

## **Political Science 333**

### **Japan and the East Asian Dragons**

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Tues/Thurs 1:00-2:15  
Office Hours: Tues 8:30-10:00  
Thurs 2:30-5:00

#### **The Course**

When Japan surrendered to Allied troops in 1945, East Asia was in ruins. China had been at war against itself and Japan since the 1920s; its civil war would continue for four more years. Japanese invasion and Allied counter-invasion had destroyed cities, farms and factories across the South Pacific and Indochina. Allied bombers treated the Japanese colonies of Taiwan and Korea as enemy territory. And in Japan itself, devastation reigned. Because conventional bombing had flattened Tokyo and other industrial and military centers by August of 1945, US strategists were forced to aim their newest weapon at the largely civilian targets of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Elsewhere, there simply were not enough structures left standing to demonstrate the atomic bombs' destructive power.

In September of 1945, the prospects for Japan's recovery hardly could have seemed more remote. Bombing had taken more than half a million lives on the Japanese mainland; military casualties numbered 1,140,000, with another quarter million missing. Millions of returning servicemen and colonists (many born and raised in Korea and Taiwan) flooded into Japan, joining millions more local refugees in a desperate search for food, housing and employment. Fourteen major cities — all targets of conventional bombing — were more than half destroyed.

Fifty years later, Japan, Taiwan and South Korea are among the wealthiest societies on earth. All three enjoy a relatively even distribution of wealth, although the gap between rich and poor is growing. Likewise, all three are governed by popularly-elected, democratic regimes.

How did Japan and its neighbors rise from the ashes of war to become the economic powerhouses they are today? How did these defeated dependencies overtake, and in some respects surpass, their military and economic mentors? And how did these two former colonies and their colonizer develop democratic political institutions to accompany their rise to economic power? These are some of the questions we will consider in this course.

#### **Requirements**

**Reading:** This course is designed for students who are interested in East Asian politics; you need not have a background in East Asian studies to take the course. The purpose of the course is to help you acquire a familiarity with these countries so that you can evaluate intelligently the events that unfold there. That will mean absorbing a considerable amount of information. So the first requirement for this course is to read, carefully and ahead of class.

We have two texts: *Introduction to Japanese Politics* by Louis Hayes and *Transforming Korean Politics: Democracy, Reform and Culture* by Young Whan Kihl. We also will read a book that compares policy making in the three countries, *Healthy Democracies* by Joseph Wong. There are many supplementary reading assignments, all of which are required and will be incorporated into class discussions and reviews.

**Participation:** The class will include discussion, and I expect everyone to contribute. Obviously, attendance is important (since you can't participate if you're not present).

**Reviews:** There will be a take-home mid-term and a take-home final.

**Essay:** You will write one short (3-4 page) essay. You may write about a topic assigned for any of the classes *after* February 24. You will hand in your paper on the day on which we will discuss your topic. (E.g., if you want to write about Korean unification you will hand in your essay on March 31.) The short essay should make an argument about some aspect of the assigned readings. Additional research is not required or expected.

**Grading:**

Attendance & Participation:	10%	94-100 = A
Mid-term:	25%	90-93 = A-
Essay:	30%	87-89 = B+
Final:	35%	84-86 = B, etc.

**Please note:** On your written work, please use a *cover sheet* with your name, the name of the course, the title of the paper (if you are writing a final paper) and the honor pledge. Staple the cover sheet to the rest of the pages. Please *do not* put your name on the other pages. If you use blue books, put your name on the cover *only*.

Anything you hand in is pledged work. But as a reminder of the honor code's importance, I would like you to write out the honor code on the cover sheet of any work you hand in. ("On my honor I pledge that I have neither given nor received help on this work, nor am I aware of any violation on the part of others.") If for some reason you do not write the honor code, that *does not* exempt the work from the honor code. Please make sure you understand the honor code, especially the definition of plagiarism. If you have any questions, doubts or concerns about any aspect of the honor code, please come and talk to me. If you are unsure of how you should cite material used in an essay, please feel free to discuss it with me.

