

SSC3203 ASIA PACIFIC TODAY

2018-2019 Second Term

Instructor: Dr. Chung Chien-peng
Department of Political Science
Dorothy Y. L. Wong Building Room 310
Email: cp2chung@LN.edu.hk
Tel: 2616-7174

Recommended Study Year: 2 and 3

No. of Credits per Term: 3

Mode of Teaching: Lecture (2 hours per week) and tutorials (1 hour per week)

Class Contact Hours: 3

Category in Major Programme: Required course for CAPS stream

Discipline: Politics

Prerequisite(s)/ Co-requisite(s)/ Exclusion(s)/Exemption Requirements: None

Brief Course Description:

This course focuses on the study of the Asia-Pacific region, principally Northeast and Southeast Asian countries, paying particular attention to the development of their political systems, strategies of economic growth, the impact of changes in such areas as population structure, women, ethnicity and education on these societies, and their ability to deal with issues of foreign powers, regional cooperation, and crises.

Course Aims:

This introductory course is intended to provide students with a general understanding of the Asia Pacific - that is the region broadly situated between Japan and Burma – and the roles of foreign powers in the region, particularly that of the United States. This course will look at the wide range of political, social and economic issues and arrangements arising from the varied cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic backgrounds of the Asia Pacific region. The instructor will not be able to cover each and every country in the region in great detail in an introductory course such as this one, so students are strongly encouraged to do the readings and approach the instructor if they have any questions on the subject material.

Learning Outcomes:

After taking this course, students should be able to 1) recognize and identify some of the key common features in the societies, politics, economics and international relations of regional countries; 2) appreciate and explain the diversity, opportunities and challenges that exist within the region's confines; and 3) Evaluate and describe the dynamics of relations between important state, trans-state, and sub-state actors within the region.

Course Assessment and Measurements of Learning Outcomes: (All contribute to learning outcomes 1-3)

Students' progress in the course will be evaluated through Continuous Assessment and an Examination at the end of the course. Continuous Assessment: 10% for degree of active participation in lectures and tutorial discussions, 10% for presentation (with handouts for the instructor/tutor), and 30% for the term paper in which the topic introduced in the tutorial presentation is further analyzed in a clear, logical, detailed and well-organized manner using internet and library sources. Examination: 50% for appraising students' overall knowledge of and ability to discuss key concepts, core facts and principal dilemmas relating to the development of Asian politics, economics and society.

The deadline for the term paper is **2 weeks** after the student's presentation. Papers handed in late are graded down on a progressive scale. The term paper should be a maximum of 2000 words length. Keep it concise and relevant. It must include numbered footnotes / endnotes (using the 'Chicago style'), or short citations in the text (using the 'Harvard style') with a list of references or bibliography at the end of the paper.

Course Outline:

I. Background and overview to the study of the Asia-Pacific region since 1945

II. Political development in Southeast and Northeast Asia

- a. Varieties of political systems
- b. Modernization and democratization

III. Economic profile of the region

- a. Strategies of economic development: Japan and the 'Newly Industrializing Economies'
- b. 'Emerging Newly Industrializing Economies' and the Southeast Asian path to development
- c. Reform in socialist economies

IV. Societal transformation

- a. The role of women and demographic change
- b. The internet's impact on ethnicity

V. The region in a global context

- a. Relations among major powers and the end of the Cold War
- b. From financial crisis to 'Pacific Century'
- c. Regionalism and regional cooperation
- d. 21st Century Maritime Silk Road and United States-China "trade war" and strategic rivalry

Essential Background Readings:

Borthwick, Mark. 2014. *Pacific Century: The Emergence of Modern Pacific Asia* (Boulder: Westview Press: 2nd.ed) [RES] [DS518.1 .B64 2014](#)

Simone, Vera. 2001. *The Asian Pacific: Political and Economic Development in a Global Context* (New York: Longman: 2nd.ed) [RES] [HC412 .S583 2001](#)

