

IS 795 / 895

Asian Politics

Old Dominion University, Fall 2018

W 7:10 – 9:50 pm, ED2 1115

Updated: Aug 24, 2018

Instructor: Dr. Cathy X. Wu

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Office hours: MW 1–2:30 pm or by appointment

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Course Description

This course is a graduate seminar on the domestic politics and international relations of (East) Asia focusing on both Northeast and Southeast Asia. The first half of the course examines the domestic politics of Asian countries, with a focus on mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea. The topics include political development, state-society relations, and political economy. The second half of the course turns to foreign relations in the region, exploring various topics and different levels of analysis to understanding the regional dynamics.

This course is *not* a survey of Asian politics; instead, it exposes students to a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches to study Asian politics and encourages students to think deeply and critically about Asian politics in specific and international/comparative politics in general. One of the main goals of this course is to put the contemporary research on Asian politics in dialogue with mainstream theories and arguments in political science. It is designed for you to learn what good (and bad) research looks like, how to work out your own ideas while engaging literatures in depth, and to start thinking about doing your own research.

Course Requirements

1. Class participation (25 %)

Class attendance is required. The success of this seminar, in terms of what you get out of it, depends crucially on the active participation and input of everyone. Read each item on the required list closely each week, and come prepared for discussion. The participation grade will come from how actively you participate by asking questions, raising relevant points, and maintaining a respectful scholarly atmosphere.

2. Leading discussion (15 %)

Each student needs to prepare at least one agenda for guiding class discussions. The agenda-setter should take the lead in guiding a stimulating discussion and everyone else in class should engage fully. **Please email the agenda to the class by 5 pm on Wednesday prior to the seminar.** Agendas received between 5 and 7 pm on Wednesday will be penalized by 20%. No points will be awarded after 7 pm even though missing the deadline does *not* exempt you from leading a discussion.

3. Response papers (20%)

Over the course of the semester, students are required to write 4 weekly response papers (2 pages, single spaced) on the topics *except* for your “agenda-setting” week and for the presentation week. **Stu-**

dents should choose two topics on domestic aspects (i.e. Week 2 to 7) and two topics on international/regional aspects (i.e. Week 8 to 12, 14). Each paper will critically evaluate some aspects of the assigned readings. A response paper should not just be summary; rather it should identify the key themes that the articles for the week address, and evaluate or critique how well they do so. Think about ways in which the articles speak to each other and comment on them as if you are evaluating how well the field has addressed the topic for the week. **For any specific topic chosen, students should submit their response papers (hard copies) at the beginning of the class on the same topic.** For example, if you write a response paper on the topic of Week 3, you must submit the paper in class on that week. Late submissions will NOT be accepted.

4. Class presentation (15%)

One of the main goals of this course is to put the contemporary theories of political science in dialogue with the current issues in Asia. Ongoing territorial and maritime disputes constitute a major theme in the region. Toward the end of the semester, each student will offer a presentation on **how to apply the existing literature on territorial disputes** (see a list of readings on November 28) **to an ongoing territorial or maritime dispute in Asia.** First, each student chooses one of the following disputes: the Sino-Indian territorial dispute, the East China Sea dispute, and the South China Sea dispute. Second, each student selects a specific question about the dispute: e.g. Why are the relevant states not able/willing to resolve it for long? Despite the enduring disagreement, why does it emerge to a regional crisis *now*? Will it escalate to militarized conflicts (why or why not)? Once a specific question is selected, a presentation should (a) review how the assigned reading materials answer this question generally and (b) evaluate how satisfactory they are to answer this question in the context of an Asian dispute.

5. Research design paper (25%)

Each student will write a fifteen-page double-spaced research design paper (twenty pages for doctoral students) on any subject pertaining to the subject matter of this course, due at the end of the semester. The focus should be on carefully developing an original research question, reviewing the relevant readings and literature that speaks to this question, and developing the logic of that question and potential answers leading to the formation of a testable hypothesis. The paper should include a plan to muster empirical evidence in order to support or refute that hypothesis. **Please email me an electronic copy (.pdf) by noon on December 12.** Absolutely no late papers will be accepted, pending a serious illness that physically prevents you from completing the paper, a death in the family that prevents you from completing the paper, or an otherwise legitimate life catastrophe that prevents you from completing the paper. Please notify me immediately if any of these events occurs.