**Lateness policy:** Work that is handed in *after class* on the day an assignment is due will be penalized 1/3 of a grade for each day it is late. That means that if you hand in an A paper at noon on the day the paper is due, you will receive an A-. But no matter how late a paper is, it is *always* to your advantage to hand it in.

I am happy to receive papers as email attachments (as long as you don't send a virus, and your paper arrives before class on the day it is due). I WILL SEND YOU A REPLY CONFIRMING RECEIPT OF YOUR PAPER. SAVE A COPY OF YOUR PAPER UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THAT CONFIRMATION.

Please be advised that computer failure is *not* an acceptable excuse for lateness. *Back up your work*. Also, leaving a voice mail message will not get you off the hook. Do not assume you have secured my permission for something unless you have spoken to me *in person* or received an e-mail or voice mail message *from me*.

**Extensions:** Please do not ask for extensions because you have “too much work.” Everyone does, and it's unfair to give extensions to those who ask, while those who don't ask end up with less time to do a good job. Also, no extensions will be granted for extracurricular commitments. Look at your athletic, musical, Union and theatrical schedules in advance, and plan your work accordingly.

## Course Schedule

(assignments are due on the day under which they are listed)

### Part I: Institutions

#### Week 1

1/13: Introduction: The Origins of Japan's Political System

1/15: Japan: Legislation and Policy-making

- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapters 2 and 3

#### Week 2

1/20: Japan's Parliamentary Evolution

- Tomohito Shinoda, “[Koizumi's Top-Down Leadership in the Anti-Terrorism Legislation: The Impact of Political Institutional Changes](#),” *SAIS Review* 23:1 (Winter-Spring 2003): 19-34.
- Estevez-Abe, Margarita, “[Japan's Shift Toward a Westminster System](#),” *Asian Survey* (July/Aug 2006) 46:4 pp. 632-651.

1/22: Japan: Parties and Elections

- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapters 4, 5, 6 and 7
- Youtube: “[Insane Japanese Politician](#)” & “[Annoying Political Campaign Vans in Tokyo](#)”

#### Week 3

1/27: Taiwan: History & Democratization

- Shelley Rigger, “Building Taiwan” (email)
- Joseph Wong, “[Dynamic Democratization in Taiwan](#),” *Journal of Contemporary China*, Vol. 10 No. 27 (May 2001).

1/29: “Tug of War: The Story of Taiwan” (in class)

#### Week 4

2/3: Taiwan: Legislation

- [Website of the Legislative Yuan](#), Republic of China
- Julie Wang, “[Taiwan’s legislative Yuan and the Challenge of Putting Democratic Principles into Practice](#)” Asia Foundation Policy Document
- Shelley Rigger, “The Unfinished Business of Taiwan’s Democratization,” *Dangerous Strait: The U.S.-Taiwan-China Crisis*, ed. Nancy Bernkopf Tucker, Columbia University Press, 2005. \***electronic reserve**\*
- Youtube: “[The Best Taiwanese Parliament Fights of All Time](#)”

2/5: Taiwan: Implementation

- [Executive Yuan](#)
- [Presidency](#)
- [Judicial Yuan](#) (go to “about us,” then “powers and functions” – read I & III)

#### Week 5

2/10: Taiwan: Parties and Elections

- Gunter Schubert, “[Taiwan's Political Parties and National Identity: The Rise of an Overarching Consensus](#),” *Asian Survey*, Vol. 44, No. 4 (July/August 2004).
- Dafydd Fell, “[Measuring and Explaining Party Change in Taiwan: 1991-2004](#)” *Journal of East Asian Studies* (Jan-Apr 2005) 105–133