Maidment, Richard, David Goldblatt and Jeremy Mitchell (eds). 1998. *Governance in the Asia-Pacific* (London: Routledge) [RES] [JQ750.A58 G673 1998](#)

Thompson, Grahame. 1998. *Economic Dynamism in the Asia-Pacific* (London: Routledge) [RES] [HC412 .E2165 1998](#)

Maidment, Richard and Colin Mackerras (eds). 1998. *Culture and Society in the Asia-Pacific* (London: Routledge) [RES] [DS12 .C87 1998](#)

McGrew, Anthony and Christopher Brook (eds). 1998. *Asia-Pacific in the New World Order* (London: Routledge) [RES] [DS35.2 .M25 1998](#)

Tan, Gerald. 2003. *Asian Development: An Introduction to Economic, Social and Political Change in Asia* (Singapore: Eastern Universities Press: 2nd.ed) [RES] [HC412 .H3183 2000](#)

Yahuda, Michael. 2011. *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific* (London and New York: RoutledgeCurzon: 3rd.ed) [RES] [DS518.1 .Y35 2004](#)

Severino, Rudolfo C. 2006. *Southeast Asia In search of an ASEAN Community* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies) [RES] [JZ5333.5.A9 S49 2006](#)

McDougall, Derek. 2007. *Asia Pacific in World Politics* (Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner) [RES] [JZ1980 .M33 2007](#)

- The instructor may assign compulsory readings in class from time to time.

Recommended Readings:

Morley, James (ed). 1998. *Driven by Growth: Political Change in the Asia-Pacific Region* (Columbia: M.E. Sharpe, rev ed) [JQ750.A91 D75 1998](#)

Andersson, Martin and Christer Gunnarsson (eds). 2003. *Development and Structural Change in Asia-Pacific: Globalisation Miracles or the End of a Model?* (London: Routledge) [HC460.5 .D46 2003](#)

Huang, Xiaoming. 2009. *Politics in Pacific Asia: An Introduction*. (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan) [JQ1499.A58 H83 2009](#)

Indicative Content:

1. Introduction to the course

2. Overview of the Region

Borthwick chaps. 4-5

McDougall chap. 1, pp. 6-24

Simone chap. 1, pp. 2-13

Maidment & Mackerras chap.1

Yahuda chaps. 1-3

3. Political Development – Southeast Asia

Borthwick chap. 8, pp. 323-354

Simone chap. 4, pp. 117-118 (Brunei), pp. 132-135 (Vietnam), pp. 147-150 (Thailand), pp. 151-155 (Malaysia), pp. 155-19 (Myanmar/ Burma), pp. 159-160 (Laos), pp. 173-174 (Singapore), pp. 174-178 (Philippines), pp. 179-182 (Cambodia)

McDougall chap. 11, pp. 231-254

Maidment, Goldblatt & Mitchell chap. 6, pp. 137-139, 145-147

4. Political Development – Northeast Asia

Borthwick chap. 8 pp. 354-370 and chap. 10, pp. 415-437

Simone chap. 4, pp.118-119 (Hong Kong), pp. 119-129 (China), pp. 129-132 (North Korea), pp. 136-140 (Taiwan), pp. 161-166 (Japan), pp. 166-172 (South Korea), pp. 182-185 (democratic trends)

McDougall chap. 8, pp. 170-173

Maidment, Goldblatt & Mitchell chap. 3, pp. 63-78 and chap. 6, pp. 129-137

5. Economic Development – Japan and the NIEs

Borthwick chaps 6-7

Thompson chap.3, pp. 56-60, 70-74; chap. 6, pp. 143-159 and chap. 11, pp. 287-289

Maidment, Goldblatt & Mitchell chap. 8, pp. 173-180

Simone chap. 5, pp. 213-221

Huang chap 5, pp. 104-121

Morley chaps on Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore (optional)

