

## Asian Politics and Society

CREDIT	3	INSTRUCTOR	Il Hyun Cho
OFFICE		OFFICE HOURS	
TIME	09:00 ~ 10:40	CLASSROOM LOCATION	TBA
E-MAIL	choi@lafayette.edu		

\* Please leave the fields blank which haven't been decided yet.

### [COURSE INFORMATION]

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS	<p><b>Course Description</b></p> <p>This introductory course offers an overview of central issues pertaining to the study of Asia. The course surveys the region's history and contemporary developments from an interdisciplinary perspective, including geography, history, culture, religion, economics and politics. The central aim of the course is to lay the foundation for a systematic understanding of Asia, helping students to prepare for more advanced and specialized courses on Asia. We will pay particular attention to how historical, cultural, religious, and philosophical traditions have intersected with contemporary political, economic and social developments in Asia. We will also examine similarities and differences in sub-regions of Asia, namely Central Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Northeast Asia.</p> <p><b>Course Objectives</b></p> <p>Upon the successful completion of this course, students are expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of the traditions and contemporary developments of the sub-regions and major nations of Asia, while identifying their similarities and differences</li> <li>• Understand the sources and effects of interactions among nations in Asia and the region's broader interactions with the outside world</li> <li>• Evaluate academic and popular assessments of current events in Asia</li> <li>• Apply the analytical concepts and approaches learned from the course to a wide-range of Asia-related issues</li> <li>• Conduct and present research on particular nations or sub-regions within Asia</li> </ul>
PREREQUISITE	None
COURSE REQUIREMENTS	Readings for this course consist of interdisciplinary and contending perspectives on

	<p>the study of Asia and can be intellectually challenging. A key to success in this course is to have read carefully and considered the required readings <b>prior to</b> coming to class. The readings and lectures complement each other, rather than the latter simply summarizing the former. Hence, you will learn the most from this course if you do the reading before class each week.</p> <p>Students are also strongly encouraged to read <b>Asian newspapers or the Asia or Asia Pacific section</b> of <i>The New York Times</i>, <i>The Washington Post</i>, <i>BBC</i> (or any other news outlets with similar depth and scope in their world news coverage). During class discussion, we will often link the course materials to key Asian events of the day covered in the news.</p>
<p>GRADING POLICY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Class attendance and participation (20%)</b> Includes both attendance and active participation in class discussions (<u>Student-led discussion sessions</u> will be part of the participation grade)</li> <li>• <b>Quizzes (10%):</b> Two map quizzes</li> <li>• <b>Mid-term exam (35%)</b> In-class exam composed of short-answer questions and essay questions</li> <li>• <b>Final exam (35%)</b> In-class exam composed of short-answer questions and essay questions</li> </ul>
<p>TEXTS &amp; NOTES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ming Wan, <i>The Political Economy of East Asia</i>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, (Edward Elgar, 2020)</li> <li>• Alice Lyman Miller and Richard Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i> (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2011)</li> </ul> <p>Apart from these two books, there are other <b>required</b> reading materials (e.g., book chapters, scholarly journal articles, etc.). All of the required PDF materials will be posted on the course website.</p>
<p>INSTRUCTOR'S PROFILE</p>	<p><b>Il Hyun Cho</b> is an Associate Professor in the Department of Government and Law and the Asian Studies Program at Lafayette College. His research and teaching interests include international relations theory, global governance, security studies, nuclear proliferation, energy politics, environmental politics, Chinese foreign policy, and East Asian politics.</p> <p>He is the author of <i>Global Rogues and Regional Orders: The Multidimensional Challenge of North Korea and Iran</i> (Oxford University Press, 2016). His research has appeared in <i>Political Science Quarterly</i>, <i>The Review of International Studies</i>, <i>Global Governance</i>, <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i>, <i>Strategic Studies Quarterly</i>, <i>Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs</i>, <i>Journal of Peace and War Studies</i>, <i>The Diplomat</i>, <i>Washington Post</i>, <i>The Pacific Review</i>, <i>Asian Security</i>, <i>Asian Perspective</i>, <i>The Chinese Journal of International Politics</i>, and <i>The Korean Journal of Defense Analysis</i>.</p> <p>Professor Cho has held research fellowships and visiting positions at the Fairbank</p>

	Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University; the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University; the Department of Political Science, Stanford University; the Institute of Social Sciences, the University of Tokyo; the Center for International Studies, Yonsei University; the Academy of Korean Studies; and the Center for the Study of the Presidency, Washington, D.C.
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**[WEEKLY SCHEDULE]**

\* Your detailed explanation would be very helpful for prospective students to get a pre-approval for credit-transfer from their home university in advance.

