

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Science

Department of Politics

V53.0770 International
Relations of Asia (Pacific)

Spring 2005
Prof. Hsiung

Syllabus

This course studies the international relations of Pacific Asia, i.e., the relations of the region's component parts both inter se and with external powers, incl. the United States, the former Soviet Union (now Russia), and the EU. Pacific Asia is defined to comprise, in descending order: China, Japan, the four Asian NIEs (newly industrialized economies: South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore), and ASEAN-5 (Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brunei, sans the newly admitted Indochina states and Myanmar, the former Burma). North Korea will also figure in our discussions of the security question confronting the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia.

This, admittedly, is a vast area to cover in one course, even though we will leave out Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the Pacific Island states, the last of which are usually referred to as part of the "Pacific Basin." We will try to maintain a coherent view of the region as a whole, while we study the foreign relations of the region's members.

To give the course a focus, we will pay more attention to two key countries—China and Japan—and draw in other key actors (incl. the U.S., Russia, etc) more or less around the fulcrum of their external relations or in the context of the reach of their influence. The term "relations" used here denotes their political, security, and economic dimensions. Although some in-depth understanding of the past (at least since WWII) is useful, the emphasis is on the post-Cold War era, which witnesses among other things the rise of what some scholars call the age of "comprehensive security." The term incorporates geoeconomics, which means that a nation's economic clout counts more than its military might and that economic security eclipses military security (or national defense) in importance. Because of its robust economic success (despite the financial crisis of the late 1990s), Pacific Asia is seen by many (including the World Bank) as likely to lead the world's other regions in the 21st century. Other components of comprehensive security include environmental and human security, both of which are addressed in the course.

TEXTBOOKS FOR PURCHASE

Michael K. Connors, et al., *The New Global Politics of the Asia-Pacific* (2004);

^Mel Gurtov, *Pacific Asia: Prospects for Security & Cooperation in East Asia* (2002);

- ^ Samuel S. Kim, *International Relations of Northeast Asia* (2004)
- ^ Yutaka Kawashima, *Japanese Foreign Policy at the Crossroads* (2003);
- ^ James C. Hsiung (a), *21st Century World Order & the Asia Pacific* (2001).
- ^ James C. Hsiung (b), *Comprehensive Security: Challenge for Pacific Asia* (2004)

BOOKS ON RESERVE

- * Samuel S. Kim, *China and the World*, 4th ed. (1998);
- * James C. Hsiung (JCH), *Asia Pacific in the New World Politics* (1993).

CLASS CALENDAR AND READINGS

1. Intro: International Power Structure of the Region Since the End of WWII
 - *JCH, 213-234

2. Pacific Asia in the Post-Cold War Era
 - ^Connors, et al., 1-16
 - ^Hsiung, 17-56; 77-80
 - ^Gurtov, 1-58
 - *JCH, 1-20

3. China as Regional & Global Actor
 - ^Hsiung, 87-88; 366-368; 308-325
 - ^Gurtov, 59-90
 - ^Kim, 65-134
 - *JCH, 71-92

4. China's Relations with the Major Powers (U.S. & Russia)
 - ^Hsiung, 356-357; 360 (the Sino-US-Japan triad)
 - *Kim, ch. 4:91-113 (with the US); ch. 5:114-132 (with Russia)

5. China's Relations with Its Neighbors
 - ^Connors, et al., 51-70
 - *Hsiung, 113-134 (with Taiwan)
 - *Kim, ch. 6 (with Japan)

6. Japan as an International Actor
 - ^Kawashima, 1-21; 135-152
 - ^Kim, 171-200
 - *JCH, 21-48; 49-70

7. Japan's Relations with Its Neighbors
 - ^Connors, 35-50
 - ^Kawashima, 73-94; 95-109; 110-125
 - R: Curtis, 263-322

8. Japan's Economic & Security Relations in the New Era
 - ^Kawashima, 2-54; 55-72
 - ^Kim, 170-200
 - R: Curtis, 202-262
 - R: Cronin, ch. 6
 - R: Garrett & Glasser

9. The Two Koreas and Northeast Asian Security
 - ^Gurtov, 161-188
 - ^Kim, 251-300
 - *JCH, 93-112

10. Southeast Asia in the Region
 - ^Connors, et al., 71-87
 - ^Hsiung, 213-256
 - *JCH, 135-160
 - R: Singh (2002)

11. Regionalism & Regional Institution Building
 - ^Hsiung, 159-212
 - ^Gurtov, 50-90
 - ^Connors, et al., 140-161; 162-179;
 - ^Kim, 331-362
 - *JCH, 195-212

12. Comprehensive Security in Pacific Asia
 - ^Hsiung (b) (2004), 1-60
 - ^Connors, et al., 199-213

13. U.S. and Russian Roles in Asia Pacific

^Kim, 201-224; 225-250

^Gurtov, 189-210

*JCH, 161-176; 177-194

R: Thakur & Thayer, 85-100; 281-284

14. Rise of a Pacific Era?

^Hsiung (a), 80-121; 343-378

^Gurtov, 211-228

*JCH, 235-262

R: Cronin, 119-133

Legend:

^ indicates textbook used for the course.

+ = recommended textbook

* = on reserve

R: = recommended reading, not required; nor on reserve

OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE

As we try to weave diverse strands together and update the readings in class lectures, class attendance is absolutely essential (if you want to pass the course). In addition to an in-class final exam (and possibly a mid-term), a summary paper is required, due at the time of the final. The summary paper should incorporate your notes from both the readings and class lectures. The idea is to demonstrate that you have done the readings and attended class—and, of course, understood the material. Length of the paper is flexible, but in no case should it be over 25-30 pages double-spaced (no elite type or small font please!), written in prose (not in outline form). Past experience indicates that preparation of the summary paper is a best way to prepare for the exam(s).

My office hours are Mondays, 2:00 -3:30 p.m., plus other times by appointment. My office is at 726 Broadway, Rm. 717; and my direct line is: (212) 998-8523 (with voice mail), and e-mail: <jch2@nyu.edu>.

REFERENCES

Cronin, Richard. 1992. *Japan, the U.S., and Prospects for the Asia Pacific Century*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Curtis, Gerald, ed. 1993. *Japan's Foreign Policy After the Cold War: Coping with*

Change. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe.

Garret, Banning and Bonnie Glasser. 1997. "Chinese Apprehensions About Revitalization of the U.S.-Japan Alliance," *Asian Survey*, 37,4: 383-402 (April).

Singh, Bhubhindar. 2002. "ASEAN's Perceptions of Japan: Change and Continuity," *Asian Survey* 42,2:276-296 (March-April).

Thakur, Ramesh and Carlyle Thayer. 1993. *Reshaping Regional Relations: Asia Pacific and the Former Soviet Union*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner.