

**INTL451: Special Topics in International Relations
CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC**

Instructor: Dr. Altay Atlı (aatli@ku.edu.tr)

Lecture Hours: MoWe 08:30-09:45

Lecture Place: SCIZ07

Office Hours: By appointment only.

Course description: The aim of this course is to introduce, discuss and analyze the contemporary international relations of the Asia-Pacific region, which—for the purposes of this course—includes Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and Oceania. The course is designed to provide the students with an theoretically informed overview of the nature of the international politics in the Asia-Pacific, changing patterns of power relations, ideational factors shaping the relationships, foreign and security policies of regional powers as well as sub-regional actors, and regional institution building. The course will start with an introduction to the region, followed by an inquiry into how mainstream International Relations theories view the Asia-Pacific region and discussion of how identity issues shaped by memory and historical grievances affect the peoples and the states of the region. After an overview of the development and the current state of the Asian power balance, the course will proceed to the individual actors, starting with the regional powers of China, Japan and India, followed by the sub regional actors like the Southeast Asian countries and Australia/Oceania, completing the picture with a discussion of the role of the external powers like the United States, EU, and Russia in Asian affairs. The course will place a special focus on the current hotspots in the international relations of the Asia Pacific, and conclude by discussing the prospects for establishing regional order and Asia's contribution to global governance.

Course responsibilities:

- It is absolutely essential for the students to *do the readings before coming to the class* and be able to discuss them during the lecture.
- *Perfect attendance* is expected for this class. Students are allowed only THREE absences per semester (exceptions made for illness, under the condition that the reason of absence is officially documented). More than three absences will result in the loss of the right to take the final exam and a direct F for the course.
- There will be one *mid-term exam* and one *final exam*. Both exams will be closed-book exam to be held in the classroom.
- The students are required to write one research paper. The paper will be done individually; it will be based on the student's original research, and analyze a specific issue in international relations of the Asia-Pacific. The topic must be approved by the lecturer. The final paper must have a length of at least 3,000 words, and at most 5,000 words. Papers are to be submitted *electronically* (Microsoft Word format) to the instructor. Deadline is the last day of classes. Students will present their work in the class.
 - Grading: Research paper 30% / Mid-term 20% / Final exam 35% / Class participation 15%.
 - Evaluation of "class participation" is based on how effectively the students participate in class discussions.

- Extension: *Extensions will not be granted* (exceptions made for illness, under the condition that the reason is officially documented). Late submission will be penalized by grade deduction.
- *Stay current*: It is important to stay abreast of current developments in the Asia-Pacific region. A list of recommended news sources can be found in the appendix of this syllabus.
- *Academic honesty*: students are expected to strictly adhere to the following rules and regulations regarding academic honesty.
 - Copying work from others or giving and receiving answers/information during exams either in written or oral form constitutes cheating.
 - Submitting take-home exams and papers of others as your own, using sentences or paragraphs from another author without the proper acknowledgement of the original author, insufficient acknowledgement of the consulted works in the bibliography, all constitute plagiarism.
 - Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will result in:
 - An automatic "F" for the assignment or the exam or the entire course.
 - An oral explanation before the Ethics Committee.
 - Losing the opportunity to request and receive any references from the entire faculty.

Weekly lecture plan and readings:

The textbook assigned for this course is the following:

Derek McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, 2nd ed. (Boulder, London: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2016).

The textbook is available at Pandora Bookstore in Koç University campus.

All other required and recommended readings as listed below are made available to students (in PDF format) through Blackboard.

Week 1

Introduction to the Asia-Pacific

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 1.
2. Chung Min Lee, "Asia's New Long March: Bottling Conflicts and Managing Political Turbulences," *The Pacific Review*, advance article (2017), pp.1-14.

Recommended:

1. David Shambaugh, "International Relations in Asia: A Multidimensional Analysis", in *International Relations of Asia*, ed. David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2014), pp. 3-29.
2. Prasenjit Duara, "Asia Redux: Conceptualizing a Region for Our Times," *The Journal of Asian Studies*, v.69, no.4 (2010), pp.963-983.
3. Arif Dirlik, "The Asia-Pacific Idea: Reality and Representation in the Invention of a Regional Structure," *Journal of World History*, v.3, no.1 (1992), pp.55-79.

