

Tentative plan – Final version will be delivered shortly before the first lesson

The Asian Sphere: Trans-Cultural Flows
A Joint International Program for Outstanding Graduate Students
The University of Haifa and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Asian Sphere Core Course II:
The State and the Individual in Modern Asia

Coordinator: Prof. Rotem Kowner

(Winter 2020-21)

Course Description: The Asian Sphere program deals with the entire Asian continent as a continuous civilizational zone and addresses cross-regional contacts and processes among Asian societies, cultures and states as well as cross-cultural comparisons. This second core course will introduce to the students of the program, and to other students interested in such questions, various aspects of the modern state and contemporary culture and their impact on the individual from a broad Asian perspective. It will do so by presenting different research themes that represent the variety of studies that can be done within the Asian Sphere theme. The aim of the course is to encourage the students to think about different issues and research opportunities. The course is made-up of lectures taught by senior faculty members at the University of Haifa. Each of these scholars will present her or his field of research and will discuss fundamental issues relevant to cross-Asian research and perspectives with the students.

Credit: 2 credits

Time: 2020-21: 1st semester, Tuesday, 12:15-13:45

Place: to be announced

Eligibility: Students of the Asian Sphere program; Graduate students of the Departments of Asian Studies at the University of Haifa and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Other graduate students with a special permission of the course coordinator.

Academic Requirements: (1) Full attendance and active participation in all classes (2) Submission of five reading reports (3) Final research project.

Explanation about the Requirements and Assignments:

Participation: In addition to attending classes, you are expected to actively and consistently engage in class discussions, raise questions, and respond to questions raised by others. You are also expected to be prepared to discuss the assigned reading in class.

Reading Reports: In these reports you should summarize the main research questions and arguments in the assigned articles (only those found in the Reading section) and briefly describe the methodology used by their author/s. You are also expected to comment, critique, and raise thoughtful questions. The length of each reading report should be 2-3 pages.

Final Research Project: During the first weeks of the semester, each student should choose a topic related to one of the themes presented in the course and submit a short research proposal by week 7 (1 December, 2020).

The proposal will include: Title of the research; name of the student (including ID number and affiliation), name of the lecturer to whom the proposal is relevant; abstract (150-200 words); preliminary bibliography of some 4-6 items.

Once the proposal approved, the students will use the rest of the semester to conduct an independent research (about 5 pages, 1.5-line space) and submit it by the last lesson of the course.

Grading: Participation in class 10%; five reading reports 30%; final project 60%.

Office Hours and Contact Information of the Course Coordinator:

Prof. Rotem Kowner: Tuesday 14:00-15:00 or by appointment
(kowner@research.haifa.ac.il).

Course Schedule:

I. International Relations in East Asia

(1) 20.10.2020. *East Asia International Relations and Western IR Theories*

Dr. Yoram Evron

Reading: * Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan, "Why is there No Non-Western International Relations Theory? An Introduction," *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, 7:3 (2007): 287–312.

Recommended reading:

David Shambaugh, "International Relations in Asia: A Multidimensional Analysis," in David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda (eds.), *International Relations of Asia* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014), 3-29.

Yan Xuetong, *Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011), 21-69.

John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno (eds.), *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific* (New York: Columbia, 2003), Chs. Introduction, Conclusion.

(2) 27.10.2020. *East Asia during the Cold War: Regional vs. Intl. Influences*

Dr. Yoram Evron

Reading: * Michael Yahuda, *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific* (New York: Routledge, 2011), Chs. 1, 3.

Recommended reading:

Victor D. Cha, "Powerplay Origins of the U.S. Alliance System in Asia." *International Security* 34:3 (2009): 158-196.

II. The Politics of the State in Modern Asia: Nation Building, Nationalism, and Democratization Processes

(3) 3.11.2020. *Democracy or Authoritarianism: A Perspective from South Asia*

Dr. Ornit Shani

Reading: * Jalal Ayesha, *Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia: A Comparative and Historical Perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995 (Chapter 2).

