Political Economy of East Asia: Introduction and Guidance

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Outline of the Lecture

• Self-introduction

• East Asia as a region: past and present
  • Why study the political economy of East Asia?

• An overview of the course
  • Textbooks and references
  • Teaching and grading methods
  • Q & A
Brief Self-Introduction

• SHU, Min (舒 旻)

• Research Interests:
  • Comparative regionalism
  • International political economy
  • Public opinion analysis

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East Asia as a Region: Past and Present

• Defining East Asia
  • Geography
  • Economic ties
  • Security implications
  • Cultural commonalities
  • Religious beliefs
  • Politico-economic space

• East Asia in history
  • Silk road, tributary system
  • Trading ports, money circulation, migration

• East Asia today
  • Developmental state, production networks
  • Economic growth and development
  • Regionalism, global value chains
Why study the political economy of East Asia?

• Political economy of East Asia
  • Close government-business relations
  • East Asian miracle
  • TPP vs. RCEP vs. FTAAP
  • The dollar hegemony
  • The rise of China
  • Regional production
  • ...

• Unique experiences, but generalizable cases
• Forefront of the current debates
An Overview of the Course

• [week 1] Introduction: East Asia as a Region

• [week 2] The Silk Road: Political Economy of Trade Routes

• [week 3] Tribute, Trade and Regional Hierarchy in Pre-Colonial East Asia

• [week 4] Transnational Circulation of Money: Silver, JMY and USD

• [week 5] Spice, Market, Oil and Colonialism in East Asia

• [week 6] Opening to the World: Japan, Korea and Thailand

• [week 7] Migration and Diasporas in East Asia: Past and Present
An Overview of the Course

• [week 8] The Developmental State: Miracle, Crisis and Restructuring
• [week 9] ‘Flying Geese’ and Regional Production Networks
• [week 10] The Rise of China and Its Implications
• [week 11] Varieties of Capitalism in East Asia
• [week 12] East Asian Regionalism
• [week 13] East Asia and the World Economy

• [week 14] Guidance on Term Essay
• [week 15] Summary and Conclusion
Textbooks


*Additional reading materials will be assigned in the class.*
References


References


Teaching and Grading Methods

• Teaching methods
  • Lecture-based course
  • Active participation by students

• Grading methods
  • Attendance (20%)
  • Group work, class discussions (30%)
  • Term Paper (50%)

• Questions and Answers