**HSPS 2621: Asia in Transition**

**동아시아 정치; 东亚政治;** 東アジアの政治

**Spring 2017**

**Syllabus**

**Time:** MWF 2:00-2:50 PM

**Location:** HILL 113

**Instructor:** Dr.Ñusta Carranza Ko **Office Hours:**

**Office:** HILL 204B Mon: 3:00-4:15 PM

**Email:** [n-carranzako@onu.edu](mailto:n-carranzako@onu.edu)

**Course Description**

This course offers a survey of Asian politics, particularly East Asian politics, in transition. It is understood that students have at least a general understanding of East Asian culture, history, and politics prior to taking this course. The course is designed to provide students with a familiarity for understanding the fundamental concepts, theories, and debates in Asian politics, with an emphasis on the contemporary period. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to material related to history, economy, society, and the environment, all related to East Asia. Students will interact with topics mainly through their readings, lectures, guest lectures, presentations, debates, simulations, discussions, and assignments.

**Course Special Topics**

Students are encouraged to suggest topics of interest that are not covered in the course material. If the demand for such topics are high, one day of the week may be dedicated to covering such material.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

This will be a reading, writing, discussion, and student-engagement intensive class designed to develop your critical thinking skills. At the end of this course students should be able to:

* *Discuss*, *raise questions*, and *present* oral and written argumentson the existing thematic debates in Asian politics
* *Summarize* and *evaluate* the status of various issues and topics in East Asia through various existing theoretical perspectives

**Required Text**

There is one required text for this course, which should be available at University Bookstores.

* Stockwin, J.A.A. 2008. *Governing Japan: Divided Politics in Resurgent Economy,* 4th ed. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
* Dreyer, June Teufel. 2011. *China’s Political System: Modernization and Tradition.* 8th ed. Prentince Hall.
* Heo, Uk and Terence Roehrig. 2010. *South Korea since 1980.* New York: Cambridge University Press.
* **Please also keep in mind that extra readings** may be added throughout the semester.

**Course Resources**

Writing Resources:

* Ohio Northern University Writing Center: <http://www.onu.edu/academics/resources/the_writing_center>

**Evaluation Procedures**

The criteria for evaluation and the specified percentages to be used in the computation of each student’s final course grade are:

**Criteria** **Percentage**

Video Questions 10%

Reading Questions 10%

Current Events 10%

Participation 20%

Research Paper 30%

Bibliography and Citation 5%

Mid-term Exam 15%

Video Questions (10%)

**Due date: February 22 and April 12**

During the semester, students will be given **TWO** video question sheets to help them better understand the material for the course. The **FIRST ASSIGNMENT** will need to be completed by students before the class corresponding to the video. These sheets will consist of a set of questions (a total of 1 page) that will need to be **TYPED and PRINTED** for submission. The first assignment is due on **January 27, 2017 and t**he **SECOND** assignment will be due on **February 22.** Remember that you are answering the questions based on the movie and not simply stating your own opinion about a political issue. We will discuss your answers during the class.

Reading Questions (10%)

**Due date: On the day of the class pertaining to the reading**

During the semester, students will be given reading guideline sheets to help them better understand the material for the course. These sheets will consist of a set of questions (a total of 1 page) and will need to be completed by the students before the class corresponding to the reading. Remember that you are answering the questions based on the readings and not simply stating your own opinion about a political issue. Also, keep in mind that we will be going over the reading questions and discussing them in class during the day of the class pertaining to the reading. A total of 2 reading sheets (at most) will be provided throughout the semester. Failure to bring a completed reading question sheet will result negatively on the student’s grade.

Current Event (10%)

**Due date: bi-monthly \***assignment contains a presentation and a writing component\*

Starting from the second week, for each class students will collect/find one news article and be prepared to present it in front of the class. Students will be responsible to introduce a news material related to Asian politics. The news can be one that discusses the region of Asia (can even extend to Central Asia) as a whole or a specific country within the region. Students will ***summarize*** the news, ***citing*** the sources from where they obtained the information, and provide a question for the class (to discuss) at the end of their presentation. Sign-up sheets will be available during the first week of class and the presentation will take no longer than ***7 minutes***.

