

INTL 8390 East Asian Political Systems Fall 2009

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About the Course

Mission

The primary objective of the seminar is to help the students enhance analytic ability for the study of political dynamics and policy behaviors of the most intriguing systems of East Asia (two Chinas, two Koreas, and Japan). The seminar examines and *compares* the major aspects and functions of political systems, processes, and changes (general patterns of similarities and differences) in each of these countries by utilizing the theory (paradigm) of political development advanced by Han S. Park. Major contemporary issues and policies of the East Asian systems are also surveyed, with particular emphasis on how (in what ways) each government enhances its regime's claim to political legitimacy. Under the premise that foreign policies are an extension of domestic politics, the seminar also explores external behaviors and interactions between the East Asian countries through the paradigm. The East Asian systems in the context of globalization attain prominent attention in the seminar as well.

Guiding Premises: A set of theoretical premises underlie the intellectual discourse of this seminar, and some of them are identified below.

- (1) All political systems undergo the process of "development" (a form of change overtime) through progressive stages, and that process is observed universally through out the world;
- (2) A system's goal may be attained through diverse strategies and tactics; Analytical separation of goals, strategies, and tactics is essential to a systematic analysis and meaningful comparison;
- (3) East Asia encompasses a group of countries that are exceedingly similar and, at the same time, exceedingly different; this region is an ideal laboratory for social scientists, for the essence of scholarship lies in explaining similarities and differences of such systems;
- (4) East Asia has been a most explosive region in the world in terms of economic and political developments, and this trend is likely to continue in the foreseeable future;
- (5) As dynamic as it is, the region is riddled by a myriad of complicated problems and puzzling questions; many of these have global implications of historic proportions;
- (6) The region has the kind of characteristics and attributes that will help the world in a new global culture and a new world order.

Relevant Questions and Issues:

This seminar is designed to help the student articulate ideas to deal with such crucial and relevant questions as illustrated below:.

- (a) What factors contribute to the fall and rise of a change? How might one compare and contrast the experiences in this regard in the East Asian systems?
- (b) What is a political ideology and what functions does it perform? In these regards, how are the East Asian systems compared and contrasted with one another?
- (c) Most of the East Asian systems have demonstrated their remarkable strides for economic growth. What strategies and tactics have they employed? North Korea and China during the Cultural Revolution are the cases of economic stagnation; to what can one attribute this?
- (d) How have the systems in East Asia approached to the challenge of handling oppositions, dissidents, and unrests in their systems? Are the approaches of conflict management different from those of political integration? How do the East Asian systems compare and contrast in this regard?
- (e) Since the end of the Cold War era, we have seen a world that is devoid of an order and often guided by brutal forces and surprise attacks that signify lawlessness. What sort of norms and values are desirable in the yet-to-to formed global culture, and what can the East Asian culture(s) contribute to this end?

In addition to the over-riding questions and issues imbedded in the above questions, we will raise system specific question as the seminar progresses.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

- (a) A final examination (40%): The format will be similar to the Prelims.
- (b) A research paper (40%): It should deal with one puzzling question preferably involving more than one system. The paper is expected to be analytical and explanatory, with appropriate documentations. .
- (c) Participation in class discussion (20%): reviews (presentations) of book chapters/articles will be reflected in your participation grade. Up to three reviews will be assigned representing various categories throughout the semester.
- (d) The nature of these assignments will be clarified in class.

Readings and References

Among many references, the following few are recommended for purchase:

Park, Han S. 1984. *Human Needs and Political Development: A Dissent to Utopian Solution*. Cambridge, Mass: Schenkman Publishing Co.

Park, Han S. 2002. *North Korea : the politics of unconventional wisdom*. Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2003. *Governing China : from revolution through reform*. 2nd ed. New York: W.W. Norton.

Oberdorfer, Don. 2001. *The two Koreas : a contemporary history*. New ed. New York: Basic Books.

Hayes, Louis D. 2004. *Introduction to Japanese politics*. 4th ed. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe.