Week 2

Theoretical Perspectives

Required:

1. Amitav Acharya, "Thinking Theoretically about Asian IR", in *International Relations of Asia*, ed. David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2014), pp. 59-89.
2. Gilbert Rozman, "The 2010s: Asia's Slide Toward Conflict and IR Theory," in *Misunderstanding Asia: International Relations Theory and Asian Studies Over Half a Century*, ed. Gilbert Rozman (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), pp.191-212.

Recommended:

1. Michael Mastanduno, "Realism and Asia," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp.25-44.
2. Stephan Haggard, "The Liberal View of the International Relations of Asia," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp.45-63.
3. Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan, "Why is There No Non-Western International Relations Theory? An Introduction," *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, v.7, no.3 (2007), pp.287-312.
4. Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan, "Why is There No Non-Western International Relations Theory? Ten Years On," *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, advance article (2017), pp.1-30.

Week 3

War, Memory and Identity in Asia

Required:

1. Yinan He, "Remembering and Forgetting the War: Elite Mythmaking, Mass Reaction, and Sino-Japanese Relations, 1950-2006," *History and Memory*, v.19, no.2 (2007), pp.43-74.
2. Warren I. Cohen, "The Foreign Impact on East Asia," in *Historical Perspectives on Contemporary East Asia*, ed. by Merle Goldman and Andrew Gordon (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2000), pp.1-22.
3. Carol Gluck, Rana Mitter and Charles K. Armstrong, "The Seventieth Anniversary of World War II's End in Asia: Three Perspectives," *The Journal of Asian Studies*, v.74, no.3 (2015), pp.531-537.

Recommended:

1. Peter Preston, "The Shift to the Modern World in East Asia: War, Memory and Regional Identity," in *Routledge Handbook of Asian Regionalism*, ed. by M. Beeson and R Stubbs (London and New York: Routledge, 2012), pp. 33-45.
2. Thomas U. Berger, "The Geopolitics of Remembering and Forgetting in Asia," in *War Guilt and World Politics after World War II* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), pp.175-229.
3. "Asia's Second World War Ghosts", *The Economist Essay*, August 13, 2015, online: <http://www.economist.com/news/essays/en/asia-second-world-war-ghosts>.

Week 4

Interdependence and the Economy-Security Nexus

Required:

1. Avery Goldstein and Edward Mansfield, "The Political Economy of Regional Security in East Asia, in *The Nexus of Economics, Security and International Relations in East Asia* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012), pp.1-38.
2. Hidetaka Yoshimatsu, "Economic-Security Linkages in Asia," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp. 569-585.

Recommended:

1. Benjamin Goldsmith, "Different in Asia? Developmental States, Trade, and International Conflict Onset and Escalation," *International Relations of the Asia Pacific*, v.13, no.2 (2013), pp.175-205.
2. Thomas Wright, "Sifting Through Interdependence," *The Washington Quarterly*, v.36, no.4 (2013), pp.7-23.
3. Evan A. Feigenbaum and Robert A. Manning, "The Tale of Two Asias," *Foreign Policy*, October 31, 2012.

Week 5

Regional Powers I: China

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 3.
2. Yan Xuetong, "The Rise of China and its Power Status," *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, v.1, no.1 (2006), pp. 5-33.

Recommended:

1. Pu Xiaoyu, "Controversial Identity of a Rising China," *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, v.10, n.2 (2017), pp. 131-149.
2. David M. Lampton, "China: Challenger or Challenged?," *The Washington Quarterly*, vol.39, no.3 (2016), pp.107-119.
3. Barry Buzan, "The Logic and Contradictions of 'Peaceful Rise/Development' as China's Grand Strategy," *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, v.7, n.4 (2014), pp. 381-420.
4. McDougall, Chapter 5.

Week 6

Regional Powers II: Japan

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 4.
2. Andrew L. Oros, "International and Domestic Challenges to Japan's Postwar Security Identity: 'Norm Constructivism' and Japan's New 'Proactive Pacifism'", *The Pacific Review*, v.28, no.1 (2015), pp. 139-160.