6. Economic Development –ENIEs and the socialist economies

Borthwick chap.10, pp. 437-441 and chap.11

Maidment, Goldblatt & Mitchell chap. 8, pp. 180-188

Thompson chap.3, pp. 74-76 and chap. 11, pp. 289-290, 295-297

Simone chap. 5, pp. 221-241

De Vienne, Marie-Sybille. (Institut National Des Langues Et Civilisations Orientales) “For A Tentative Modelization of the Economic Weight of Overseas Chinese at the Beginning Of the 3rd Millennium.” <http://www.nias.ku.dk/issco5/documents/VienneMarie-Sybilledede.doc>

Morley chaps on Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Myanmar, China, North Korea and Vietnam (optional)

7. Societal Change and Social Issues (I)

Thompson chap. 5

Tan chaps. 6 and 8

Maidment & Mackerras chaps. 3, pp. 49-63

8. Societal Change and Social Issues (II)

Maidment & Mackerras chap. 7

Tan chap. 7

Alexa Olesen, "Twitter, Internet play a key role in China's latest bout of ethnic unrest."

<http://blog.taragana.com/n/twitter-internet-play-a-key-role-in-chinas-latest-bout-of-ethnic-unrest-102081/>

Stephanie Ho, "Chinese Authorities Blame Internet for Fanning Uighur Anger."

<http://www.voanews.com/english/archive/2009-07/2009-07-08-voa13.cfm?CFID=274489829&CFTOKEN=55318602&jsessionid=8430e3595f2a4248a924364a330754252257>

9. International Relations During and After Cold War

Borthwick chap. 9 and chap.10, pp. 459-472

Simone chap. 7, pp. 304-307, 315-338, esp. 338-367 and chap. 9, pp. 452-460

McGrew & Brook chaps. 2 and 5

Tan chap. 12

Yahuda chap. 8

McDougall chaps. 8 and 9

10. Challenges and Opportunities in the Pacific Century

Borthwick chap. 13

Simone chap. 9, pp. 423-452

McGrew & Brook chap. 15

Important Notes:

(1) Students are expected to spend a total of 6 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 3 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.

(2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is "the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student's own work". Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.

(3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.

(4) To enhance students' understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course "Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness" is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.

(5) No photography, recording or use of the hand-phone is allowed in class.

(6) A student who has missed attending half or more of either lectures or tutorials may not be allowed to sit for the final examination.

Assessment Rubrics

Participation (10%)

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Fair	Below Standard
Class attendance and participation	Class attendance is regular and the student speaks up regularly and enthusiastically	Class attendance is regular and the student speaks up now and then	Class attendance is quite regular but the student participates only when asked by the instructor	Class attendance is erratic and participation is nil or almost nil
7%	7 marks	5 marks	2 marks	0-1 marks
Articulateness	Expression of ideas or opinions were consistently factually accurate, logical and clear	Expression of ideas or opinions were generally factually accurate, logical and clear. Lapses were rare and minor in nature.	Expression of ideas or opinions were generally factually accurate, logical and clear, but with a number of minor lapses	Ideas or opinions were not expressed logically, and were characterized by significant factual inaccuracies and lack of clarity
3%	3 marks	2 marks	1 marks	0-0.5 marks

Presentation (10%)

Category	Excellent	Fair	Below Standard
Conceptual understanding of subject matter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover a good range of relevant concepts/theories Important ideas pertinent to the topic are skilfully applied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts/theories and important ideas pertinent to the topic are accurately used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts/theories and important ideas pertinent to the topic are not accurately used
2.5%	2.5 marks	1.5 marks	0-0.5 mark

