Course Profile

Degree Program:
- ☐ ECE-Electrical & Computer Engineering
- ☐ ME - Mechanical Engineering
- ☑ General Courses for Both ECE & ME Degree Programs

Course Name:
**Political and Economic Development in Pacific Asia**

Course Code: VR380

Course Credits: 3

Course Category: ☐ Required ☑ Elective

Terms Offered:
- ☐ Fall 2014-2015
- ☐ Spring 2014-2015
- ☑ Summer 2014-2015

Course Pre/Co-requisites: Not compulsory, but previous experience of any HU/SS courses is desirable

Instructor:

Name: Dr. Sam Ro
Email: soong-chul.ro@sjtu.edu.cn
Room: Room 411, Law School North Building
Office Hour: Monday 14.00-15.40*; Wednesday 14.00-17.40
(Monday Office Hours for week 1-3 will take place on Wednesday 12.30-14.00)

Teaching Assistants:

Name: Mr. Li Zhengrong
Email: lizhengrong920211@gmail.com
Office Hour: TBA

Class Time and Location:

- Monday 18.20-20.00 Dong Xia Yuan 104
- Wednesday 18.20-20.00 Dong Xia Yuan 104
Textbook:

* Buying textbook is not required for this course, but Ming Wan (2008) *The Political Economy of East Asia* (Washington D.C.: CQ Press) covers most of the topics. It is more important to read at least one of the items listed in the **Weekly Reading List** at the end of this syllabus. Other helpful resources are listed below.

General:


Economic Developments


Political Developments


International Relations/Regional Integration


* A longer country-specific reading list will be posted on Sakai for your research.
Internet Resources:

There are a very large number of websites that contain valuable information on the global economy. It will be extremely helpful to choose one or two countries early in the course and focus your research on these through internet.

In addition, you can find journal articles from JSTOR or EBSCO – Academic Source Complete (ASC). These will be indispensable for your essay. You can access through SJTU library’s electronic resources (listed in http://www.lib.sjtu.edu.cn/view.do?id=1383)

General Websites (that contain statistical information, reports and papers)

Asia Development Bank (ADB): http://www.adb.org/
International Monetary Fund (IMF): http://www.imf.org/
UNCTAD http://www.unctad.org/en/
Focus on Trade http://www.focusweb.org/focus/pd/apec/list.html
Trade Agreements Database (TARA) http://www.mac.doc.gov/tcc/data/index.html
Index of Economic Freedom http://www.heritage.org/index/
SOSIG http://www.sosig.ac.uk/
The e-journal http://asia-www-monitor.blogspot.com/
The Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University http://wwwarc.murdoch.edu.au/workingpapers.html
Penn World Table http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/ - for comprehensive and comparative GDP data

Specialist sites (Amongst large number of sites try. . . )

The World Bank’s East Asia & Pacific website http://www.worldbank.org/eap
The WB’s East Asia & Pacific (EAP) newsletter www.worldbank.org/eapnewsletter
The World Bank national sites e.g. Vietnam - http://www.worldbank.org.vn/
Central banks e.g. Bank of Thailand - http://search-click2asia.com/down.html


Newspapers e.g.

Asia Times Online: http://www.atimes.com
BBC News Asia: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/asia/
Financial Times Asia: http://www.ft.com/home/asia

Nikkei English: http://e.nikkei.com/e/fr/freetop.aspx - Japanese Newspaper
Bangkok Post - http://bangkokpost.net/ - Thailand News in English

* Anonymous sources, including Wikipedia, could be helpful at the start but students are required to trace the sources of information found in such internet websites to evaluate the quality of information in their final analysis.
Grading Policy:

Final exam (week 13) 20%
Reading Notes (submission by notice) 10%
Students need to submit 4 reading notes: 1 from the weekly reading list 2a, 1 from 2b, and 2 for student’s own research topic. Exact dates for submission will be announced in class.

Seminar Presentation/Participation (throughout the course) 30%
Assessment is based on an oral presentation (10-15 minutes; 50%) and your weekly contributions to the discussion (50%). The topics are related to the previous week's lecture and should be selected from the list of topics in consultation with the instructor (see Weekly Schedule). Students must see the instructor at least one week before their own presentations for guidance and sources.

Essay (1,500-2,000; submission by week 10) 40%
Students should submit an essay (1,500-2,000 words) chosen from the topics below by the end of week 10. It is strongly recommended for students to discuss source materials and essay plans with the instructor.

First Draft (submission by week 5) 10%
First draft should contain brief introduction to the topic (including specific countries chosen for the topic and any modifications if applicable), preliminary research showing structure of main arguments if any. It should be written in full sentences (200-300 words but not in bullet points), and contain at least one citation. You should also include a three-page list of relevant sources to be consulted found in online newspapers and journals (does not count towards word limit).

