
Understanding International Relations in East Asia

Instructor: Professor Seong-Ho SHEEN
Major: International Summer Institute
Term: Summer 2018
Time: 13:00-16:00 Mon. Wed. Thu
Venue: GSIS, Seminar Room

Course Objective

This course is intended to discuss geopolitical situation and key security issues of East Asia. As an introductory seminar, the course will provide students with theoretical framework to understand and analyze current security and diplomatic relations in East Asia. For this, the course will discuss three different approaches in analyzing today's East Asian geo-political situation; realist, liberalist, and constructivist. Following theories, the course will discuss current diplomatic and security issues among major East Asian countries including rise of China, key bilateral relations in East Asia, nuclear development and alliance dynamics on the Korean peninsula. Special attention will be given to the power transition and its impacts in Northeast Asia.

Course Requirements

1. Class participation (30%)
2. Midterm exam (35%)
3. Final exam (35%)

Guidelines

- **Attendance** will be important for keeping up with class. Please be advised that questions for mid-term and final exam will be based on lecture given in class, not textbook. Good attendance and **active participation** will be reflected in grade.

Class Schedule and Reading Assignment

Session 1: Introduction

Theories of International Relations in East Asia

Session 2: Realism

List of Readings

- Aaron Friedberg, "Ripe for Rivalry: Prospects for Peace in a Multipolar Asia," *International Security* Vol. 18, No. 3 (Winter 1993/1994), pp. 5-33.
- John J. Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2001), pp. 1-28, 360-402.
- John J. Mearsheimer, "The Gathering Storm: China's Challenge to US Power in Asia," *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, Vol. 3 (2010), pp. 381-396.
- Yan Xuetong, "The Instability of China-US Relations," *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* Vol. 3, 2010, pp. 263-292.
- Graham Allison, "The Thucydides Trap: Are the U.S. and China Headed for War?," *The Atlantic*, September 24, 2015.

Session 3: Liberalism

List of Readings

- T.J. Pempel, *Remapping East Asia* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005), pp. 1-28.
- Etel Solingen, "East Asian Regional Institutions" in T.J. Pempel, ed. *Remapping East Asia* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005), pp. 29-53.
- Yuen Foong Khong, "Coping with Strategic Uncertainty: The Role of Institutions and Soft Balancing in Southeast Asia's Post-Cold war Strategy" J.J. Suh, Peter J. Katzenstein, and Allen Carlson, *Rethinking Security in East Asia* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004), pp. 172-208.
- Yong Wook lee, "Nonhegemonic or Hegemonic Cooperation? Institutional Evolution of East Asian Financial Regionalism," *The Korean Journal of International Studies* Vol. 13, No. 1, April 2015, pp.89-116.

Session 4: Constructivism

List of Readings

- Thomas Berger, "Power and Purpose in Pacific East Asia," in John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno, eds. *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003):387-420.
- David Kang, "Hierarchy and Stability in Asian International Relations," in G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno ed. *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003), pp. 163-189.
- Christopher Hemmer and Peter J. Katzenstein, "Why is There No NATO in Asia? Collective Identity, Regionalism, and the Origins of Multilateralism," *International Organization* Vol. 56, No. 3 (Summer 2002), pp. 575-607

Bilateral Security Dynamics in East Asia

Session 5: US-China Relations

List of Readings

- Hillary Clinton, "America's Pacific Century," *Foreign Policy*, (November, 2011).
- Joseph Nye, "Our Pacific Predicament," *The American Interest* (March/ April 2013)
- Wang Jisi, "China's Search for Grand Strategy," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 90, No. 2 (March/ April 2011), pp. 68-79.
- Wang Jisi, "US-China Relations: An Overview of Policy Issues," *Congressional Research Service*, August 1, 2013, pp. 1-65.

Session 6: US-Japan Relations

List of Readings

- Michael Green, "Japan in Asia," David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, *International Relations of Asia* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.: Lanham, 2008), pp.170-194.
- Mike Mochizuki and Samuel Parkinson Porter "Japan Under Abe: toward

Moderation or Nationalism?" *Washington Quarterly* Vol. 36, No. 4 (Autumn 2013), 25-41

- "Remarks by President Obama and Prime Minister Abe of Japan in Joint Press Conference," The White House, Office of the Press Secretary (April 28, 2015)
- Emma Chanlett-Avery, Mark E Manyin, William H. Cooper, Ian E. Rinehard, "Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress" CRS Report for Congress (February 16, 2017), pp. 1-39.