The student will also need to present a ***written response*** to the news material, consisting of 1 paragraph (please limit it to 4 sentences), where they summarize the news and state ***their opinion*** in regards to the news (whether you agree/disagree). The written response should also ***cite the sources*** from where the student obtained the information. Any standard citation format will be accepted (e.g. APA, MLA, Chicago, or APSA). The paper should be approximately half a page in length, 12 font Times New Roman, double spaced, 1 inch margins, and with page numbers.

* **\*Students will be responsible for turning in only ONE written response to a news material.\***

Sources of information for consultation are any major newspapers, news media outlets, and SNS news updates from well recognized international non-governmental organizations. Some of these examples include: The New York Times and The Boston Globe; BBC (<http://www.bbc.com/news/>) and CNN (<http://www.cnn.com/>); Japan Times and the Korea Times; and Human Rights Watch (<http://www.hrw.org/news>) and Amnesty International (<http://www.amnesty.org/en/news>).

(Basic grading scale: 5= outstanding work; 4= good work; 3= satisfactory; 2= some lack of clarity or slight misunderstanding; 1= misunderstanding or lack of effort that is so significant that you should talk with the professor; 0= assignment not submitted)

Participation and Attendance (20%)

Attendance is required and students are expected to be present at all class meetings. Please ***turn off your phones***and ***refrain***from using your devices (ipad/tablets) in class. If you are using a technological device (tablets or computers) please *focus on using it for* class purposes. Students engaging or working on other material irrelevant to class may be ***asked to refrain from using* their technological devices for the *entire semester*.**

Participation is ***more*** than class attendance. **Active** engagement in class discussions (including guest lectures and preparation for class readings in advance), an effective presentation of current events, and role-playing (debates and simulation activities) all count towards a student’s participation grade. To do so, students should do the assigned readings in advance and come ready to consider the main topics of the day and *refrain* from distracting other students in class with the usage of their devices.

During each class, students grouped in 2-4 people, will be handed a 2 x 4 index card. Students will be responsible for writing their names at the top right hand corner of the index card and a 3-4 sentence response to a discussion question or questions that will be provided during class. The class will then hold a discussion and one student representing each group will have the opportunity to share their answers in class. Unless the work is deficient, illegible, and incoherent, a completed discussion question will receive full credit. This *requires* the student to attend class to receive the question, discuss it openly in class, and to hand in the index card in class.

Research Paper and Presentation (30%)

**Due date: Week of May 1**

For the research paper and presentation, students will be asked to come up with a research question related to a specific country in Asia, **NOT discussed in the course outline OR THE BOOK**, and present their research. Below are **some possible topics** that may be of interest. If you are attempting to write a paper and present on a topic that covers the entire region, I would highly suggest you to consider a topic related to the Asian Pacific Economic Caucus or ASEAN +3.

**Topics:**

Democratic Consolidation

Crime and Violence (Drug War; Crime and Citizen Security\* can be related to Southeast Asia)

Human Rights Violations

Economic Development

Environmental Sustainability (Pollution and Issues of Smog)

Security Dilemma (Mainly related to North Korea, South Korea, China, Japan, and the U.S.)

Corruption

The paper should include:

1. Brief introduction that introduces the topic, relates it to the region or country; states the goal of the paper (thesis statement); why the topic may be important; and includes a roadmap: “in this paper I will discuss xyz... in 123 order…” (1 paragraph)
2. Overview of the topic with more specific definitions within the context of the region or country (1-2 paragraphs)
3. Brief literature review: Identify at least 2 different perspectives that emerged related to the topic: for instance, if you are regarding the relationship between inequality and postcolonialism, you may want to include both the perspective from scholars who argue in favor of this connection and others who go against this idea
   * \*It is crucial that you include citations from **JOURNAL ARTICLES** and **BOOKS** in this section.\*

(2-2.5 paragraphs)

1. Analysis of the topic: remember to use scholarly material to analyze the topic being discussed. It is important that your argument and analysis is WELL supported by research.

(4 paragraphs)

* + If you are analyzing for instance, the growing levels of air pollution and smog in China, you may also want to include possible alternative policy recommendations, either echoing already published work or from your own perspective.

