



MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

School of Arts and Sciences

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number POL 386 A	Course Title Politics of East Asia		
Fall Semester 2012	Spring Semester	Summer Semester	Year 2012-2013
Name of Instructor Chad Rector			
Meeting Day, Time, and Room Number Thursdays, 6:30-9:15, Gailhac Hall 2002			
Final Exam Day, Time, and Room Number Thursday, December 13, 6:30-9:15, Gailhac Hall 2002			
Office Hours, Location, Phone Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:45-11:45, Ireton Hall G112			
E-mail crector@marymount.edu worldpolitics.marymount.edu/386			

UNIVERSITY STATEMENTS

Academic Integrity

By accepting this syllabus, you pledge to uphold the principles of Academic Integrity expressed by the Marymount University Community. You agree to observe these principles yourself and to defend them against abuse by others.

Special Needs and Accommodations

Please advise the instructor of any special problems or needs at the beginning of the semester. If you seek accommodation based on disabilities, you should provide a Faculty Contact Sheet obtained through the Office of Student Access Services, located in Rowley Hall.

Access to Student Work

Copies of your work in this course including copies of any submitted papers and your portfolios may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. All work used for these purposes will be submitted anonymously.

Student Copyright Authorization

For the benefit of current and future students, work in this course may be used for educational critique, demonstrations, samples, presentations, and verification. Outside of these uses, work shall not be sold, copied, broadcast, or distributed for profit without student consent.

University Policy on Snow Closings

Snow closings are generally announced on area radio stations. For bulletins concerning Marymount snow or weather closings, call (703) 526-6888. Unless otherwise advised by radio announcement or by official bulletins on the number listed above, students are expected to report for class as near normal time as possible on days when weather conditions are adverse. Decisions as to snow closing or delayed opening are not generally made before 5:00 AM of the working day. Students are expected to attend class if the University is not officially closed.

1. BROAD PURPOSE OF COURSE

Examines the systems of government of the countries of East Asia – China (PRC), Mongolia, North and South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan (ROC) – and their relations with each other and with major countries outside the region.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking the courses, students will be able to:

- Identify the major characteristics of contemporary Communist, civilian, and transitional governments, popular movements and political parties, export- and state-led strategies for economic development and modernization, and programs for regional integration in Asia,
- Critically evaluate competing interpretations of the causes of rapid economic modernization and the relationship between economic modernity and political change,
- Apply broader theories of regional security to the particular challenges to stability on the Korean peninsula,
- Engage with contemporary debates about the causes and consequences of the rise of China, and
- Write and present well-reasoned, argumentative essays that defend a specific thesis about particular issues in Chinese and regional politics.

3. TEACHING METHOD

Classes are a combination of lecture and discussion. Students are expected to read and discuss among themselves the assigned readings for the course and attend class prepared to participate actively in discussions.

I am available to meet with students Tuesdays and Fridays, with no appointment necessary, in my office in Ireton Hall G112, between 9:45 and 11:45. To meet with me at other times, please contact me by email for an appointment.

4. GRADING POLICY

Final course grades will be determined on a fixed scale, not on a curve. Each assignment is worth a fixed number of points, listed below; these add up to 100. Each assignment will be returned with a numerical score and a letter grade equivalent. Course grades will be based on the total number of points out the 100 possible, with 90-100 an A, 80-89 a B, 70-79 a C, 60-69 a D, and 59 and below an F.

- Two short writing assignments, due September 27 and November 8.
10 points each, total 20 points.
The specific assignments will be distributed in class and posted online two weeks before each due date. Papers will be about 3 to 5 pages long, double-spaced, with standard font and margins. Students turning in papers containing plagiarism will fail the course.

- Group research paper and presentation. Deadlines listed below.
40 points.
Students will work in groups of 3 or 4. Each group is be responsible for producing a research paper of at least 30 or 40 pages (depending on group size) and a class presentation of about 30 minutes. The group paper will have a single thesis statement, defended with appropriate logic and evidence. Some parts of the paper will be written collaboratively, and some parts by students individually. A list of suggested topics is posted on the course web site. The project will be completed in several stages, with the following deadlines:
 - Groups and topics by October 4.
 - Presentations completed in class on either November 15, November 29, or December 6, on a schedule to be determined in late October.
 - Group thesis and bibliography by the end of Friday, November 2.
 - Paper due December 9.
 The 40 total points for the assignment will be allocated as follows:
 - 20 points for the overall quality of the evidence and analysis in the project. All group members will receive the same score.
 - 10 points for the quality and organization of the in-class presentation. All group members will receive the same score.
 - 10 points for the quality of individual contributions to the paper. Individual students may receive different scores from other group members.