Grading

The course grade consists of the following components:

- 25 %: **Class participation**
- 15 %: **Leading discussion**
- 20 %: **Response papers**
- 15 %: **Class presentation**
- 25 %: **Research design**

There are 100 possible points, which will correspond to the following letter grades:

93-100: A
80-82: B-
67-69: D+

90-92: A-
77-79: C+
63-66: D

87-89: B+
73-76: C
60-62: D-

83-86: B
70-72: C-
0-59: F

Required Readings

There are two books required to purchase (see Week 9 & 12). Most of the readings are journal articles available through the ODU library (Students need to sign in with their MIDAS ID). The rest of them will be posted on Blackboard. We will cover approximately four to five professional journal length articles each week. Students are expected to have carefully completed the readings in advance to facilitate useful discussion. If you are planning on taking comprehensive exams, you should be familiar with, at a minimum, the required readings on the syllabus. The recommended readings are meant to provide additional, but by no means exhaustive, works that can help you prepare for exams and/or generate and conduct original research.

Again, this is not a survey course on Asia, but here are some suggested books if students want an overview of certain countries or the region.

- Shambaugh, David, and Michael Yahuda, eds. 2014. *International Relations of Asia*. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Huang, Xiaoming. *Politics in Pacific Asia: an Introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Rudolph J, Szonyi M ed. 2018. *The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Joseph, William A., ed. 2014. *Politics in China: an Introduction*. Oxford University Press.
- Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2004. *Governing China from Revolution through Reform*. W. W. Norton.
- Roy, Denny. 2003. *Taiwan: A Political History*. Cornell University Press.
- Curtis, Gerald L. 1999. *The Logic of Japanese Politics: Leaders, Institutions, and the Limits of Change*. Columbia University Press.

The readings and course schedules are subject to change, but any changes will be announced in class, with an updated syllabus on Blackboard.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (Aug 29): Class Overview

Week 2 (Sep 5): Culture, History, and State Formation

- Park, Seo-Hyun. 2013. "Changing Definitions of Sovereignty in Nineteenth-century East Asia: Japan and Korea between China and the West." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 13(2): 281-307.
- Strauss, Julia C. 1997. "The Evolution of Republican Government." *The China Quarterly* 150: 329-351.
- Taylor, Brian D., and Roxana Botea. 2008. "Tilly Tally: War-Making and State-Making in the Contemporary Third World." *International Studies Review* 10(1): 27-56.

- Kim, So Young. 2010 “Do Asian Values Exist? Empirical Tests of the Four Dimensions of Asian Values.” *Journal of East Asian Studies* 10(2): 315-344.
- Gries, Peter Hays, et al. 2009. “Historical Beliefs and the Perception of Threat in Northeast Asia: Colonialism, the Tributary System, and China-Japan-Korea Relations in the Twenty-first Century.” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 9(2): 245-265.

Recommended

- Gries, Peter Hays, and Kaiping Peng. 2002. “Culture Clash? Apologies East and West.” *Journal of Contemporary China* 11(30): 173-178.
- Hwang, Kwang-Kuo. 1987. “Face and favor: The Chinese power game.” *American journal of Sociology* 92(4): 944-974.
- Chong, Ja Ian. 2014. “Popular Narratives Versus Chinese History: Implications for Understanding an Emergent China.” *European Journal of International Relations* 20(4): 939-964.