5. Concluding paragraph

Format:

1) 10-12 pages (excluding title page but inclusive of references page)

2) 12 font Times New Roman, double spaced, 1 inch margins, and with page numbers

3) American Political Science Association (APSA) citation and reference format (or any other acceptable citation format: MLA or APA)

<http://www.apsanet.org/files/APSAStyleManual2006.pdf>.

**Chronology of deadlines:**

* **February 20, 12 p.m.**: The topic (just the name) submitted for review in person (written hard copy)
* **March 17, 12 p.m**.: An outline of the presentation for review by hard copy during class or in person at my office. They will be used to examine whether or not the student has made progress in their work.
* **April 21, in-class.:** Optional peer-review writing help session held. This session is intended for those students who would like feedback on their work. Sign-up sheets for the optional peer-review session, where students come with a near finished draft of their paper, will be made available on April 10. The session is ***optional*** and students will not be penalized for not attending the session. However, please do keep in mind that, peer-review sessions gives you the possibility to hear more feedback on your writing, to make last minute changes, and to also improve your work significantly.
* **May 1, May 3, May 5:** Presentation **(ALL STUDENTS MUST PRESENT THEIR RESEARCH THIS WEEK)**

The presentation will need to include the following information

1. A slide with an outline of the presentation (I. Introduction II. Topic…. Etc.)

2. A slide showing the importance of the topic, including definitions of the concepts and other necessary material to clarify the topic

3. A slide that relates the issue topic to your country and why it is important for you to present on this matter

* A detailed research of the historical, economic, and social context of your country related to the topic

4. A slide with an analysis of the issue concerns and a presentation of the student’s own perspective or viewpoint of this topic

5. A question at the end of the presentation for the class to discuss related to the topic

6. And a slide containing the bibliography used for the research presentation

Bibliography and Citation (5%)

**Due date: April 3, 2017 (IN-CLASS)**

For the purposes of getting students prepared for the research presentation, students will need to complete a bibliography and citation assignment. The assignment will consist of a short list of exercises to aide students, who are new to academic research presentations. This will include an annotated bibliography exercise.

**\*Students will NEED to use the sources they have found for the bibliography and citation exercise for their research presentations\***

Midterm Exam (15%)

There is only one exam for the course. The midterm exam will be in the form of a set of identification terms, multiple choice matching, and long answer (essay) response to questions pertinent to the lectures and assigned readings. Students are expected to write the necessary response in *complete sentences* to be able to obtain the full point for each question. Success on the exams will *almost certainly require* class attendance and keeping up with the daily and weekly reading assignments.

**Extra Credit**

The extra credit point will be added to the TOTAL FINAL GRADE of the ENTIRE semester. To obtain the extra credit point, students will need to complete an assignment related to international engagement. Each student will seek out an international student on Ohio Northern University’s campus (preferably students in an English Composition course), ask their permission for interview, and briefly interview/get to know them and their culture through a short questionnaire listed on Moodle.

**Grading Scale**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A+ 97-100%  A 96-93  A- 90-92 | B+ 87-89  B 83-86  B- 80-82 | C+ 77-79  C 73-76  C- 70-72 | D+ 67-69  D 63-66  D- 60-62  F 0-59 |

**Late Policy**

Late assignments will be subject to a **10% penalty** *per day, starting with the due date*. Extensions will be granted only under extenuating circumstances. In those instances, please contact me as soon as you know there is a problem so we can work out an alternative plan.

**Title IX Policy on Discrimination and Harassment**

Ohio Northern University does not discriminate or tolerate discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, transgender status, gender identity, or gender expression in its educational, extracurricular, or athletic programs, or in any admission or employment decisions. ONU is committed to promptly and equitably responding to all reports of sexual discrimination with the goal of eliminating the misconduct and/or harassment, preventing its recurrence, and addressing its effects on any individual or the community.