Recommended reading: * Vazira Fasila-Yacubali Zamindar, *The Long Partition and the Making of Modern South Asia: Refugees, Boundaries, Histories*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007 (Introduction).

* Tudor, Maya, *The Promise of Power: The Origins of Democracy in India and Autocracy in Pakistan*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013 (Chapter 2).

(4) 10.11.2020. *Continuity and Change in Political Cultures: The Case of Maoist Nepal*

Dr. Arik Moran

Reading: * Marie Lecomte-Tilouine, "Regicide and Maoist Revolutionary Warfare in Nepal: Modern Incarnations of a Warrior Kingdom," *Anthropology Today* 20 (2004): 13-19.

Recommended reading: * D. Quigley, "On the relationship between caste and Hinduism" in Gavin Flood, ed., *The Blackwell Companion to Hinduism* (pp. 495-508). Oxford: Blackwell, 2003.

* B.G. Shrestha, "The Death of Divine Kingship in Nepal" in Angela Hobart and Bruce Kapferer, eds, *Contesting the State: The Dynamics of Resistance and Control* (pp. 195-223), Wantage: Sean Kingston Publishing, 2012.

(5) 17.11.2020. *Facing the West, facing modernity: Nation-building in Asia***Dr. Shahar Rahav**

Reading: * Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. "Introduction", pp. 3-13

* Li Dazhao, "The Victory of Bolshevism," In Cheng & Lestz (eds.), *The Search for Modern China: A Documentary Collection* (pp. 238-241).

III. Strife, Oppression and Inner Struggle within the State(6) 24.11.2020. *Agency in Colonial Asia: On the Status of Women in Light of Subaltern Studies***Dr. Arik Moran**

Reading: * G. C. Spivak, "The Rani of Sirmur: An Essay in Reading the Archives," *Theory and History* 24:3 (1985): 247-72.

Recommended reading: * R. Eaton, "Reimagining Otherness", *Journal of World History* 11 (2000): 57-78.

* D. Washbrook, D. 1999. "Orient and Occident: Colonial Discourse Theory and the Historiography of the British Empire." In R. Winks, ed., *The Oxford History of the British Empire, vol. 5: Historiography* (596-610). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.

(7) 1.12.2020. *Protest and Resistance: The Korean Case***Dr. Guy Podoler**

Reading: * Jennifer S. Oh, "Strong State and Strong Civil Society in Contemporary South Korea: Challenges to Democratic Governance." *Asian Survey* 52 (2012): 528-549.

Recommended reading: * Sunhyuk Kim, "Civic Engagement and Democracy in South Korea." *Korea Observer* 40 (2009): 1-16

* Chang Hun Oh and Celeste Arrington, "Democratization and Changing Anti-American Sentiments in South Korea." *Asian Survey* 47 (2007): 327-350.

(8) 8.12.2020. *Environmental Degradation in Asia and Its Impact on Ethnic Minorities: The Case of Inner Mongolia, Tibet and Xinjiang*

Dr. Nimrod Baranovitch

Reading: * Nimrod Baranovitch. 2016. "The 2011 Protests in Inner Mongolia: An Ethno-Environmental Perspective." *The China Quarterly* 225: 214-33.

Recommended reading:

Mahesh Rangarajan. 1996. *Fencing the Forest, Conservation and Ecological Change in India's Central Provinces, 1860-1914*. Delhi and Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Mahesh Rangarajan and Ghazala Shahabuddin. 2006. "Displacement and Relocation from Protected Areas: Towards a Biological and Historical Synthesis." *Conservation and Society* 4(3): 359–78.

Amita Baviskar. 2005 (1995). *In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts over Development in the Narmada Valley*. 2nd Edition. Delhi and Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Nimrod Baranovitch. 2016 "Ecological Degradation and Endangered Ethnicities: China's Minority Environmental Discourses as Manifested in Popular Songs." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 75(1): 181–205.