Recommended:

1. Christopher W. Hughes, "Japan's Foreign Security Relations and Policies," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp.371-390.
2. Corey J. Wallace, "Japan's Strategic Pivot South: Diversifying the Dual Hedge," *International Relations of the Asia Pacific*, v.13, no.3 (2013), pp. 479-517.
3. Eric Heginbotham and Richard J. Samuels, "Mercantile Realism and Japanese Foreign Policy," *International Security*, v.22, no.4 (Spring 1998), pp.171-203.
4. McDougall, Chapter 7.

Week 7

Regional Powers III: India

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 12.
2. T.V. Paul, "India's Role in Asia: A Rising Regional Power," in *International Relations of Asia*, ed. David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2014), pp.173-196.

Recommended:

1. Ramesh Thakur, "Delinking Destiny from Geography: The Changing Balance of India-Pakistan Relations," *India Quarterly*, v.67, no.3 (September 2011), pp.165-182.
2. Arijit Mazumdar, "India's Search for a Post-Cold War Foreign Policy: Domestic Constraints and Obstacles," *India Quarterly*, v.67, no.2 (June 2011), pp. 165-182.
3. David Brewster, "Beyond the 'String of Pearls': Is There Really a Sino-Indian Security Dilemma in the Indian Ocean?" *Journal of the Indian Ocean Region*, v.10, no.2 (2014), pp.133-149.
4. Arzan Tarapore, "India's Slow Emergence as a Regional Security Actor," *The Washington Quarterly*, v 40, no.2 (2017), pp.163-178.

Week 8

Hotspots in Asia I: The Korean Peninsula

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 9.
2. Yong Sub Choi, "North Korea's Hegemonic Rule and its Collapse," *The Pacific Review*, v.30, n.5 (2017), pp. 783-800.

Recommended:

1. David Shim and Patrick Flamm, "Rising South Korea: A Minor Player or a Regional Power?" *Pacific Focus*, v.28, no.3 (December 2013), pp.384-410.
2. Jongseok Woo, "Structural Impediments, Domestic Politics, and Nuclear Diplomacy in Post-Kim Il-sung North Korea," *Pacific Focus*, v.30, no.1 (2015), pp.59-77.
3. O, Tara, "The Unification Scenarios and Cost," in *The Collapse of North Korea* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), pp. 9-24.

Week 9

Hotspots in Asia II: Taiwan and the South China Sea

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 8.
2. M. Taylor Fravel, "Territorial and Maritime Boundary Disputes in Asia," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp. 524-546.

Recommended:

1. Michael Intal Magcamit, "Games, Changes and Fears: Exploring Taiwan's Cross-Strait Dilemma in the Twenty-first Century," *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, v.2, no.1 (2015), pp.92-115.
2. Sanaa Yasmin Hafeez, "The Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands Crises of 2004, 2010, and 2012: A Study of Japanese-Chinese Crisis Management," *Asia-Pacific Review*, v.22, no.1 (2015), pp.73-99.
3. Wu Ningbo, "China's Rights and Interests in the South China Sea: Challenges and Policy Responses," *Australian Journal of Maritime & Ocean Affairs*, v.8, no.4 (2016), pp. 286-297.

Week 10

Sub-Regional Actors I: Southeast Asia

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 10.
2. Amitav Acharya, "Imagining Southeast Asia," in *The Making of Southeast Asia: International Relations of a Region* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2012), pp.51-104.

Recommended:

1. Evelyn Goh, "Southeast Asia's Evolving Security Relations and Strategies," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp. 462-480.
2. Kim Hyung Jong and Lee Poh Ping, "The Changing Role of Dialogue in the International Relations of Southeast Asia," *Asian Survey*, v.51, no.5 (Sep/Oct 2011), pp.953-970.
3. William Case, "Democracy's Mixed Fortunes in Southeast Asia: Torpor, Change, and Trade-offs," in *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Democratization*, ed. William Case (Oxon: Routledge, 2015), pp.3-23.