To report sexual misconduct (violence) or sexual harassment, students may contact the Title IX Coordinator, Nancy Sabol ([n-sabol@onu.edu](mailto:n-sabol@onu.edu)) or one of the Deputy Title IX Coordinators, Brian Hofman ([b-hofman@onu.edu](mailto:b-hofman@onu.edu)); LaShonda Gurley, [l-gurley@onu.edu](mailto:l-gurley@onu.edu). To confidentially discuss sexual misconduct (violence) or sexual harassment, students may contact the University Confidential Resources: Counseling Center (419-772-2190); Health Center (419-772-2086); or Chaplain (419-772-2200). For more information, please consult: [**www.onu.edu/title\_IX**](http://www.onu.edu/title_IX)**.**

**Student Disability**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please check with Disability Resources Office. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the university of an impairment or condition that may require classroom modifications. The university must be notified prior to any accommodations can be made in the class. Please also make an appointment with me within the first two (2) weeks of the semester in order to discuss such issues.

**Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism, cheating, etc.: *absolutely no form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated*. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university and students will receive a ‘failing’ grade. If you are unsure about plagiarism, please see me. Find below the official wording of academic code of conduct from the Student Handbook:

“The University has a duty to protect and strengthen its educational purpose by establishing standards of scholarship and conduct for students. The University expects its students to conduct themselves as mature members of the academic community, and it assumes that individually and collectively students will discourage acts of cheating. Academic offenses involving examinations, written work submitted for evaluation, improper knowledge of the contents of an examination, misrepresentation of facts relevant to academic matters, and all forms of improper or unethical conduct are subject to established adjudication procedures.”

**Questions, Office Hours, and Outside Help**

Please ask questions at any time during class regarding material you find unclear, interesting, or requiring more explanation. Studying a new field may often times be challenging and chances are others will be wondering about the same things. I encourage you to view it as an opportunity to engage in the material by discussing it with the instructor and with other classmates. If you have any questions regarding the course, please feel free to stop by my office, ask me before or after class, or via email.

**Course Caveat**

Revisions of the syllabus (including assignments, papers, and lectures) may occur during the course of the semester at the instructor’s discretion and students will be notified in advance of such changes.

**Course Outline and Assigned Readings**

**1st week (Jan. 17)**

**Introduction to Asian Politics**

Reading: Dreyer: Introduction

**2nd week (Jan. 24)**

**Chinese beginnings**

Reading: Dreyer: 24-65

**3rd week (Jan. 31)**

**Chinese communist beginnings**

Reading: Dreyer: 66-112

**4th week (Feb. 6)**

**PRC Politics in the Post-Mao Era**

Reading: Dreyer: 112-147.

**5th week (Feb. 13)**

**The Politics of the Economy**

Reading: Dreyer: 148-177.

**6th week (Feb. 20)**

**Japanese beginnings**

Reading: Stockwin: 1-47

* **February 20: Essay Topic Due**
* **February 22: Video Question Sheet Due (Home assignment: NO CLASS)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK738CDh21g&list=PLyZHoyniQki9uLV39mtt5XO0sYgwBUBrK&index=1>

* **February: 24: Midterm**

**7th week (Feb. 27)**

**Japan-Political reconstruction and development**

Reading: Stockwin: 48-75

**8th week (March 6)**

* **NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK**

**9th week (March 13)**

**New Politics for the New Millennium**

Reading: Stockwin 101-155.

**10th week (March 20)**

**Issues of Foreign policy and Defence/Problems with the Constitution**

Reading: Stockwin: 202-245; 246-272

* **Reading Question Sheet Due: March 25**

**11th week (March 27)**

**Korea since 1980**

Reading: Heo and Roehrig: pp. to be announced

**12th week (April 3)**

**Korea since 1980**

Reading: Heo and Roehrig: pp. to be announced

* **Bibliography and Citation Assignment Due: April 3**

**13th week (April 10)**

**North Korea**

Reading: McEachern: Inside the Red Box: pp. to be announced

* **April 12: Video Assignment Due**
* <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/secret-state-of-north-korea/>
* **April 14: Easter Break: NO CLASS**

**14th week (April 19)**

**April 17: East Break: NO CLASS**

**North Korea**

Reading: McEachern: Inside the Red Box: pp. to be announced

**15th week (April 24)**

**Taiwan**

Reading: to be assigned

**16th week (May 1)**

**PRESENTATION WEEK**

**17th week (May 8)**

**FINALS**