Week 3 (Sep 12): Authoritarian Institutions: Regime Survival

- Lee, Ching Kwan, and Yonghong Zhang. 2013. “The Power of Instability: Unraveling the Micro-foundations of Bargained Authoritarianism in China.” *American Journal of Sociology* 118(6): 1475-1508.
- Yan, Xiaojun. 2014. “Engineering Stability: Authoritarian Political Control over University Students in post-Deng China.” *The China Quarterly* 218(September): 493-513.
- Zhu, Jiangnan, and Dong Zhang. 2017 “Weapons of the Powerful: Authoritarian Elite Competition and Politicized Anticorruption in China.” *Comparative Political Studies* 50(9): 1186-1220.
- Malesky, Edmund, and Paul Schuler. 2010. “Nodding or Needling: Analyzing Delegate Responsiveness in an Authoritarian Parliament.” *American Political Science Review* 104(3): 482-502.
- Malesky, Edmund, Paul Schuler, and Anh Tran. 2012. “The Adverse Effects of Sunshine: a Field Experiment on Legislative Transparency in an Authoritarian Assembly.” *American Political Science Review* 106(4): 762-786.

Recommended

- Deng, Yanhua, and Kevin J. O’Brien. 2013. “Relational Repression in China: Using Social Ties to Demobilize Protesters.” *The China Quarterly* 215(September): 533-552.
- Nathan, Andrew J. 2003. “Authoritarian Resilience.” *Journal of Democracy* 14(1): 6-17.
- Li, Cheng. 2012. “The End of the CCP’s Resilient Authoritarianism? A Tripartite Assessment of Shifting Power in China.” *The China Quarterly* 211(September): 595-623.

Week 4 (Sep 19): Authoritarian Institutions: Censorship, Media, and Public Opinion

- King, Gary, Jennifer Pan, and Margaret E. Roberts. 2013. “How Censorship in China Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression.” *American Political Science Review* 107(2): 326-343.

- Huang, Haifeng, Serra Boranbay-Akan, and Ling Huang. 2016. "Media, Protest Diffusion, and Authoritarian Resilience." *Political Science Research and Methods* xx(x): 1-20.
- Chen, Jidong, Jennifer Pan, and Yiqing Xu. 2016. "Sources of Authoritarian Responsiveness: A Field Experiment in China." *American Journal of Political Science* 60(2): 383-400.
- Distelhorst, Greg, and Yue Hou. 2017. "Constituency Service under Nondemocratic Rule: Evidence from China." *The Journal of Politics* 79(3): 1024-1040.
- Lü, Xiaobo. 2014. "Social Policy and Regime Legitimacy: The Effects of Education Reform in China." *American Political Science Review* 108(2): 423-437.

Recommended

- Hyde, Susan D. 2015. "Experiments in International Relations: Lab, Survey, and Field." *Annual Review of Political Science* 18: 403-424.
- Dunning, Thad. 2016. "Transparency, Replication, and Cumulative Learning: What Experiments Alone Cannot Achieve." *Annual Review of Political Science* 19: 541-563.
- Lü, Xiaobo. 2016. "Ethical Challenges in Comparative Politics Experiments in China." In *Ethics and Experiments: Problems and Solutions for Social Scientists and Policy Professionals*, ed. Scott Desposato. London: Routledge.

Week 5 (Sep 26): Democratic Institutions and Democratization

- Chu, Yun-han, and Jih-wen Lin. 2001. "Political development in 20th-century Taiwan: State-building, regime transformation and the construction of national identity." *The China Quarterly* 165 (March): 102-129.
- McElwain, Kenneth Mori. 2008. "Manipulating Electoral Rules to Manufacture Single-Party Dominance." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 32-47.
- Catalinac Amy L. 2016. From Pork to Policy: The Rise of Programmatic Campaigning in Japanese Elections. *The Journal of Politics*. 78 (1) :1-18
- Sasada, Hironori. 2010. "The Electoral Origin of Japan's Nationalistic Leadership: Primaries in the LDP Presidential Election and the 'Pull Effect'." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 10(1): 1-30.
- Pepinsky, Thomas B., R. William Liddle, and Saiful Mujani. 2012. "Testing Islam's Political Advantage: Evidence from Indonesia." *American Journal of Political Science* 56(3): 584-600. .

Recommended

- Hsieh, John Fuh-Sheng. 2006. "Ethnicity, National Identity, and Domestic Politics in Taiwan." *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 40(1-2): 13-28.
- Ho, Karl, et al. 2013. "Valence Politics and Electoral Choice in a New Democracy: The Case of Taiwan." *Electoral Studies* 32(3): 476-481.

Week 6 (Oct 3): Civil Society and Public Opinion in Democracies

- Lee, Junhan, and Wonjae Hwang. 2015. "External Crisis, Information Cues, and Presidential Popularity in Korea, 1993–2008." *Asian Survey* 55(4): 665-690.

- Oh, Jennifer S. 2012. "Strong State and Strong Civil Society in Contemporary South Korea." *Asian Survey* 52(3): 528-549.
- Maclachlan, Patricia L. 2014. "The Electoral Power of Japanese Interest Groups: An Organizational Perspective." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 14(3): 429-458.
- Arrington, Celeste. 2014. "Leprosy, Legal Mobilization, and the Public Sphere in Japan and South Korea." *Law & Society Review*, 48(3): 563-593.
- Hur, Aram. 2018. "Citizen Duty and the Ethical Power of Communities: Mixed-Method Evidence from East Asia." *British Journal of Political Science*, 1-19.

Week 7 (Oct 10): Political Economy

- Doner, Richard F., Bryan K. Ritchie, and Dan Slater. 2005. "Systemic vulnerability and the origins of developmental states: Northeast and Southeast Asia in comparative perspective." *International Organization* 59(2): 327-361.
- Kalinowski, Thomas. 2015 "Crisis Management and the Diversity of Capitalism: Fiscal Stimulus Packages and the East Asian (Neo-)Developmental State." *Economy and Society* 44(2): 244-270.
- Lü, Xiaobo, Mingxing Liu, and Feiyue Li. forthcoming. "Policy Coalition Building in an Authoritarian Legislature: Evidence from China's National Assemblies (1983-2007)" *Comparative Political Studies*
- Lü, Xiaobo, and Pierre F. Landry. 2014. "Show me the Money: Interjurisdiction Political Competition and Fiscal Extraction in China." *American Political Science Review* 108(3): 706-722.
- Malesky, Edmund J., Dimitar D. Gueorguiev, and Nathan M. Jensen. 2015. "Monopoly Money: Foreign Investment and Bribery in Vietnam, a Survey Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 59(2): 419-439.

Recommended

- Malesky, Edmund, Regina Abrami, and Yu Zheng. 2011. "Institutions and Inequality in Single-party Regimes: a Comparative Analysis of Vietnam and China." *Comparative Politics* 43(4): 409-427.
- Wong, Joseph. 2004. "The Adaptive Developmental State in East Asia." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 4(3): 345-362.
- Beeson, Mark. 2009. "Developmental States in East Asia: A Comparison of the Japanese and Chinese Experiences." *Asian Perspective* 33(2): 5-39.

Week 8 (Oct 17): IR Theory and East Asia

- Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.
- Fearon, James D. 2018. "Cooperation, Conflict, and the Costs of Anarchy." *International Organization* 72(3): 523-559.
- Kang, David C. 2010. "Hierarchy and Legitimacy in International Systems: The Tribute System in Early Modern East Asia." *Security Studies* 19(4): 591-622.

- Johnston, Alastair Iain. 2012. "What (if anything) does East Asia Tell Us about International Relations Theory?." *Annual Review of Political Science* 15: 53-78.

Recommended

- Hui, Victoria Tin-bor. 2004. "Toward a Dynamic Theory of International Politics: Insights from Comparing Ancient China and Early Modern Europe." *International Organization* 58(1): 175-205.
- Goh, Evelyn. 2013. *The Struggle for Order: Hegemony, Hierarchy, and Transition in Post-Cold War East Asia*. Oxford University Press.

