THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE PACIFIC BASIN

This is a graduate seminar designed to provide students an opportunity to survey political, economic and military trends in one of the world’s most critical regions. For our discussion, the region will be defined as all nations whose borders touch on the Pacific, but the reading will concentrate on Asia. Students in both politics and economics should be able to explore the inter-relationship between theory and policy choices in several areas of current controversy.

The course has three basic objectives:

1) to identify the major trends shaping economic developments in the Pacific Basin;

2) to suggest ways to integrate and explain the political, economic and military factors which have shaped the region's turbulent cycles in the past two decades;

3) to have students do an in-depth research paper on some aspect of the region or the region’s relationships to another part of the world.

There is a substantial amount of reading necessary, and much of it is in recent articles. The reading must be done before you come to class.

Requirements

A) Reading: Assignments are on the attached list.

B) Papers: There will be one research paper required of approximately 18-20 pages, depending upon the research methodology and availability of the sources. Presentations of the papers will take place on April 26 and May 03. The Major Paper is due May 03.

C) Exam: There will be a Mid-Term Exam on March 08.

D) Class Discussion: All students will be expected to participate fully in class discussions.

E) Grading: Class discussion and presentations 20%, mid-term exam 30%, major paper 50%.
The Political Economy of the Pacific Basin

POLGA 2774
ECGA 2620

1. **Pacific Basin and Alliance Concepts:**
   **Jan. 25**

   J. Kurth
   “Pacific Basin vs. the Atlantic Alliance,”

   D. Denoon
   Real Reciprocity - Balancing U.S. Economic and Security Policy in the Pacific Basin, Chaps. 1,5

   R. Niblett

2. **Economic Scene:**
   **Feb. 01**

   World Bank
   The East Asian Miracle, Chaps. 1, 3

   K. Jackson, ed.
   Asian Contagion, Chapt. 7

   D. Acemoglu & J. Robinson

   J. Stiglitz
   Rethinking the East Asian Miracle, Chapt. 13:
   “From Miracle to Crisis to Recovery,” 509-526

3. **Macro Issues:**
   **Feb. 08**

   I.M.F.
   World Economic Outlook, October 2016

   OECD
   OECD Territorial Reviews - Japan 2016, 15-27

   D. Denoon
   The Economic and Strategic Rise of China and India, Chaps. 1,2
4. Regionalism: Feb. 15

H. Yashimoto The Political Economy of Regionalism in E. Asia Chapts. 1,2

R. Sukma “Indonesia and the Emerging Sino-US Rivalry in Southeast Asia”
www.lse.ac.uk/IDEAS/publication/reports/pdf/SR015/SR015-SEAsia-Sukma-.pdf


5. China’s Impact: Feb. 22

D. Denoon “Where Did China’s Economy Go Wrong?” Foreign Policy, September 15, 2015

A. Kroeber China’s Economy Chapts. 1, 12, 13

IMF “Staff Report on the Status of the Chinese Economy,” 8/16

CSIS Chinese Strategy and Military Modernization in 2016, Chapt.16

The Strategic Setting:

6. Long-Term Issues: Mar. 01


T. Christensen “Fostering Stability or Creating a Monster?” International Security, Summer 2006, 81-126


http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/innovation/gauging_the_strength_of_chinese_innovation
7. Mid-Term Exam:
   March 08

Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia:

8. Japan:
   March 22

   L. Hughes        “Why Japan Will Not Go Nuclear (Yet),” International
                    Security, Spring 2007, 67-96


   K. Hamada & A. Noguchi “The Role of Preconceived Ideas in Macro Policy,” Yale Econ.
                          Growth Center Paper No. 908, March 2005

   S. Smith         “The Sea Where the Sun Rises,” Outlook India, January 2017

9. The Korean Peninsula:
   March 29


   P.R. Chari & V. Raghavan Comparative Security Dynamics in Northeast and
                                  Southeast Asia, Chapt. 5, 147-174

10. Southeast Asia:
    April 05

    Ian Storey      SE Asia and the Rise of China, Chaptts, 3,4,9


    O. Soursa        “Hedging Against Overdependence on the U.S.:


    H. Sa            “A Trump Presidency: Valuable Lesson for ASEAN,”
                     RSIS No. 285, November 2016
Region-Wide Topics:

11. Current Issues:  
   April 12

   D. Denoon & S. Brams  
   “Fair Division: A New Approach to the Spratly Islands Controversy,”  
   International Negotiation, 1997, 2: 303-329

   P. Suryanarayana  
   “Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal,”  

   R. Sutter & C. Huang  
   “China-Southeast Asia Relations: Tribunal Ruling,”  

   A. Friedberg  
   A Contest for Supremacy, 1-35

   Goldman Sachs  

   L. Cui  

12. Future Security Issues:  
   April 19

   J. Mirsky  

   D. Denoon & M. Laruelle  

   C. Blanchard & C. Humud  

   D. Dollar  
   “China’s Rise as a Regional and Global Power: the AIIB and the ‘One Belt, One Road’,” Horizons, Summer 2015 / Issue No.4

   M. Varrall  
   “Chinese Worldviews and China’s Foreign Policy,” Lowy Institute, Nov. 2015

13, 14 Presentations of Student Papers:  

   Apr 26, May 03