2/12: South Korea: History

*Transforming Korean Politics*, Chapters 2, 3 and 4

#### Week 6

2/17: South Korea: Legislation and Implementation

- *Transforming Korean Politics*, Chapter 8
- Carl J. Saxer, “[Democratic Transition and Institutional Crafting: The South Korean Case](#),” *Democratization* (Summer 2003) 45-64.
- Youtube: [South Korean Parliament Fight](#)

2/19: South Korea: Parties and Elections

- Chaebong Hahm, “[The Two South Koreas: A House Divided](#),” *Washington Quarterly* (Summer 2005) 57-72.
- Eui Hang Shin, “[Election Democracy, Populism and Generational Politics: The Case of the April 15, 2004 General Election in South Korea](#),” *East Asia* (Spring 2005) 51-81.
- David I. Steinberg and Myung Shin, “[Tensions in South Korean Political Parties in Transition: From Entourage to Ideology?](#)” *Asian Survey* (July/Aug 2006) 46:4 pp. 517-537.

## Week 7

2/24: North Korea

- Nicholas Eberstadt, "[The Persistence of North Korea](#)," *Policy Review* (Oct-Nov 2004) 23-48.

## Part II: Issues

2/26: Democratization

- Susan Pharr and Robert Putnam, "[Why is democracy more popular than democracies?](#)" *Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 26, 2000.
- Eric C. C. Chang and Yun-han Chu, "[Corruption and Trust: Exceptionalism in Asian Democracies?](#)" *Journal of Politics*, (May 2006): 259-271.
- Doh Chull Shin, Chong-min Park and Jiho Jang, "[Assessing the Shifting Qualities of Democratic Citizenship: The Case of South Korea](#)," *Democratization* (April 2005): 202-222.
- J. A. A. Stockwin, "[The Reshaping of Japanese Politics and the Question of Democracy](#)," *Asia-Pacific Review* (May 2002): 45-59.

## Week 8

3/10: Corruption and Legislative Inefficiency

- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapter 6
- Eugene Wolfe, "[Creating Democracy's Good Losers: The rise, fall and return of parliamentary disorder in post-war Japan](#)," *Government and Opposition* (Winter 2004): 55-79.

3/12: Is Electoral Reform the Solution?

- Ellis S. Krauss and Robert Pekkanen, "Explaining Party Adaptation to Electoral Reform: The Discreet Charm of the LDP?" *Journal of Japanese Studies* 30:1 (Winter 2004): 1-34. \***electronic reserve**\*
- Matthew M. Carlson, "[Electoral Reform and the Costs of Personal Support in Japan](#)," *Journal of East Asian Studies* (May-Aug 2006) 6:2 pp. 233-258.
- Ethan Scheiner, "[Does Electoral System Reform Work? Electoral System Lessons from Reforms of the 1990s](#)," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2008) 11:1 pp. 161-181.

## Week 9

3/17: Nationalism and (Ab)Normal States

- Eugene A. Matthews, "[Japan's New Nationalism](#)," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 82 No. 6 (Nov/Dec 2003).
- Yongwook Ryu, "The Yasukuni Controversy: Divergent Perspectives from the Japanese Political Elite," *Asian Survey* (Sep/Oct 2007) 47:5 pp. 705-726.
- Chu Yun-han, "Taiwan's National Identity Politics and the Prospect of Cross-Strait Relations," *Asian Survey* (2004) pp. 484-512. \***electronic reserve**\*
- Barak Kushner, "Nationality and Nostalgia: The Manipulation of Memory in Japan, Taiwan and China since 1990," *The International History Review* 29:4 (November 2007): 793-820. (ER)

3/19: Post-materialist Politics

- Mikio Eto, "[Women's Movements in Japan: The intersection between everyday life and politics](#)," *Japan Forum* (November 2005): 311-333.
- Jeong-Lim Nam, "[Gender Politics in the Korean Transition to Democracy](#)," *Korean Studies* (January 2000): 94-112.
- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapter 13
- Ming-sho Ho, "[Weakened State and Social Movement: the paradox of Taiwanese environmental politics after the power transfer](#)," *Journal of Contemporary China* (May 2005) 339-352.

