecture		
Apr. 28 (Fri., 9pm)			Papers due

SCHEDULE

Jan. 9: Introduction to the Course

★No readings

Jan. 11: Introduction to the Political Economies of East Asia

★No readings

Jan. 16 & 18: Demystifying the East Asian “Economic Miracle”

★“The East Asian Miracle.” *Policy Research Report of the World Bank* (1993):1-26. (Introduction.)

★Krugman, Paul. “The Myth of Asia’s Miracle.” *Foreign Affairs* (Nov/Dec 1994):62-78.

★Fallows, James. “How the World Works.” *The Atlantic Monthly* (December 1993):60-87.

Jan. 23: The Economic Miracle: Discussion

** Questions for essay assignment distributed Jan. 23; due at 9:00 pm on Sunday, Jan. 29. (Upload to Canvas.)

Jan. 25: Overview of the Research and Writing Processes

★No readings.

Jan. 30: Library Session (Dr. Yi Shan)

★No readings.

Feb. 1 & 6: The Japanese Political Economy: A Capsule History

★Hein, Laura E. “Growth Versus Success: Japan’s Economic Policy in Historical Perspective.” In *Postwar Japan as History*, Andrew Gordon, ed. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993, pp. 99-122.

★Sheldon Garon and Mike Mochizuki, “Negotiating Social Contracts.” In *Postwar Japan as History*, Andrew Gordon, ed. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993, pp. 145-166.

Feb. 8: Writing Research Paper Proposals

Feb. 13 & 15: The Japanese Developmental State

★Johnson, Chalmers. *MITI and the Japanese Miracle*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1982, pp. 1-33.

★Woodall, Brian. *Japan Under Construction: Corruption, Politics, and Public Works*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996, pp. 25-50.

Feb. 20: Japanese State-Market Relations Today

★Noble, Gregory W. “METI’s Miraculous Comeback and the Uncertain Future of Japanese Industrial Policy.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Japanese Politics*, Robert J. Pekkanen and Saadia M. Pekkanen, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022, pp. 353-375.

Feb. 22: Japan: Quiz and Discussion

Feb. 27: The South Korean Political Economy: A Capsule History

★Kohli, Atul. “Where Do High Growth Political Economies Come From?: The Japanese Lineage of Korea’s ‘Developmental State.’” *World Development* 22, no. 9 (1994):1269-1293.

★Rhyu, Sang-young. “Chaebol.” In *The Oxford Handbook of South Korean Politics*, Jeong Hun Han, Ramon Pacheco Pardo, and Youngho Cho eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.

Mar. 1: Working with Data (Keith Chew)

Mar. 6 & 8: South Korea's Approach to Developmentalism

★Amsden, Alice H. *Asia's Next Giant: South Korea and Late Industrialization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989, pp. 3-23 & 269-290.

★Rodrik, Dani, G. Grossman and V. Norman. "Getting Interventions Right: How South Korea and Taiwan Grew Rich." *Economic Policy* 20 (1995):55-107.

★Kang, David C. "Transaction Costs and Crony Capitalism in East Asia." *Comparative Politics* 35, no. 4 (July 2003):439-458.

Mar. 13 & 15: Spring Break

★No classes

Mar. 20: The Writing Process/ Research Presentations

Mar. 22: South Korean's Retreat from Developmentalism

★Woo, Meredith. "The Developmental State." In *The Oxford Handbook of South Korean Politics*, ed. By Jeong Hun Han, Ramon Pacheco Pardo, and Youngho Cho. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.

Mar. 27: South Korea: Quiz and Discussion

Mar. 29 & Apr. 3: The Chinese Political Economy: A Capsule History

★McMillan, John, and Barry Naughton. "How to Reform a Planned Economy." *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 8, no. 1 (1992):130-143.

★Huang, Yasheng. "How Did China Take Off?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 26, no. 4 (2012):147-170.

Apr. 3: Corruption, Chinese-Style

★Pei, Minxin. *China's Crony Capitalism: The Dynamics of Regime Decay*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2016, pp. 23-77 & 151-82.

Apr. 10: Will Growth Lead to Democracy in China??

★Tsai, Kellee S. *Capitalism Without Democracy: The Private Sector in Contemporary China*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2007, pp. 1-71.

★Pei, Minxin. "China: Totalitarianism's Long Shadow." *Journal of Democracy* 32, no. 2 (April 2021):5-21.

Apr. 12: China's Political Economy Under Xi Jinping

★Pierson, Margaret, Meg Rithmire, and Kellee S. Tsai, "Party-State Capitalism in China." *Current History* (September 2021):207-213.

Apr. 17: China: Quiz and Discussion

Apr. 19: North Korea: No Miracle Here!

★No readings.

Apr. 24: The Future Challenges of East Asian Political Economies

★No readings.