V. Politics, Culture and Media within and Between: Lights and Shadows

(9) 15.12.2020. *Between Politics and Memory: An Overview of Korea-Japan Relations*

Dr. Guy Podoler

Reading: * Kevin J. Cooney and Alex Scarbrough, "Japan and South Korea: Can These Two Nations Work Together?" *Asian Affairs* 35 (2008): 173-192.

Recommended reading: * Zheng Wang, "Old Wounds, New Narratives: Joint History Textbook Writing and Peace Building in East Asia." *History and Memory* 21 (2009): 101-126.

* Nam-lin Hur, "Collective Memory, Historians, and the Construction of the National Identity of Koreans Through the Japanese." *Review of Korean Studies* 1 (1998): 5-25.

(10) 22.12.2020. *Millennial Silk Roads: Studying the Global Dissemination of Media*

Dr. Michal Daliot-Bul

Reading: * Daliot-Bul, Michal and Nissim Otmazgin, *The Anime Boom in the United-States: Lessons for Global Creative Industries* (Cambridge: Harvard University Asia Center, 2017), Ch. 2.

Recommended reading: * John Newbigin, John, *The Creative Economy: An Introductory Guide* (London: British Council Creative Economy Unit, 2010). Available:

https://creativeeconomy.britishcouncil.org/media/uploads/files/English_GuideTookit_30_withCover_LR.pdf

* BOP Consulting, *Mapping the Creative Industries: A Toolkit* (London: British Council Creative Economy Unit, 2010). Available:

https://creativeeconomy.britishcouncil.org/media/uploads/files/English_mapping_the_creative_industries_a_toolkit_2-2.pdf

(11) 29.12.2020. *Soft Power: Popular Culture in East Asia*

Dr. Michal Daliot-Bul

Reading: * Nissim Otmazgin, "A New Cultural Geography of East Asia: Imagining A 'Region' through Popular Culture." *The Asia-Pacific Journal Japan Focus* 14 (2016): 7:5. Available on: <http://apjjf.org/2016/07/Otmazgin.html>

Recommended reading: * David Leheny, "A Narrow Place to Cross Swords: Soft Power and the Politics of Japanese Popular Culture in East Asia." In Peter J. Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraishi (Eds.), *Beyond Japan: The Dynamics of East Asian Regionalism* (pp. 211–233). Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2006.

* Jeongsuk Joo, "Transnationalization of Korean Popular Culture and the Rise of 'Pop Nationalism' in Korea." *Journal of Popular Culture* 44 (2011): 489-504.

(12) 5.1.2021. *Media and Politics in Asia: The Cassette Revolution in China in the 1980s and 1990s as a Case Study*

Dr. Nimrod Baranovitch

Reading: * Nimrod Baranovitch. 2003. *China's New Voices: Popular Music, Ethnicity, Gender, and Politics, 1978-1997*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003, pp. 10-26 (and skimming 31-48).

Recommended reading:

Peter Manuel. 1993. "Introduction," in *Cassette Culture: Popular Music and Technology in North India*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 1–20.

Guobin Yang. 2009. "Conclusion," in *The Power of the Internet in China: Citizen Activism Online*. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 209–26.

James Leibold. 2011. "Blogging Alone: China, the Internet, and the Democratic Illusion?" *Journal of Asian Studies* 70 (4): 1023–41.

V. Future Perspectives and Summary

(13) 12.1.2021: *Sustainability and Demography in Contemporary and Future Asia*

Prof. Rotem Kowner

Reading: * David E. Bloom and Jeffrey G. Williamson, "Demographic Transitions and Economic Miracles in Emerging Asia," *The World Bank Economic Review* 12 (1998): 419-55 [read parts I, IV, 419-430, 440-49].

Recommended reading: * Jared M. Diamond, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*. New York: Penguin, 2005 [especially the chapter on China. Note: the book is available also in Hebrew translation].