### Week 10

3/24: Take home mid-term due

3/26: Taiwan's Identity Crisis: "Sisyphus Formosa" (in class)

### Week 11

3/31: The Problem of Unification

- Paul F. Chamberlin, "[Cultural Dimensions of Korean Reunification: Building a Unified Society](#)," *International Journal on World Peace* (Sep 2004) 3-42.
- Chung Chien-peng, "[Democratization in South Korea and Inter-Korean Relations](#)," *Pacific Affairs* (Spring 2003) 9-36.
- Robert Ross, "[Taiwan's Fading Independence Movement](#)," *Foreign Affairs* (March-April 2006) 141-148.
- Yushan Wu, "[Taiwan's Domestic Politics and Cross-Strait Relations](#)," *China Journal* (Jan 2005) 35-60.

4/2: The US-Taiwan-China Triangle

- Nancy Bernkopf Tucker, "[If Taiwan Chooses Unification, Should the United States Care?](#)" *The Washington Quarterly* (Summer 2002) pp. 15-28.
- Jianwei Wang, "[Seize the Moment: Cross-Strait Relations after the Anti-secession Law](#)," *American Foreign Policy Interests* (August 2005) 265-279.
- "[Would the US Go to War to Defend Taiwan?](#)" FPTV
- "[Cross-Strait Economic Ties: Agent of Change, or a Trojan Horse?](#)" Woodrow Wilson Institute for International Scholars Asia Program Special Report #118.

### Week 12

4/7: No Class

4/9: Korea, Japan and the US

- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapter 12 and 13
- *Transforming Korean Politics*, Chapter 7
- Juergen Kleiner, "[A Fragile Relationship: The United States and the Republic of Korea](#)," *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, (June 2006) 215-235
- Ralph Cossa, "[The US-ROK Alliance: Future Strategic Role](#)," *American Foreign Policy Interests* (June 2005) 197-201.

### Part III: Economic Policy

#### Week 13

4/14: Easter Break

4/16: Changing Policies, Evolving Alliances

- Sung-bin Ko, "[South Korea's Search for an Independent Foreign Policy](#)," *Journal of Contemporary Asia* (2006) 258-273.
- Natsuyo Ishibashi, "[The Dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces to Iraq: Public Opinion, Elections and Foreign Policy](#)," *Asian Survey* (Sep/Oct 2007) 47:5 pp. 766-689.
- David Arase, "[Japan, the Active State?](#)" *Asian Survey* (Jul/Aug 2007) 47:4 pp. 560-58

#### Week 14

4/21: The "Asian Model" of Economic Development

- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapter 9
- *Transforming Korean Politics*, Chapters 5 & 6
- Thomas Gold, *State and Society in the Taiwan Miracle*, M.E. Sharpe, 1986, pp. 56-111 \***electronic reserve**\*
- John Minns, "[Of miracles and models: the rise and decline of the developmental state in South Korea](#)." *Third World Quarterly* (Dec '01) 22: 6.

4/23: Democratizing the Asian Model

- Shale Horowitz, "[Democratization, Dispersed Interest Groups and Economic Reform in South Korea: Understanding the Decline of the 'Chaebol Republic](#),"" *East Asia: An International Quarterly*, Vol. 20 No. 1 (Spring 2002).
- Seizaburo Sato, "[Democracy and Market Economy](#)," *Asia-Pacific Review* (May 2000): 2-15.
- Uk Heo and Alexander C. Tan, "[Political Choices and Economic Outcomes](#)," *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 36 No. 6 (2003), 679-698.

#### Week 15

4/28: Social Welfare in the East Asian Model

- *Healthy Democracies*, Chapters 1, 2 and 7
- *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, Chapter 10

4/30: Bringing Social Programs to East Asia

- *Healthy Democracies*, Chapters 3, 4 and 6

#### Week 16

5/5: Comparative Conclusions