

## **POLS 2560: Politics of Asia**

Spring 2019, MW 2:10-3:25pm

Professor Nori Katagiri

Office: McGannon 152

Office hours: Mondays 3:30-4:30pm

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### **Course Description and Objectives:**

This course is designed to explore some of the most important works in the literature on the politics of Asia. The regions we will cover include Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, and parts of South Asia. We will discuss a wide range of topics that determine major courses of actions for many governments and societies in Asia, including trade, cyber security, and territorial disputes. We will also investigate US relations with countries in Asia.

In this course, we seek to

- explore the past, present, and future of East Asian politics, economy, and security affairs
- analyze the nature of US relationship with East Asia
- understand the role of power, resources, and ideas in the formation and application of national and regional interests, and
- hone critical thinking on political events taking place in East Asia

### **Required Text:**

- Derek McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (Boulder, Colo: Lynne Rienner, 2016).

The book is available for purchase at the SLU bookstore. Please buy only the designated version. In addition, there are supplementary articles and book chapters assigned for the course that are made available on BlackBoard. It is students' responsibility to download and, if necessary, save the materials off BlackBoard to make them available for student preparation for course assignments, such as exams and papers.

### **Course Requirements and Grading:**

- Map quiz: 10% of final grade

The quiz will ask you to correctly spell a total of 10 Asian countries on a map. The quiz will be given on January 27, Monday. There will be no make-up quiz if you miss it.

- Midterm exam: 20% of final grade

The midterm exam is based on the reading assignments and lecture content. It will be given on March 4, Wednesday. A make-up exam will be given only if you provide the instructor, within 24 hours of your absence, with evidence of family and medical emergency (notes from doctor, copy of flight tickets, etc.) or university-sponsored activities that force your absence. Make-up exams will not be given for any other reasons.

- Group presentation: 10% of final grade

You will be assigned to a country (one of Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, India, and Pakistan) to form a group with other students. Each group is responsible for making a 20-minute presentation on the day of country discussion. For instance, if you are assigned Indonesia, then your presentation day is

April 8, as you can see below. For successful completion of this assignment, you must discuss, among other things, (1) the country's top-three national interests and reasons for your choice and (2) China's influence in the country. Make sure that the three interests are analytically separate from each other. The presentation will be graded on the basis of quality, organization, and clarity. If you fail to show up for your group presentation, you will not receive any credit for this assignment.

- Final exam: 40% of final grade

The final exam will be comprehensive. It will be given in the classroom on May 4. A make-up exam will be given only if you provide the instructor, within 24 hours of your absence, with evidence of family and medical emergency (notes from doctor, copy of flight tickets, etc.) or university-sponsored activities that force your absence. Make-up exams will not be given for any other reasons.

- Class participation: 20% of final grade

Your attendance and active participation is vital to the success of this course. At a minimum, you should come to class on time having completed and prepared to discuss assigned readings for that class. A record of attendance is maintained, and it is your individual responsibility to sign the class roster at each session. Your absence is excused only if you provide the instructor with evidence of family and medical emergency (doctor's note, copy of flight tickets, etc.) or university-sponsored activities within 48 hours of absence. You are responsible for all materials covered in class, whether you are physically present or not. I expect that all students will contribute to class discussion through analysis, questions, and criticisms of assigned readings. In assigning participation grades, quality of participation will take precedence over quantity of participation (hence, students who participate frequently but without giving much thought to their comments/questions are not at an advantage compared to students who offer occasional but insightful analysis and questions).

Final letter grades will be assigned that correspond to the following numeric scale:

A	93-100	B+	87-90	C+	77-80	D	60-70
A-	90-93	B	83-87	C	73-77	F	below 60
		B-	80-83	C-	70-73		

## **Title IX**

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; [anna.kratky@slu.edu](mailto:anna.kratky@slu.edu); 314-977-3886) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the Office of the General Counsel.

## **Disability Services**

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at [Disability\\_services@slu.edu](mailto:Disability_services@slu.edu) or 314-977-3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern. The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: [https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy\\_academic-integrity\\_6-26-2015.pdf](https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf).

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

## **Student Success Center**

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit the Student Success Center to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

## **University Writing Services**

Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the Student Success Center or call 314-977-3484.

## Basic Needs Security

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office ([deanofstudents@slu.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@slu.edu) or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

## Course Schedule

**January 13 (M)**

### Course overview

- Start reading for next class.

**January 15 (W)**

### Background

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 1-25.
- Edwin Reischauer, "The Sinic World in Perspective," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 52, No. 2 (January, 1974), pp. 341-348.

**January 20 (M)**

### No class (Martin Luther King Day)

**January 22 (W)**

### How things (may) work in Asia

- Clifford Geertz, *The Interpretation of Cultures* (New York: Basic Books, 1973), pp. 412-425, 432-442.
- James Scott, *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985), pp. xv-xix, 1-27.

