

Vilnius University
Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Asia-Pacific Studies

2023/2024 autumn semester

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Konstantinas Andrijauskas, Ph.D.

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Seminars: each Monday, 18:30–20:00, Room 303

Course review: the principal goal of the course is to introduce the Asia-Pacific region from the political point of view, i.e. its principal states' political systems, relations among themselves as well as with outside actors. The course examines not only the Western part of the Pacific littoral (Northeast and Southeast Asia), but also the South Asian region (Indian subcontinent) and the most important "peripheral" countries.

Assessment:

- seminar work – 30%;
- research paper (12 pt. Times New Roman, 1,5 space; maximum 10 pages; minimum 10 sources of which minimum 3 books; due mid-December; up to 3000 words of main text – Introduction to Conclusion inclusive; within-text referencing is compulsory, i.e. a mere literature list is not enough) – 30%;
- exam (online, open-book, open-question; January) – 40%.

The course is successfully finished only by those who get positive grade (5 or more) for both their research paper and exam, and attended not less than 80% of seminars (missed no more than 3).

Students might expect to answer short questions in writing based on the readings for every seminar.

All cases of academic dishonesty, including "copy-paste"-kind plagiarism during the examination from academic sources or notes prepared in advance, lead to severe repercussions starting with course failure. The usage of artificial intelligence-based content for research paper or examination is also considered academically dishonest.

Literature: all literature is available in electronic format. During preparations for the classes, research paper and exams the students are induced to use any additional material of academic value.

Slight changes to the syllabus might appear throughout the course.

Topics and literature

Introductory Lecture

MODULE I – CHINA

Seminar 2. China's Contemporary Political History

Literature:

- a) Louis D. Hayes, *Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan*. Armonk & London: M.E.Sharpe, 2012, chapters 1–4.

Seminar 3. China's Political System and Domestic Politics

Literature:

- a) Richard McGregor, *The Party: The Secret World of China's Communist Rulers*. New York: HarperCollins, 2010, Chapter 1.

- b) Tony Saich, *From Rebel to Ruler: One Hundred Years of the Chinese Communist Party*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2021, Introduction.
- c) Elizabeth J. Perry, “Is the Chinese Communist Regime Legitimate?” In Jennifer Rudolph and Michael Szonyi (eds.), *The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power*. Cambridge & London: Harvard University Press, 2018, Chapter 12.

Seminar 4. China’s Separatist Challenges

Literature:

- a) Andrew J. Nathan and Andrew Scobell, *China’s Search for Security*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2012, Chapter 8.
- b) Stephen M. Goldstein, “(When) Will Taiwan Reunify with the Mainland?” In Jennifer Rudolph and Michael Szonyi (eds.), *The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power*. Cambridge & London: Harvard University Press, 2018, Chapter 12.

Seminar 5. China’s Foreign Policy: How to Become a Superpower?

Literature:

- a) Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. 4th and Revised Edition. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2019, Chapter 5.
- b) Simon Shen, “China and the World: From the Chinese Dream to the Chinese World Order.” In Willy Wo-Lap Lam (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of the Chinese Communist Party*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2018, Chapter 24.
- c) Odd Arne Westad, “Will China Lead Asia?” In Jennifer Rudolph and Michael Szonyi (eds.), *The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power*. Cambridge & London: Harvard University Press, 2018, Chapter 8.
- d) Kai Strittmatter, *We Have Been Harmonised: Life in China’s Surveillance State*. London: Old Street Publishing, 2019, The Future.

MODULE II – NORTHEAST ASIA AND PRINCIPAL PERIPHERAL ACTORS

Japan

Seminar 6. Japan’s Contemporary Political History

Literature:

- a) Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003, Introduction.
- b) Louis D. Hayes, *Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan*. Armonk & London: M.E.Sharpe, 2012, chapters 13–16.
- c) Akire Iriye, “Japan in the global twentieth century.” In Sven Saaler and Christopher W. A. Szpilman (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Modern Japanese History*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2018, chapter 1.

Seminar 7. Japan’s Political System and Foreign Policy

Literature:

- a) Yuichi Hosoya, "Japan's Security Policy and East Asia." In Yul Sohn and T. J. Pempel (eds.), *Japan and Asia's Contested Order: The Interplay of Security, Economic, and Identity*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019, Chapter 9.
- b) Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. 4th and Revised Edition. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2019, Chapter 6.