Analysis of Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly interpret and evaluate the information • Comprehensively analyzed and synthesize the issues from multiple perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information with some interpretation/evaluation • Basic analysis or synthesis from two perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List information without interpretation/evaluation • Superficially analyzed or synthesize the issue • Single perspective is discussed
2.5%	2.5 marks	1.5 marks	0-0.5 mark
Integration of sources and evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence or information (explanations, examples, illustrations, statistics, analogies, quotations from relevant authorities) is highly relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence or information (explanations, examples, illustrations, statistics, analogies, quotations from relevant authorities) is generally relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much of Information included is not relevant and inadequate to support the topic. Some information is inaccurate or unverifiable
2%	2 marks	1 marks	0-0.5 mark
Uses good body language, eye contact, appropriate voice tone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes good eye contact with audience • Shows enthusiasm and confidence • Uses voice tone effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes fairly good eye contact with audience • Shows some enthusiasm and confidence • Uses voice tone relatively effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make little or no eye contact with audience • Shows little or no enthusiasm and confidence • Uses voice tone ineffectively or too monotone
2%	2 marks	1.5 marks	0-1 mark
Appropriate time allocation and pace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocated time appropriately and managed time effectively • Appropriate pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginally long or marginally short but uses time reasonably effectively • Reasonable pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly too short or too long and did not use time effectively • Pace is significantly too fast or too slow
1%	1 mark	0.5 marks	0 mark

Term Paper (30%)

Assessment Rubrics					
CATEGORY	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Marks
Research Question	7.5 marks	5 marks	3 marks	1 mark	___/7.5
	Wrote clear, creative and interesting questions which fit the topic.	Wrote clear questions which fit the topic.	Wrote some questions which did not fit the topic.	Wrote many questions which did not fit the topics.	
Argument	7.5 marks	5 marks	3 marks	1 mark	___/7.5
	arguments both well supported and genuinely compared to conflicting explanations	main arguments valid, systematic, and well supported	some arguments valid and well supported, some not	weak, invalid, or no argument, perhaps a simple assertion	
Use of Data or Evidence	7.5 marks	5 marks	3 marks	1 mark	___/7.5
	fully exploits the richness of the data/evidence/ideas, and is sufficiently persuasive	feasible evidence appropriately selected and not over-interpreted	some appropriate use of evidence but uneven	draws on little or no evidence, mostly relies on assertions or opinions, or evidence not clearly presented	
Organization and Writing	7.5 marks	5 marks	3 marks	1 mark	___/7.5
	structure enhances the argument, strong sections and seamless flow. Virtually no English error.	structure supports the argument, clearly ordered sections fit together well. Some minor English errors.	structure is of inconsistent quality, may have redundancies or disconnections. Frequent English errors.	needs significant reorganization. English errors significantly impair readability.	
TOTAL MARKS					___/30

Examination - Essay (20%)

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Meets Minimum Standard	Below Standard
Comprehension of all the relevant concepts.	Demonstrates a deep insightful level of understanding	Demonstrates a good surface level of understanding	Demonstrates an adequate level of surface understanding	Demonstrates an inadequate level of understanding
5%	4 - 5 marks	3 - 4 marks	2 - 3 marks	0-2 marks
Application of concepts to the topic.	Appropriate concepts are all applied correctly, to provide in-depth analysis elaboration to all aspects of the topic	Appropriate concepts are correctly applied, to provide analysis to all important aspects of the topic	Appropriate concepts are, for the most part, correctly applied, to provide analysis to all important aspects of the topic	Concepts are not applied, or are generally applied inappropriately or incorrectly; important aspects of the topic unaddressed
5%	4 - 5 marks	3 - 4 marks	2 - 3 marks	0-2 marks
Presentation	Expression of ideas were consistently accurate, logical and clear	Expression of ideas were generally accurate, logical and clear. Lapses were rare and minor in nature.	Expression of ideas were generally accurate, logical and clear, but with a number of minor lapses	Ideas were not expressed logically, and were characterized by significant inaccuracies and lack of clarity
5%	4 - 5 marks	3 - 4 marks	2 - 3 marks	0-2 marks
Quality of English in the Report	English is consistently excellent	English is proficient, with no major errors	English is of a fair standard but some errors are present	English is below standard, with many major errors
5%	4 - 5 marks	3 - 4 marks	2 - 3 marks	0-2 marks

Examination – Multiple Choice (30%)