Week 11

Sub-Regional Actors II: Australia and the Pacific Realm

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 14.
2. Joanne Wallis, "The South Pacific: 'Arc of Instability' or 'Arc of Opportunity'?" *Global Change, Peace & Security*, v.27, no.1 (2015), pp.39-53.

Recommended:

1. Nick Bisley, "Australia and Asia's Trilateral Dilemmas," *Asian Survey*, v.54, no.2 (2014), pp.297-318.
2. Mark Beeson and Richard Higgott, "The Changing Architecture of Politics in the Asia-Pacific: Australia's Middle Power Moment?" *International Relations of the Asia Pacific*, v.14, no.2 (2014), pp.215-237.
3. Jack Corbett and John Connell, "All the World is a Stage: Global Governance, Human Resources, and the Problem of Smallness," *The Pacific Review*, v.28, no.3 (2015), pp.435-459.

Week 12

External Powers: United States, EU and Russia

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 2.
2. McDougall, Chapter 13.

Recommended:

1. Victor Cha, "Informal Hierarchy in Asia: The Origins of the US-Japan Alliance," *International Relations of the Asia Pacific*, v.17, no.1 (2017), pp. 1-34.
2. William Tow and Satu Limaye, "What's China Got to Do With It? U.S. Alliances, Partnerships in the Asia-Pacific," *Asian Politics & Policy*, v.8, no.1 (2016), pp. 7-26.
3. Axel Berkofsky, "The European Union (EU) in Asian Security: Actor with a Punch or Distant Bystander?" *Asia-Pacific Review*, v.21, no.2 (2014), pp. 61-85.

Week 13

Creating a Regional Order

Required:

1. McDougall, Chapter 15.
2. Richard Stubbs and Jennifer Mustapha, "Ideas and Institutionalization in Asia," in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, ed. Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (New York: Oxford UP, 2014), pp.690-702.

Recommended:

1. Min Ye, "China and Competing Cooperation in Asia-Pacific: TPP, RCEP, and the New Silk Road," *Asian Security*, vol.11, no.3 (2015), pp. 206-224.
2. John S. Duffeld, "Asia-Pacific Security Institutions in Comparative Perspective," in *International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific*, ed. by G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003), pp.243-270.
3. Mely Caballero-Anthony, "Understanding ASEAN's Centrality: Bases and Prospects in an Evolving Regional Architecture," *The Pacific Review*, v.27, no.4 (2014), pp.563-584.

Week 14

Asia and Global Governance in the 21st Century

Required:

1. Amitav Acharya, "Can Asia Lead? Power Ambitions and Global Governance in the Twenty-First Century," *International Affairs*, v.87, no.4 (2011), pp.851-869.

2. Miles Kahler, "Asia and the Reform of Global Governance," *Asian Economic Policy Review*, v.5, no.2 (2010), pp.178-193.

Recommended:

1. Tom Ginsburg, "Eastphalia as the Perfection of Westphalia," *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*, v.17, no.1 (2010), pp.27-45.
2. Kishore Mahbubani, "Can Asia Re-Legitimize Global Governance?" *Review of International Political Economy*, v.18, no.1 (2011), p.131-139.
3. Haruhiko Kuroda, "The Role of Asia in a Globalized Era," *Asia-Pacific Review*, v.20, no.2 (2013), pp.101-115.

SOURCES FOR NEWS AND COMMENTARIES ON ASIAN CURRENT AFFAIRS

Asia Times	www.atimes.com
Asia Unbound (CFR)	blogs.cfr.org/asia/
Carnegie Endowment	carnegieendowment.org/programs/asia/
Foreign Policy	www.foreignpolicy.com
Foreign Affairs	www.foreignaffairs.com
The Economist	www.economist.com/world/asia
The Diplomat	www.thediplomat.com
The Wall Street Journal online	wsj.com/public/page/news-asiabusiness.html
The New York Times	www.nytimes.com/pages/world/asia/index.html
Time	world.time.com/category/asia/
BBC News	www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/asia/
China Daily	www.chinadaily.com.cn
The Japan Times	www.japantimes.co.jp
Brookings Institution	www.brookings.edu/research/topics/asia-and-the-pacific

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