Week 9 (Oct 24): Alliance, Deterrence, and Reassurance

- Leeds, Brett Ashley. 2003. "Do Alliances Deter Aggression? The Influence of Military Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes." *American Journal of Political Science* 47(3): 427-439.
- Benson, Brett V. 2012. *Constructing International Security: Alliances, Deterrence, and Moral Hazard*. Cambridge University Press. (purchase)

Recommended

- Leeds, Brett Ashley. 2003. "Alliance Reliability in Times of War: Explaining State Decisions to Violate Treaties." *International Organization* 57(4): 801-827.
- Christensen, Thomas J. 2005. "Worse Than a Monolith: Disorganization and Rivalry within Asian Communist Alliances and US Containment Challenges, 1949-69." *Asian Security* 1(1): 80-127.
- Narang, Vipin. 2010. "Posturing for Peace? Pakistan's Nuclear Postures and South Asian Stability." *International Security* 34(3): 38-78.

Week 10 (Oct 31): Domestic Politics of International Relations

- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, and Alastair Smith. 2012 "Domestic Explanations of International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science* 15: 161-181.
- Fravel, M. Taylor. 2005. "Regime Insecurity and International Cooperation: Explaining China's Compromises in Territorial Disputes." *International Security* 30(2): 46-83.
- Weiss, Jessica Chen. 2013. "Authoritarian Signaling, Mass Audiences, and Nationalist Protest in China." *International Organization* 67(1): 1-35.
- Yarhi-Milo, Keren. 2013. "Tying Hands behind Closed Doors: the Logic and Practice of Secret Reassurance." *Security Studies* 22(3): 405-435.
- Lind, Jennifer. 2011. "Democratization and Stability in East Asia." *International Studies Quarterly* 55(2): 409-436

Recommended

- Fearon, James D. 1994. "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes." *American Political Science Review* 88(3): 577-592.
- Shirk, Susan. 2014 "The Domestic Context of Chinese Foreign Security Policies," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Pekkanen et al.

- Christensen, Thomas J. 1996. *Useful Adversaries: Grand Strategy, Domestic Mobilization, and Sino-American Conflict, 1947–1958*. Princeton University Press.
- Naoi, Megumi, and Shujiro Urata. 2013. “Free Trade Agreements and Domestic Politics: The Case of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement.” *Asian Economic Policy Review* 8(2): 326-349.

Week 11 (Nov 7): Leadership

- Schultz, Kenneth A. 2005 “The Politics of Risking Peace: Do Hawks or Doves Deliver the Olive Branch?.” *International Organization* 59(1): 1-38.
- Kastner, Scott L., and Phillip C. Saunders. 2012. “Is China a Status Quo or Revisionist State? Leadership Travel as an Empirical Indicator of Foreign Policy Priorities.” *International Studies Quarterly* 56(1): 163-177.
- Wu, Cathy X., and Scott Wolford. forthcoming. “Leaders, States, and Reputation.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*
- Miura, Kacie, and Jessica Chen Weiss. 2016. “Will China Test Trump? Lessons from Past Campaigns and Elections.” *The Washington Quarterly* 39(4): 7-25.

Recommended

- Yarhi-Milo, Keren. 2013. “In the Eye of the Beholder: How Leaders and Intelligence Communities Assess the Intentions of Adversaries.” *International Security* 38(1): 7-51.

Week 12 (Nov 14): Identity, Economic Interdependence, and Conflicts: the Cross-Strait Relations

- Lin, Syaru Shirley. 2016. *Taiwan's China Dilemma: Contested Identities and Multiple Interests in Taiwan's Cross-Strait Economic Policy*. Stanford University Press. (purchase)
- Pan, Hsin-Hsin, Wen-Chin Wu, and Yu-Tzung Chang. 2017. “How Chinese Citizens Perceive Cross-Strait Relations: Survey Results from Ten Major Cities in China.” *Journal of Contemporary China* 26(106): 616-631.

