

GOV 365L (39259) and ANS 361 (31817)
War and Peace in East Asia: China, Japan, and Taiwan

University of Texas, Fall 2013

TTH 8-930a, MEZ B0.306

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Course Description and Objectives

This course uses East Asian international history since the late 19th Century to explore some of the most enduring questions about international politics. What are the causes of war? How, once begun, do wars end? Why do some wars end in negotiated settlements while others continue until one side's total defeat? How can states effectively communicate their intentions in spite of pervasive incentives to dissemble and prevaricate? When can alliances deter one's enemies, and when might they draw states into undesirable conflicts? Finally, how do the most powerful states in the system manage the ever shifting landscape of power between them?

By the end of the course, students will have developed an appreciation of the unique, and uniquely important, role of the East Asian region's rivalries, alignments, and diplomacy within the broader world of international politics. More practically, students will be able to

- use the framework of preferences, incentives, and strategy to understand war and peace
- think critically about policy alternatives, assessing them with clear thinking and evidence
- hold your own arguments and positions to the same standards of rigorous, logical thinking to which we hold the materials in the course.

We begin the course in Part I by introducing two critical components of the modern theory of war—uncertainty and commitment problems—that shed light on both why wars start and how they end. Part II begins with the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895, which began a marked shift in power away from China and towards Japan, and ends with the collapse of the Japanese Empire at the end of the Second World War. Next, Part III explores the politics of the Cold War, which saw the consolidation of Communist China and the retreat of the Nationalist government to Taiwan at the end of the Chinese civil war and the United States' entry into the region as the status quo superpower during the Korean War. Finally, Part IV takes up questions of China's emergence as an economic power, continuing frontier rivalries with Taiwan, Russia, and smaller neighbors, and the possibility of its emergence as a global power in the coming decades.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course, though students are likely to perform better with some basic courses in political science as a background.

Grading

The following components make up the course grade:

- 20% **first exam (3 October)**. Ten short answer/essay questions.
- 25% **second exam (5 November)**. Ten short answer/essay questions.
- 35% **third exam (5 December)**. Ten short answer/essay questions.
- 20% **short assignments and quizzes**. Given randomly, quizzes for readings and short assignments for reaction or analysis.

I assign letter grades on a distribution rather than against an absolute numerical scale. Therefore, numerical grades may not reflect your ultimate letter grade.

Quizzes are brief and are designed to evaluate whether students are keeping up with the readings, while assignments are typically short (1-2 pages) reaction or analyses pieces. To help contextualize the class, I also recommend that you keep up with current events by paying particular attention to the World or International News sections of major news sources like the [New York Times](#), the [BBC](#), the [Economist](#), or [The Diplomat](#). Current events *as they relate to the substantive material of the course* will be a frequent topic of discussion when useful.

Course Policies

While I have no attendance policy *per se*, missing information in the lectures will be a serious problem for your ability to perform well in the course, because (1) some of the readings are demanding on their own and may need to be clarified in class and (2) lectures will *very often* contain information not found in the readings. Additionally, I will post neither lecture notes nor slides online: getting that information through attendance and participation is your responsibility. Obviously, missing class will also prevent you from earning a decent participation grade, because quizzes are part of that grade. Finally, I usually give quizzes by asking questions at the beginning of class, and I won't re-ask a question (or re-give the quiz) if you're late.

Missed exams will be excused and made-up after the fact in cases of illness and personal emergency *only with proper documentation*. Exams missed due to a university sponsored event or religious holiday may also be excused, provided that the student informs me of the absence *at least two weeks in advance*. Vacation (e.g. leaving early for fall or semester break) and social engagements will *not* be excused. Check the exam schedule before making travel plans as well, as I will *not* give makeup exams in advance. There will be no exceptions.

Should you wish to challenge a grade you received on a specific question on an exam, you must (a) write a memo detailing why you deserve more points (i.e. why you came closer to getting the right answer than points reflect) and (b) turn that memo in to me within two weeks of the class receiving the grades. Otherwise, I won't consider challenges to your grade.

Finally, the readings and schedule of the syllabus are subject to change, but any such changes will be noted with an announcement either in class and/or via email, as well as an updated copy of the syllabus posted online at the course website and/or Blackboard.

University and Campus Policies

1. Students with disabilities.

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

2. Accommodations for religious holidays.

By university policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

3. Academic dishonesty.

“Scholastic dishonesty...includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without prior permission of the instructor, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or the attempt to commit such an act” (Section 11-802 (b), *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities*).

If you have any questions about what constitutes scholastic dishonesty, you should consult with me and [this website](#). Any student that violates this policy will fail this course and have the details of the violation reported to Student Judicial Services.