**January 27 (M)**

### The United States and Asia

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 31-49.

**January 29 (W)**

### China's domestic politics

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 51-73.
- Richard Bush, *Hong Kong in the Shadow of China: Living with the Leviathan* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2016), pp. 1-19.

**February 3 (M)**

### Taiwan

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 159-171.
- Shang-su Wu, "Taiwan's Defense under the Tsai Administration," *Asian Survey*, Vol. 58, No. 4 (July/August 2018), pp. 704-725.

**February 5 (W)**

### Sino-US relations

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 103-123.
- Xiangfeng Yang, "The Lose-Lose Trade War," *Current History*, Vol. 118 (September 2019).

- February 10-12**      **No class (professor presenting at an overseas conference)**
- February 17 (M)**      **Japan**
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 75-100.
- February 19 (W)**      **The Korean Peninsula 1**
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 173-191.
  - Mark Turner, Seung-Ho Kwon, Michael O'Donnell, "Making Integrity Institutions Work in South Korea: The Role of People Power in the Impeachment of President Park in 2016," *Asian Survey*, Vol. 58, No. 5 (September/October 2018), pp. 898-919.
- February 24 (M)**      **The Korean Peninsula 2**
- Andrei Lankov, *The Real North Korea: Life and Politics in the Failed Stalinist Utopia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. xi-xv, 187-203.
  - Bruce Cumings, "Perspective: Trump, Kim, and an Uncanny Diplomatic Opening," *Current History*, Vol. 117, No. 800 (September 2018).
- February 26 (W)**      **Political dynamics in Northeast Asia**
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 125-152.
- March 2 (M)**              **Midterm exam review**
- March 4 (W)**              **Midterm exam**
- March 9-14**              **No classes (Spring break)**
- March 16 (M)**            **Political economy of postwar Asia**
- Ming Wan, *The Political Economy of East Asia: Striving for Wealth and Power* (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2008), pp. 131-160.
- March 18 (W)**            **Political economy of contemporary Asia**
- Wan, *The Political Economy of East Asia*, pp. 21-49.
- March 23 (M)**            **Asian politics in cyberspace**
- Elina Noor, "Strategic Governance of Cyber Security: Implications for East Asia," in Rizal Sukma and Yoshihide Soeya, eds., *Navigating Change: ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership in East Asia and in Global Governance* (Tokyo: Japan Center for International Exchange, 2015), pp. 150-160.
  - Adam Segal, "When China Rules the Web: Technology in Service of the State," *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2018).

- March 25 (W)**      **No class (professor presenting at a conference)**
- March 30 (M)**      **Southeast Asia**
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 197-227.
- April 1 (W)**      **Regional institutions in East Asia**
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 327-348.
  - Charmaine Misalucha-Willoughby, “Contesting the Hub-and-Spokes Model in Southeast Asia,” *Asian Politics and Policy* .
- April 6 (M)**      **Political issues in Southeast Asia**
- Thomas Pepinsky, Southeast Asia: Voting Against Disorder,” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (April 2017), pp. 120-131.
  - Hong Liu, “Opportunities and Anxieties for the Chinese Diaspora in Southeast Asia,” *Current History*, Vol. 115, No. 784 (November 2016), pp. 312-318.
- April 8 (W)**      **Indonesia**
- Group presentation
- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 231-263.
- April 9-13**      **No class (Easter break)**
- April 15 (W)**      **Myanmar**
- Group presentation
- Steven Leibo, *East & Southeast Asia, 2017-2018* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017), pp. 218-229.
  - Zoltan Barany, “Where Myanmar Went Wrong: From Democratic Awakening to Ethnic Cleansing,” *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2018).
- April 20 (M)**      **Malaysia and Singapore**
- Two group presentations (one for Malaysia, the other for Singapore)
- Leibo, *East & Southeast Asia, 2017-2018*, pp. 206-217, 251-257.
  - Re-read Wan, *The Political Economy of East Asia*, pp. 33-37.

**April 22 (W)**

**The Philippines**

Group presentation

- Leibo, *East & Southeast Asia, 2017-2018*, pp. 235-250.
- Nicole Curato, “The Power and Limits of Populism in the Philippines,” *Current History*, Vol. 117, No. 800 (September 2018).

**April 27 (M)**

**India and Pakistan**

Two group presentations (one for India, the other for Pakistan)

- McDougall, *Asia Pacific in World Politics*, pp. 271-287.
- Nasreen Akhtar and Inamullah Jan, “The Rise of India and Pakistan’s Perspective,” *Asian Survey*, Vol. 59 No. 6 (November/December 2019), pp. 1094-1115.

**April 29 (W)**

**Course summary and final exam review**

**May 4 (M)**

**Final exam**