WEEK (PERIOD)	WEEKLY TOPIC & CONTENTS	COURSE MATERIAL & ASSIGNMENTS	NOTES
1	<p>June 27: Introduction</p> <p>June 28: The Study of Asia</p> <p>June 29: Historical context</p> <p>Quiz I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A map of Asia (and sub-regions)</li> <li>• Milton W. Meyer, "Introducing Asia," <i>Asia: A Concise History</i> (Lanham, MD: Rowman &amp; Littlefield Publishers, 1997), pp. 1-31.</li> <li>• Ziauddin Sandar and Borin Van Loon, "Orientalism," in Ziauddin Sardar and Borin Van Loon, <i>Introducing Cultural Studies</i> (Totem Books, 1997).</li> <li>• <b>Wan, <i>The Political Economy of East Asia</i>.</b> "The Chinese World Order," pp. 59-78.</li> <li>• <b>Wan, <i>The Political Economy of East Asia</i>.</b> "Japanese Imperialism," pp. 114-124.</li> <li>• <b>Quiz I:</b> Identify the following countries/entities on a map: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Afghanistan, China, Mongolia, Tibet, Korea, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, &amp; Japan</li> </ul>	

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2	<p>July 3: Historical context</p> <p>July 4 and 5: Central Asia</p> <p>July 6: South Asia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i>, “Introduction,” pp. 1-19.</li> <li>• Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i>, “US alliance system,” pp. 103-115.</li> <li>• Ahmed Rashid, <i>Descent into Chaos: The United States and the Failure of Nation Building in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Central Asia</i> (New York: Viking, 2008), Chapter 1 “A Man with a Mission,” pp. 3-23.</li> <li>• *MK Bhadrakumar, “Taliban-Pakistan Tensions Bubbling on the Border,” <i>Asia Times</i>, January 4, 2022.</li> <li>• Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i>, “Decolonization, Nationalism, and Revolution,” pp. 82-93.</li> <li>• Gandhi, “National Independence is not enough,” in Louis Fischer, ed., <i>The Essential Gandhi</i> (New York: Vintage Books, 1962).</li> </ul>	
3	<p>July 10-12: South Asia (India, Pakistan)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shashi Tharoor, <i>The Elephant, the Tiger, and the Cell Phone: Reflections on India, The Emerging 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Power</i> (New York: Arcade Publishing, 2008), “The Invention of India:” “Hinduism and Hindutva: Creed and Credo” &amp; “The Politics of Identity,” pp. 7-35.</li> <li>• Sumit Ganguly, “The Rise of India in Asia,” in David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, eds., <i>International Relations of Asia</i> (Lanham: Rowman &amp; Littlefield Publishers, 2008), pp. 150-69.</li> <li>• Ahmed Rashid, <i>Descent into Chaos: The United States and the Failure of Nation Building in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Central Asia</i> (New</li> </ul>	

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	<p>July 13: <b>Midterm exam</b></p>	<p>York: Viking, 2008), <b>Chapter 2</b>, “Pakistan’s Long Search for Its Soul,” and <b>Chapter 6</b>, “India, Pakistan, and the War of Permanent Instability.”</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>July 17 and 18: Continental Southeast Asia</p> <p>July 19 and 20: Maritime Southeast Asia</p> <p><b>Quiz II</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i></b>, “The Vietnam War,” pp. 137-153.</li> <li>• Raymond Scupin, “Mainland Southeast Asia,” in Raymond Scupin, ed., <i>Peoples and Cultures of Asia</i> (New York: Pearson, 2005).</li> <li>• Ronald Lukens-Bull, “Island Southeast Asia,” in Raymond Scupin, ed., <i>Peoples and Cultures of Asia</i> (New York: Pearson, 2005).</li> <li>• <b>Wan, <i>The Political Economy of East Asia</i></b>, “The Political Economy Systems of Southeast Asia,” pp. 34-43.</li> </ul> <p><b>Quiz II:</b> Identify the following 25 countries/entities on a map: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Afghanistan, China, Tibet, Taiwan, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste.</p>	

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5	<p>July 24 and 25: China</p> <p>July 26 and July 27: Japan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i></b>, “The Rise of China,” pp. 209-232.</li> <li>• Gregory Chin and Ramesh Thakur, “Will China Change the Rules of Global Order?” <i>The Washington Quarterly</i>, 33:4, (October 2010), pp. 119-138.</li> <li>• <b>Wan, <i>The Political Economy of East Asia</i></b>, “The East Asian Miracle,” pp. 131-154</li> <li>• Atsuko Sato, “Japan’s Belated Policy Development Toward a Gender-Equal Society,” in Zhiqun Zhu, ed., <i>New Dynamics in East Asian Politics: Security, Political Economy, and Society</i> (New York: Continuum, 2012), pp. 293-314.</li> </ul>	
6	<p>July 31 and August 1: The Koreas</p> <p>August 2: Future of Asia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles K. Armstrong, <i>The Koreas</i> (New York: Routledge, 2010), “South Korea: The Rise to Globalism,” pp. 21-56.</li> <li>• Michael E. Robinson, <i>Korea’s Twentieth-Century Odyssey</i> (Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press, 2007), “Epilogue,” pp. 182-189.</li> <li>• Kurt M. Campbell and Rush Doshi, “How America Can Shore Up Asian Order,” <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, January 12, 2021.</li> <li>• <b>Miller and Wich, <i>Becoming Asia</i></b>, “Regional Integration” and “The Asian Century?” pp. 270-277.</li> </ul>	

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	August 3: <b>Final exam</b>		