Recommended

- Pan, Hsin-Hsin, Wen-Chin Wu, and Yu-Tzung Chang. 2018. “Does cross-Strait Tourism Induce Peace? Evidence from Survey Data on Chinese Tourists and non-Tourists.” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, XX(X): 1-33
- Wang, Austin Horng-En. 2017. “The Waning Effect of China’s Carrot and Stick Policies on Taiwanese People.” *Asian Survey* 57(3): 475-503.
- Keng, Shu, Jean Yu-Chen Tseng, and Qiang Yu. 2017. “The Strengths of China’s Charm Offensive: Changes in the Political Landscape of a Southern Taiwan Town under Attack from Chinese Economic Power.” *The China Quarterly* 232: 956-981.
- Wei, Chi-hung. 2013. “China’s Economic Offensive and Taiwan’s Defensive Measures: cross-Strait Fruit Trade, 2005–2008.” *The China Quarterly* 215(September): 641-662.

Thanksgiving Holiday: Nov 21-25

Week 13 (Nov 28): IR Theories and Territorial Disputes in Asia (presentations)

- Schultz, Kenneth A. 2015. "Borders, Conflict, and Trade." *Annual Review of Political Science* 18: 125-145.
- Zacher, Mark W. 2001. "The Territorial Integrity Norm: International Boundaries and the Use of Force." *International Organization* 55(2): 215-250.
- Goddard, Stacie E. "Uncommon Ground: Indivisible Territory and the Politics of Legitimacy." *International Organization* 60(1): 35-68.
- Tir, Jaroslav. 2010. "Territorial Diversion: Diversionary Theory of War and Territorial Conflict." *The Journal of Politics* 72(2): 413-425.
- Huth, Paul K., and Todd L. Allee. 2002. "Domestic Political Accountability and the Escalation and Settlement of International Disputes." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 46(6): 754-790.
- Huth, Paul, Sarah Croco, and Benjamin Appel. 2012. "Law and the Use of Force in World Politics: The Varied Effects of Law on the Exercise of Military Power in Territorial Disputes." *International Studies Quarterly* 56(1): 17-31.
- Lee, Hoon, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2012 "Foreign Direct Investment and Territorial Disputes." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 56(4): 675-703.
- Allee, Todd L., and Paul K. Huth. 2006. "Legitimizing Dispute Settlement: International Legal Rulings as Domestic Political Cover." *American Political Science Review* 100(2): 219-234.
- Gent, Stephen E., and Megan Shannon. 2010. "The Effectiveness of International Arbitration and Adjudication: Getting into a bind." *The Journal of Politics* 72(2): 366-380.

Week 14 (Dec 5): Economic Interdependence & Regional Integration

- Davis, Christina L., and Sophie Meunier. 2011. "Business as Usual? Economic Responses to Political Tensions." *American Journal of Political Science* 55(3): 628-646.
- Kastner, Scott L. 2016. "Buying Influence? Assessing the Political Effects of China's International Trade." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 60(6): 980-1007.
- Dreher, Axel, Andreas Fuchs, Brad Parks, Austin M Strange, Michael J Tierney. 2018 "Apples and Dragon Fruits: The Determinants of Aid and Other Forms of State Financing from China to Africa," *International Studies Quarterly*, 62(1): 182-194.
- Goh, Evelyn. 2008. "Great Powers and Hierarchical Order in Southeast Asia: Analyzing Regional Security Strategies." *International Security* 32(3): 113-157
- Acharya, Amitav. 2004. "How Ideas Spread: Whose Norms Matter? Norm Localization and Institutional Change in Asian Regionalism." *International Organization* 58(2): 239-275.

Recommended

- McDonald, Patrick J. 2009. *The Invisible Hand of Peace: Capitalism, the War Machine, and International Relations Theory*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7.
- Ye, Min. 2016. "Understanding the Economics-Politics Nexus in South Korea-China Relations." *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 51(1): 97-118.
- Drezner, Daniel W. 2009. "Bad Debts: Assessing China's Financial Influence in Great Power Politics." *International Security* 34(2): 7-45.