Korea

Seminar 8. Korea's Contemporary Political History and Politics Today

Literature:

- a) Michael J. Seth, "Understanding Modern Korean history." In Michael J. Seth (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Modern Korean History*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2016, Chapter 1.
- b) Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. 4th and Revised Edition. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2019, Chapter 7.
- c) Ki-jung Kim, "Korean foreign policy: A historical overview." In Chung-in Moon and M. Jae Moon (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Korean Politics and Public Administration*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2020, Chapter 8.

Peripheral actors

Seminar 9. East Asia's Current Security Issues and Peripheral Actors

- a) Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. 4th and Revised Edition. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2019, Chapter 4.
- b) Bobo Lo, "Introduction." In Jo Inge Bekkevold and Bobo Lo (eds.), *Sino-Russian Relations in the 21st Century*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.
- c) The National Institute for Defense Studies, *East Asian Strategic Review 2022*. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 2022, Introduction.

MODULE III – SOUTH ASIA

Seminar 10. India's Contemporary Political History

Literature:

- a) Robert C. Oberst et al., *Government and Politics in South Asia*. 7th edition. Boulder: Westview Press, 2014, Introduction.
- b) Stephen Philip Cohen, *India: Emerging Power*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 2002, pp. 7-25.
- c) Mark Jason Gilbert, *South Asia in World History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017, Chapter 8.

Seminar 11. India's Political System and Domestic Politics

Literature:

- a) Rajat Ganguly, "Politics, security and foreign policy." In Knut A. Jacobsen (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary India*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2016, Chapter 7.
- b) Angana P. Chatterji, Thomas Blom Hansen and Christophe Jaffrelot (eds.), *Majoritarian State: How Hindu Nationalism Is Changing India*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019, Introduction.

Seminar 12. India's Foreign Policy and South Asia's Secondary States

Literature:

- a) Manjeet S. Pardesi, "Is India a South Asian or an Asian power?" In Knut A. Jacobsen (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary India*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2016, Chapter 8.
- b) Arunodai Bachpai, "Politics of Regional Integration in South Asia: India, China, and Other Actors." In Teh-Kuang Chang and Angelin Chang (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Asia in World Politics*. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2018, Chapter 7.
- c) John Hickman, *Space Is Power: The Seven Rules of Territory*. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2016, Chapter 11.
- d) Rasul Bakhsh Rais, *Imagining Pakistan: Modernism, State, and the Politics of Islamic Revival*. Lanham & London: Lexington Books, 2017, Chapter 1.

MODULE IV – SOUTHEAST ASIA

Seminar 13. Continental Southeast Asia I

Literature:

- a) Aurel Croissant and Philip Lorenz, *Comparative Politics of Southeast Asia: An Introduction to Government and Political Regimes*. Wiesbaden & Cham: Springer, 2018, Chapter 1.
- b) Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. 4th and Revised Edition. Oxon & New York: Routledge, 2019, Chapter 9.
- c) Mark Manyin, "Vietnam among the Powers: Struggle and Cooperation" In Gilbert Rozman and Joseph Chinyong Liow (eds.), *International Relations and Asia's Southern Tier: ASEAN, Australia, and India*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

Seminar 14. Continental Southeast Asia II

Literature:

- a) Robert Dayley, *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. 7th edition. Boulder: Westview Press, 2017, Chapters 2 & 3.

Seminar 15. Insular Southeast Asia I

Literature:

- a) Robert Dayley, *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. 7th edition. Boulder: Westview Press, 2017, Chapters 7 & 10.

Seminar 16. Insular Southeast Asia II

Literature:

- a) Acharya, Amitav, *Indonesia Matters: Asia's Emerging Democratic Power*. Singapore: World Scientific, 2015, Chapter 1.
- b) Amitav Acharya, "Doomed by Dialogue: Will ASEAN Survive Great Power Rivalry in Asia?" In Gilbert Rozman and Joseph Chinyong Liow (eds.), *International Relations and Asia's Southern Tier: ASEAN, Australia, and India*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.