- Final exam on Thursday, December 13, from 6:30 to 9:15.
20 points.
The final exam covers the whole course, including material from group presentations. The final exam will be written in class without books, notes, computers, phones, audio devices, or other aids. The exam has two parts:
 - Short answer ID questions; choose 5 out of 7.
 - 2 essay questions.

- Participation.
15 points.
Students should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings and class material and be ready to debate historical examples or current events. Quality of participation, rather than quantity, counts. Participation grades will be assigned at three intervals throughout the semester.
 - 5 points for September.
 - 5 points for October.
 - 5 points for November and December.

- Event in DC related to Asian politics.
5 points.
Students will attend an event in the DC area and write a blog post summarizing their experience. The course web page (worldpolitics.marymount.edu/386) has specific instructions. Posts must be well-written to receive credit; I will send back poorly-written posts for revisions before they are accepted. Students will receive 5 extra credit points for one event and post. In addition, students may receive an additional 5 points of extra credit for a second event and post. Students enrolled in POL 220 the same semester as 386 must choose which course to apply the points toward, since an event may only count for one of the courses. All events must be completed by Tuesday December 4 and blog posts submitted for final approval by Friday December 7.

Papers will be marked down one point for each day (or fraction of a day) late. Students who miss the final exam will have one chance to take a makeup and will be marked down unless they have a valid medical or university business excuse. Students will not be penalized for missing a class assignment for a recognized religious holiday.

Any student who misses 5 or more class sessions for any reason will automatically fail the course.

The deadline to drop a course without academic record is Friday, September 28, for the Fall 2012 semester. Friday, October 26, 2012, is the last day to withdraw from a class with a grade of W.

Students found violating the Marymount principles of Academic Integrity will fail the course and be formally charged through the University's Academic Integrity process.

5. CLASS SCHEDULE

Reading assignments should be completed before the class session under which they are listed. All reading assignments are either from assigned books, listed below in section 6, or listed as TBA and will be selections of current news articles linked from the course web page. All class meetings are on Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:15 in Gailhac Hall room 2002.

Aug 30 - Regional History
No reading assigned

Sept 6
Parliamentary democracy in Japan
Reading: Hayes, Chapters 1, 13, 14, 15, 17

Sept 13
Democratic institutions in South Korea and Taiwan
Reading: Hayes, Chapters 7-10

Sept 20
Export-led development and the Asian Tigers
Reading: Hayes, Chapters 12, 16

Sept 27 - Paper #1 due
Asia and the world economy
No reading assigned

Oct 4
Project topics and research methods - meet in the library classroom
No reading assigned

Oct 11
China's selectorate and party system
Reading: Shirk, Preface and Chapters 1-4

Oct 18
China faces the world
Reading: Shirk, Chapters 5-9

Oct 25
No class
Groups meet with professor during this week

Nov 1
Central planning and corruption in China
Reading: Fallows, entire book

Nov 8 - Paper #2 due
US/China relations
Reading: Bader, entire book

Nov 15 - Presentations
Mongolia and Southeast and Central Asia: Economic development in China's orbit
Reading: Articles posted online, TBA

Nov 29 - Presentations
North Korea's development and internal structure
Reading: Hayes, Chapter 11

Dec 6 - Presentations
North Korea's external relations and the question of reunification
Reading: Articles posted online, TBA

Group paper due December 9, 11:59 p.m., by email

Final Exam: Thursday, December 13, 6:30 to 9:15 in the classroom

6. REQUIRED TEXTS

The required books are available for purchase at the bookstore or any online retailer.

- Bader, Jeffrey A. 2012. *Obama and China's Rise: An Insider's Account of America's Asia Strategy*. Brookings Institution Press. ISBN: 978-0-8157-2242-7.
- Fallows, James. 2012. *China Airborne*. Pantheon. ISBN: 978-0-3754-2211-9.
- Hayes, Louis D. 2012. *Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan*. M.E. Sharpe. ISBN: 978-0-7656-1786-6
- Shirk, Susan L. 2008. *China: Fragile Superpower*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-1953-7319-6

7. REQUIRED OR SUGGESTED READINGS OR AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

Other required readings are posted on the course web site, worldpolitics.marymount.edu/386 .