Completed Essay (submission by week 10) 30%
Please remember to include a title page with the title of the essay and your name and id number. The work should contain introduction and conclusion as well as in-text citations and a list of reference. Any format of citation is acceptable but the instructor recommends Chicago style (example will be uploaded on Sakai) for this course. Late submission will result in 5% deduction from essay marks (calculated from 100% as full marks) per day.

Essay Topics:

Choose one topic from the list below and discuss using at least ONE detailed case of Pacific Asian Economy.

1. To what extent is the term ‘developmental state’ still applicable to Asian Economies? (Answer in relation to Japan and Asian NIEs)
2. To what extent did government policies result in positive outcome in industrialization of East Asian Economies? (Discuss in relation to a particular industry)
3. To what extent did economic openness play a critical role in the economic development of Asian NIEs? Discuss in relation to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) or international trade.
4. To what extent has the economic growth led to political liberalisation in Asian NIEs?
5. To what extent have the benefits of economic growth in Pacific Asia been shared by all sections of society? Discuss in relation to regional, ethnic or gender inequality.
6. How well are Asian economies adjusting to the rise of China?
Guide to your grades:

Presentation / Essay grades

A good essay (or presentation) contains the student’s own research and independent analysis based on empirically verifiable facts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Qualifies for A and, in addition, shows independent judgment, imaginative approaches, or outstanding use of primary sources.</td>
<td>96-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Both relevant facts and arguments are visible and the facts support arguments in coherent manner. Arguments are balanced showing comprehensive understanding of the topic and research.</td>
<td>87-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A0 90-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A- 87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Both relevant facts and arguments are visible but they fail to support each other in coherent manner. The work needs more comprehensive research to present balanced arguments. Research or presentation of arguments follows other source rather than student’s own argument.</td>
<td>77-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B+ 84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B0 80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B- 77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Either relevant facts or arguments are missing. Severely unbalanced or prejudiced and often contains self-contradiction. Under researched and the organisation relies on a couple of readings.</td>
<td>67-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C+ 74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C0 70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C- 67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Few relevant facts or arguments visible and organised in a disjointed manner.</td>
<td>50-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Lacks both facts and arguments</td>
<td>0-50</td>
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</table>

Seminar Participation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Active and enthusiastic participation with relevant comments that show signs of reading or careful consideration</td>
<td>87-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Active participation with relevant comments</td>
<td>77-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Reluctant participation with barely relevant comments</td>
<td>67-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>No participation</td>
<td>50-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Not present</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Reading Notes

Reading notes do not have to be comprehensive and do not have to be written in full sentences but should contain:

1. correct understanding of the general idea of the article,
2. critical assessment of the (part of) the details significant to the general idea (with page numbers so that you can quote later),
3. original question or comments that leads to your own research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Original questions and comments (1) based on correct broad understanding (2) of the reading material as well as critical assessment of details (3).</td>
<td>87-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>One of the above three elements not satisfactory</td>
<td>77-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Two of the three elements not satisfactory</td>
<td>67-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Most of the three elements visible but not satisfactory</td>
<td>50-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Extremely casual notes that do not show any of the three elements</td>
<td>0-49</td>
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Academic Integrity:

All students in the class are presumed to be decent, honourable and bound by the Honour Code of the Joint Institute (visit http://umji.sjtu.edu.cn/honorcode for more details)

**Plagiarism** is a very serious offence and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. You must appropriately acknowledge your use of another's work. Putting a list of references at the end of your paper is not enough: your essay must contain in-text citations each time you quote information, results of research, and arguments that you took from other sources. If you are in doubt as to the right way of referencing, consult the instructor BEFORE the submission, NOT after.

In addition, any form of cheating in exam or in preparation of term-paper will result in scoring 0 for the assignment or exam and could lead to further disciplinary actions.

Course Description:

This course provides a detailed analysis of the political economy of Pacific Asia through case studies of selected countries (Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam and China). Over the last twenty years this region has emerged as a new and highly dynamic global core and until the onset of economic crisis in the 1990s, Pacific Asia was widely presented as a model of development for other developing countries. Since then, debates still wage on, across diverse field of social science, regarding the existence, sources, and validity of so called ‘East Asian Growth model’. The main aim of the course is to disentangle myths and realities surrounding these debates.

Students will explore the High Growth Era in Japan and Asian NIEs (Newly Industrializing Economies) first. Main focuses will be on the interaction between political and economic institutions in creating economic growth; the external and internal factors that shaped such institutions; the changes after the 1990s; and the implications for other developing countries. One of the keys to understanding the region is the specific characteristics of regional interaction both in economic and political terms. Towards the end of the course there will be lectures on the changing nature of international political economy of the region.