University Policies

Honor Code: The Old Dominion University Honor Code is in effect at all times in this class. Your name on an exam, paper, or homework assignment constitutes your acceptance of the Honor Code:

“I pledge to support the Honor System of Old Dominion University. I will refrain from any form of dishonesty or deception such as lying, cheating, and plagiarism, which are honor violations. I am further aware that as a member of the academic community it is my responsibility to turn all suspected violators of the Honor System. I will report to an Honor Council hearing as summoned.”

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcomed and unsolicited conduct of a sexual nature, physical or verbal, by a member of the university community of the opposite sex, or the same sex in an official university position. Sexual harassment in any situation is reprehensible. It is the policy of Old Dominion University to provide students and employees with an environment for learning and working which is free of sexual harassment whether by members of the same sex or the opposite sex, which is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. (For more information: <http://www.odu.edu/content/dam/odu/col-dept/al/docs/6320.pdf>)

Students with Special Needs: Students are encouraged to self-disclose disabilities that have been verified by the Office of Educational Accessibility by providing Accommodation Letters to their instructors early in the semester in order to start receiving accommodations. The Office of Educational Accessibility is located at 1021 Student Success Center (<http://www.odu.edu/educationalaccessibility/>) and their phone number is (757)683-4655. Accommodations will not be made until the Accommodation Letters are provided to instructors each semester. All students are expected to fulfill all course requirements.

Plagiarism: “A student will have committed plagiarism if he or she reproduces someone else’s work without acknowledging its source; or if a source is cited which the student has not cited or used. Examples of plagiarism include: submitting a research paper obtained from a commercial research service, the Internet, or from another student as if it were original work; making simple changes to borrowed materials while leaving the organization, content, or phraseology intact; or copying material from a source, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks. Plagiarism also occurs in a group project if one or more of the members of the group does none of the group’s work and participates in none of the group’s activities, but attempts to take credit for the work of the group.” Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. (For more information: <https://www.odu.edu/content/dam/odu/col-dept/al/docs/about-plagiarism2.pdf>)

Course Evaluations: Student opinion surveys are submitted on-line. You will be notified by email when you should evaluate this course. You will need your UIN and password. Please take the time to evaluate this course when asked to do so. All evaluations are anonymous. The link to the Course Evaluation System is available here: <http://www.odu.edu/coursesurvey>.

Email: Students are required to use valid Old Dominion University email accounts to send official information and notices and are held responsible for accessing electronic mail to obtain official University communications. Students should use their secure ODU email account to communicate with professors.

Final Grades: Instructors are not permitted to give out grades via telephone or email. In order to find out what grade you received in this course, you must go to LeoOnline at the university home page: www.leonline.odu.edu. You will need your UIN and password.

General Guidelines for Discussion and Agendas

As you prepare for class discussion and agendas, you should think about the basic components of the articles:

- What is the research question?
- What is the dependent variable?
- What is the independent variable?
- What are the proposed answer and the causal mechanism?
- What are the components of the research design?
- What are the findings?

Additionally, and more importantly, you should evaluate each reading critically. This does not imply that you should only identify shortcomings; rather analyze what they author(s) did right, wrong, better, worse, etc. You should seek to learn how to build on the strengths of others while avoiding their weaknesses. As such, you should answer the following questions and others of your own.

- What do you like most about the article? Least?
- Are the methodological approaches appropriate?
- Are the stated findings surprising? Interesting?
- Before identifying problems, what would you do to fix those problems? Be practical and concrete.

As a final step, I encourage you to think *creatively* about how you could improve this research, which is the ultimate goal of integrating Asian studies with the literature of political science. Thus, other questions to consider:

- To what extent do the cases of Asian politics confirm the theories of political science?
- Do the cases of Asian politics raise puzzles to the broader theories?
- Which theoretical ideas should have been considered? Are the theoretical ideas stale?
- What novel methodological approaches could have been employed?
- How could the paper be framed better to grab readers' attention?