Session 7: Japan-China Relations

List of Readings

- Denny Roy, "Japan and China" *Return of the Dragon: Rising China and Regional Security* (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 2013), pp. 81-102.
- Wu Xinbo, "Understanding Geopolitical Implications of the Global Financial Crisis," *Washington Quarterly* Vol. 33, No. 4 (October 2010), pp. 155-163
- International Crisis Group, "Dangerous Waters: China-Japan Relations on the Rocks," Asia Report No. 245 (8 April 2013)
- Tokyo Foundation, "Japan's Security strategy Toward China: Integration, Balancing, and Deterrence in the Era of Power Shift," Policy Proposal (October 2011)

Session 8 -Mid-term Exam

Korea and East Asia

Session 9: Korea-China

List of Readings

- Jae Ho Chung, *Between Ally and Partner: Korea-China Relations and the United States* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2007), Ch. 1,7,8.
- Asia Report No. 179, "Shades of Red: China's Debate over North Korea" International Crisis Group, November 2, 2009

- Denny Roy, "North Korea: Bothersome Cline State" in *Return of the Dragon: Rising China and Regional Security* (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 2013), pp. 178-193.

Session 10: Korea-US

List of Readings

- Scott Snyder, "Expanding the US-South Korea Alliance," in Scott Snyder ed. *The US-South Korea Alliance: Meeting New Security Challenges* (London: Lynne Rienner Publisher, 2012), pp. 1-20.
- Victor Cha, "What's Next for the US-Korea Alliance" Statement before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific (June 6, 2012 Washington D.C.) http://csis.org/files/ts120606_Cha.pdf
- Mark E. Manyin, Emma Chanlett-Avery, Mary Beth D. Nikitin, Ian E. Rinehart, "U.S.-South Korea Relations" CRS Report for Congress (May 13, 2017), pp. 1-45.
- Seongho Sheen, "Between a Rock and a Rocket Man: South Korea's Anxiety" *Global Asia* (Winter 2017)

Session 11: Korea-Japan

List of Readings

- Victor Cha, *Alignment Despite Antagonism* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999). Introduction, chapter 2 and conclusion, pp. 199-232..
- Cheol Hee Park, "Cooperation Coupled with Conflicts: Korea-Japan Relations in the Post-Cold War Era," *Asia-Pacific Review* 15:2 (November 2008)
- Tsuneo Akaha, "Japan's Multilevel Approach Toward the Korean Peninsula After the Cold War," in Armstrong, Rozman, Kim and Kotkin ed. *Korea at The Center: Dynamics of Regionalism in Northeast Asia*, pp. 183-199
- Sean O'Malley, "Can Military Normalization in Japan and OPCON Transfer in South Korea Enhance Regional Stability? A Conflict Management Framework for Rivalry Dyads," *The Korean Journal of International Studies* Vol. 13, No. 1, April 2015, pp.117-146.

The Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia

Session 12: Nuclear and Peace on the Korean Peninsula

List of Readings

- Daniel Byman and Jennifer Lind, "Pyongyang's Survival Strategy: Tools of Authoritarian Control in North Korea," *International Security*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Summer 2010), pp. 44-74
- Mary Beth Nikitin, "North Korea's Nuclear Weapons: Technical Issues," CRS Report for Congress (April 3, 2013)
- Crisis Group Report, "North Korea: The Risk of War in the Yellow Sea," December 23, 2010.
- Emma Chanlett-Avery and Ian E. Rinehart, "North Korea: U.S. Relations, Nuclear Diplomacy, and Internal Situation" CRS Report for Congress (January 15, 2016), pp. 1-32.

Session 13: Two Koreas and Korean Unification

List of Readings

- Bonnie S. Glaser and Scott Snyder, "Responding to Change on the Korean Peninsula: Impediments to U.S.-South Korea-China Coordination," a CSIS Report, May 2010
- Chae-Jin Lee, *A Troubled Peace: US Policy and the Two Koreas* (The Johns Hopkins Press, 2006), pp 275-295.
- Seongho Sheen, "Dilemma of South Korea's Trust Diplomacy and Unification Policy" *International Journal of Korean Unification Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (2014), 97-122.
- Gooheon Kwon, "A United Korea?: Reassessing North Korea Risk (Part I)," Goldman Sachs Global Economics Paper No. 188 (September 21, 2009)

Session 14: Final Exam