4. Emergency evacuation policy.

In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of Texas at Austin PoliceDepartment, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class. Faculty members must then provide this information to the Fire Prevention Services office by fax (512-232-2759), with “Attn. Mr. Roosevelt Easley” written in the subject line.

Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/emergency>.

Readings

Many course readings will be available online through the library's e-journals system or Canvas, unless otherwise noted, in which case the readings are linked in the syllabus. There are also two required texts:

- Stueck, William. 2004. *Rethinking the Korean War* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Paine, S.C.M. 2012. *The Wars for Asia 1911-1949* New York: Cambridge University Press.

Students are expected to have completed readings by the day for which they are assigned.

Course Outline and Schedule

Part I: Introduction

Session 1 (29 August). *Course overview*

Session 2 (3 September). *The region up to 1894*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2003. *The Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 3 (5 September). *Uncertainty and war*

- Pages 390-401 of Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49.3:379-414 [[Canvas](#)]

Session 4 (10 September). *Commitment problems and war*

- Pages 401-409 of Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49.3:379-414 [[Canvas](#)]

Part II: The Rise and Fall of Japan

Session 5 (12 September). *The Sino-Japanese War*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2003. *The Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 4. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 6 (17 September). *The Russo-Japanese War*

- Connaughton, Richard. 2003. *Rising Sun and Tumbling Bear: Russia's War with Japan* London:Cassell. Chapters 1 & 15. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 7 (19 September). *The Chinese Revolution of 1911*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2012. *The Wars for Asia 1911-1949* New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 & 5.

Session 8 (24 September). *The Second Sino-Japanese War*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2012. *The Wars for Asia 1911-1949* New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 6.

Session 9 (26 September). *The Second World War in the Pacific*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2012. *The Wars for Asia 1911-1949* New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7.

Session 10 (1 October). *The Fall of Imperial Japan*

- Goemans, H.E. 2000. "Fighting for Survival: The Fate of Leaders and the Duration of War." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 44.5:555-579. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 11 (3 October). *First exam*

Part III: The Cold War and American Entry

Session 12 (8 October). *The End of the Chinese Civil War*

- Paine, S.C.M. 2012. *The Wars for Asia 1911-1949* New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 8.

Session 13 (10 October). *The Politics of Alliances and Commitment*

- Snyder, Glenn H. 1984. "The Security Dilemma in Alliance Politics." *World Politics* 36.4:461-495. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 14 (15 October). *The Outbreak of the Korean War*

- Stueck, Chapters 2 & 3

Session 15 (17 October). *The Puzzle of Chinese Intervention*

- Stueck, Chapter 4

Session 16 (22 October). *Limited and General Wars*

- Stueck, Chapter 5

Session 17 (24 October). *The End of the Korean War I*

- Stueck, Chapter 6

Session 18 (29 October). *The End of the Korean War II*

- Reiter, Dan. 2009. *How Wars End* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapter 5. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 19 (31 October). *The China-Taiwan-US Triangle*

- Benson, Brett V. 2012. *Constructing International Security* New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 20 (5 November). *Second exam*

Part IV: The (Contested) Re-Emergence of China

Session 21 (7 November). *The Sino-Soviet Split*

- Christensen, Thomas J. 2011. *Worse Than a Monolith* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapter 5. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 22 (12 November). *The Sino-Soviet War of 1969*

- Westad, Odd Arne. 2012. *Restless Empire* New York: Basic Books. Chapter 9. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 23 (14 November). *The Straits Crisis of 1996 I*

- Whiting, Allen S. 2001. "China's Use of Force, 1950-96, and Taiwan." *International Security* 26.2:103-131. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 24 (19 November). *The Straits Crisis of 1996 II*

- Niou, Emerson M.S. 2004. "Understanding Taiwan Independence and Its Policy Implications." *Asian Survey* 44.4:555-567. [[Canvas](#)]
- Kastner, Scott L. 2006. "Ambiguity, Economic Interdependence, and the US Strategic Dilemma in the Taiwan Strait." *Journal of Contemporary China* 15.49:651-669. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 25 (21 November). *Power Transitions and Hegemonic War*

- Tammen, Ronald L., et al. 2000. *Power Transitions* New York: Chatam House. Chapter 1. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 26 (26 November). *International Institutions and the "Peaceful Rise"*

- Tammen, Ronald L., et al. 2000. *Power Transitions* New York: Chatam House. Chapter 7. [[Canvas](#)]

Session 27 (3 December). *The Future: Ambition and Conflict on the Frontiers*

Session 28 (5 December). *Third exam*