Through this students are expected to develop a key part of Asia and cultivate understandings on Pacific Asian region which is becoming increasingly relevant to understanding global business and political economy.

Key areas of study:

- The developmental role of the state
- Structures of political and economic institutions in the region
- The nature of regional economic integration
- The changing dynamics of regional political economy
- The emergence of Pacific Asia’s global economic and political role
## Teaching Schedule (Summer 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lectures Monday 18.20-20.00 (DXY104)</th>
<th>Seminars Wednesday 18.20-20.00 (DXY104)</th>
<th>Essay</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
<td>Pacific Asia – A Region? (Lecture)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Developmental Role of the State in Pacific Asia (Lecture)</td>
<td>Developmental Role of the State in Pacific Asia (Lecture)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jun. 1</td>
<td>Reforms in Japan since the 1990s</td>
<td>Seminar 2: Japanese Model a) In what ways do Keiretsus differ from Anglo-American companies? (up to two presenters) b) Did corruption play a role in developing Japanese economy?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>The old NIEs: Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan</td>
<td>Seminar 3: Japanese Reform How liberal is Japan after reforms after the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) political structure or c) economic policies.</td>
<td>First Draft Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Reforms in South Korea since the 1990s</td>
<td>Seminar 4: Old NIEs (Singapore or Taiwan) To what extent was the Japanese model of development reproduced in a) Singapore or b) Taiwan? c) How well does Flying Geese Model explain the development of Asian Economies?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>The New NIEs?: Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.</td>
<td>Seminar 5: Liberalisation in Asian NIEs (Singapore or Taiwan) How liberal are Asian NIEs since the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) politics, or c) economic policies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Liberalization, Business and Politics: in Thailand</td>
<td>Seminar 6: New NIEs (Indonesia or Malaysia) What were the reasons for the development of close relationship between business and politics in a) Indonesia or b) Malaysia?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Asian Transition Economies (ATES): developmental party states in China and Vietnam</td>
<td>Seminar 7: New NIEs (Indonesia or Malaysia) How liberal are New Asian NIEs since the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) politics, or c) economy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Crises and new challenges for Asian Economies</td>
<td>Seminar 8: ATES To what extent is a) China or b) Vietnam following East Asian Growth model?</td>
<td>Final Essay Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>East Asian economic cooperation?</td>
<td>Seminar 9: Crisis How well have Asian countries (or ASEAN) responded to a) the Asian Financial Crisis (1997+) or b) to World Financial Crisis (2008+)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>China, US and the Region</td>
<td>Seminar10: East Asian Economic Cooperation What are the obstacles for further economic cooperation in the Pacific Asia? Discuss in relation to FTAs or financial cooperation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>5</td>
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Seminar Questions

Seminar 1: Economic Developments in Asia
a) Critically examine Huang (2005)’s argument on factors relating to the ‘East Asian Miracle’.
b) What are the main differences between neo-liberal approach and developmental state arguments? Why does it matter? (Discuss in relation to Berger and Beason 1998 or Wan 2011)

Seminar 2: Japanese Model
a) In what ways do Keiretsus differ from Anglo-American companies? (up to two presenters)
b) Did corruption play a role in developing Japanese economy?

Seminar 3: Japanese Reform
How liberal is Japan after reforms after the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) political structure or c) economic policies.

Seminar 4: Old NIEs (Singapore or Taiwan)
To what extent was the Japanese model of development reproduced in a) Singapore or b) Taiwan?
c) How well does Flying Geese Model explain the development of Asian Economies?

Seminar 5: Liberalisation in Asian NIEs (Singapore or Taiwan)
How liberal are Asian NIEs since the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) politics, or c) economic policies.

Seminar 6: New NIEs (Indonesia or Malaysia)
What were the reasons for the development of close relationship between business and politics in a) Indonesia or b) Malaysia?

Seminar 7: New NIEs (Indonesia or Malaysia)
How liberal are New Asian NIEs since the 1990s? Discuss in relation to a) corporate governance, b) politics, or c) economy.
d) to what extent are the New NIEs facing the ‘middle income’ trap since the 1990s?

Seminar 8: ATEs
To what extent is a) China or b) Vietnam following East Asian Growth model?

Seminar 9: Crisis
How well have Asian countries (or ASEAN) responded to a) the Asian Financial Crisis (1997+) or b) to World Financial Crisis (2008+)?

Seminar 10: East Asian Economic Cooperation
What are the obstacles for further economic cooperation in the Pacific Asia? Discuss in relation to FTAs or financial cooperation.
## Weekly Reading List

Most of the articles in the list are available through Sakai.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Suggested Reading</th>
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Homepage: [www.umji.sjtu.edu.cn](http://www.umji.sjtu.edu.cn)  
Fax: 86-21-34206525