Gu, Weiqun. 1995. *Conflicts of divided nations : the cases of China and Korea*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger.

Johnson, Chalmers A. 1982. *MITI and the Japanese miracle : the growth of industrial policy, 1925-1975*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.

Watson, James L. 2006. *Golden arches east : McDonald's in East Asia*. 2nd ed. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.

Other required readings will be announced ahead of class schedule..

Class schedule and Readings

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT: A PARADIGM

WEEK 1 (August 20) Welcome! Introduction Day

Park, Han S. 1984. *Human Needs and Political Development: A Dissent to Utopian Solution*. Cambridge, Mass: Schenkman Publishing Co. Chapter 3.

REGIME FORMATION

WEEK 2 (August 27)

Park, Han S. 1984. Chapter 4.

Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2003. *Governing China : from revolution through reform*. 2nd ed. New York: W.W. Norton. Chapter 2.

Roy, Denny. 2003. *Taiwan : a political history*. Ithaca : Cornell University Press. Chapter 3.

Hane, Mikiso. 1996. *Eastern phoenix: Japan since 1945*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press. Chapter 1.

Olsen, Edward A. 2005. *Korea, the divided nation*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger Security International. Chapter 4.

POLITICAL INTEGRATION

WEEK 3 (September 3) & WEEK 4 (September 10)

Park, Han S. 1984. Chapter 5.

Lieberthal, Kenneth. 2003. Chapter 3 & 4.

Roy, Denny. 2003. Chapter 4.

Kawai, Kazuo. "Sovereignty and Democracy in the Japanese Constitution," *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 49, No. 3 (Sep., 1955), pp. 663-672

Oh, John Kie-chiang. 1999. *Korean politics: the quest for democratization and economic development*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. Chapter 2.

Park, Han S. 2002. *North Korea : the politics of unconventional wisdom*. Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers. Chapter 1 through 8.

RESOURCE EXPANSION

WEEK 5 (September 17) & WEEK 6 (September 24)

Park, Han S. 1984. Chapter 6.

Johnson, Chalmers A. 1982. *MITI and the Japanese miracle : the growth of industrial policy, 1925-1975*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press. Chapter 1.

Haggard, Stephan. 1990. *Pathways from the periphery : the politics of growth in the newly industrializing countries*. Ithaca, N.Y. : Cornell University Press.

Ho, Alfred K. 2004. *China's Reforms and Reformers*. Westport, Conn. : Praeger. Chapter 4-6.

Chen, An. 2008. "Why does capitalism fail to push China toward democracy?" in Christopher A. McNally eds. *China's emergent political economy : capitalism in the dragon's lair*. London ; New York : Routledge. pp. 146-165.

Gallagher, Mary E. "REFORM AND OPENNESS, Why China's Economic Reforms Have Delayed Democracy," *World Politics* 54 (April 2002), pp. 338-72.

Mesquita, Bruce Bueno de and George W. Downs. "Development and Democracy," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2005, pp. 77-86.

Chen, Cheng. "Institutional Legitimacy of an Authoritarian State: China in the Mirror of Eastern Europe," *Problems of Post-Communism*, vol. 52, no. 4, July/August 2005, pp. 3-13.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

WEEK 7 (October 1) & WEEK 8 (October 8)

Park, Han S. 1984. Chapter 7.

POLITICS OF DIVIDED NATIONS

WEEK 9 (October 15) & WEEK 10 (October 22)

Park, Han S. 2002. Chapter 10.

Gu, Weiqun. 1995. *Conflicts of divided nations : the cases of China and Korea*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger.

IN SEARCH OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY REGIMES

WEEK 11 (October 29) & WEEK 12 (November 5)

Park, Han S. 2002. Chapter 9.

EAST ASIA IN A NEW WORLD ORDER

WEEK 13 (November 12) Human Rights & Asian Values

WEEK 14 (November 19) East Asia in the Post-Cold War Era

WEEK 15 (November 26) Thanksgiving Break! No Class!

WEEK 16 (December 3) Wrap-up Session