

PS199: New East Asia

Spring 2022
(3 credits)

Instructor:	Prof. Yujeong Yang	Time:	M/W 9:00-9:50pm
Email:	yujeong@illinois.edu	Lecture Hall:	319 Gregory Hall

Office Hours:

- Mon/Wed 1:00 -2:30 pm or by appointment
- Sign up: <https://calendly.com/yujeongyang/officehour>
- Students can sign up for up to four slots (60 minutes) at a time if students need extended office hour. Please make sure that the appointment should be made at least 2 hours ahead of time.

Teaching Assistant: Yea Jin Rha (Email: yrha2@illinois.edu)

1. Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the comparative politics of the North East Asia, with a focus on Mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, South and North Korea. The first section discusses the state building in East Asian regions. The second section discusses political development, institutional arrangements, and leadership of individual states. The third section examines the role of the states in promoting economic development of the region. The fourth section discusses the state-society relations, focusing on politics of identity, nationalism, and civil society development.

2. Learning Goals

By the end of the semester, students are expected to be able to:

- Identify historical and institutional foundations of North East Asian politics,
- Apply concepts and theories in comparative politics to analyze East Asian politics,
- Describe differences and similarities in political systems and outcomes from East Asian countries.

3. Course Materials

There is no textbook required for the course. All readings will be made available on Compass. Please ensure that you have completed all readings before lecture.

This course will require students to watch films. Throughout the semester, I will host (non-mandatory) movie-watching sessions (for movies with the asterisk marks) where the students watch the film together (online) before the class. Film screening happens on Wednesday 8pm-10pm. See the film screening schedule on the course website. Any student who cannot make the session should watch the movie by oneself. If you watch the movie before, it is still highly recommended to watch it again. A part of each weekly reading assignment will ask students some details about the film that only students who watch the movie thoroughly can answer. Reading the plot will not be enough. We will review the movies in class and use them to link the academic theories to the reality described in the movies.

4. iClicker

I am going to check students' attendances and participation using I-clicker. Students can participate in class activities using either **the iClicker student mobile app**, or using a **handheld iClicker remote**. Remotes can be purchased from campus bookstores or online. Students who use the app can purchase an iClicker subscription by signing in to your account on the iClicker student web app (<https://student.iclicker.com>).

Either you use an app or a handheld remote, you should create your iclicker account unless you already have one (If you already have the account, simply log in, instead of creating another account.) If this is first time using the iclicker, you can create your account here (<https://student.iclicker.com>). After signing in (or logging in), click the + button, enter "University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign", and the course number "PS199". You will see "PS199: New East Asia". Then, click "Add this course" to complete the process.

5. General Expectations

Aside from attending lectures and discussion sections, students are expected to devote around 5-7 additional hours per week learning the topics of the course through watching films (2hrs), readings (2 - 3hrs), homework assignments (1 - 2hrs), and (optional) online quizzes (20 min - 1hr).

6. Course Requirements and Assignments

Midterm (March 23, 2022)	40 points
Final (May 4, 2022)	60 points
Reading Assignments (5 points × 8)	40 points
Paper (May 1, 2022)	30 points
Attendance and Participation (lecture)	10 points
Section participation	20 points
Total	200 points

- **Midterm (40 points) and Final (60 points)**

The format of the midterm and final will consist of a combination of T/F questions, multiple choices, and short essays. Examples of T/F questions and multiple choices will be shared during the lecture. More information about the short essays will be given as the date approaches. Final will be cumulative.

- **Reading Assignments (5 points × 8)**

There are 11 reading assignments throughout the semester. Student may skip up to 3 reading assignments. For those who submit more than the required eight sets, only their most successful ten sets will be used when calculating their final grades. Students who did not skip any reading assignment would receive extra-credit points (2 points) at the end of the semester.

The reading assignment will cover the **assigned reading** and ask some details of the **film** that students were required to watch before the end of Friday each week (See the schedule below).

- **Paper (30 points)**

Students will choose two countries to compare their political institutions, historical constraints, and political outcomes. One of the two countries should be one of the five Northeast Asian countries (Mainland China, Taiwan, South Korea, North Korea, Japan). Students are required to meet with the the professor or the TA and to discuss the paper at least once before submitting the final paper.

- **Attendance and Participation (10 points)**

10 points of course grade will be based on student's preparation for, attendance of, and participation in lecture. Students can opt to miss up to three lectures per semester without penalty. Every each subsequent absence will be penalized (- 1 point for each subsequent absence). If students habitually miss lecture or section without excuse (8 or more times per semester), they will receive zero of 10 points.

- **Section Participation (20 points)**

- Students who attended all sections but without active participation will earn no higher than a 18 (20tracredjt lkj ts! (points).
- Those who are uncomfortable speaking up in section can earn participation points by having discussion during the office hours.

- **Extra-credit Opportunities**

Students will have opportunities to earn extra-credits by 1) posting movie review(s), 2) not skipping any homework assignments, and/or 3) participating in the political science subject pool.

- **Assignment of Grades**

Letter grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

A+	(194- 200)	B+	(174 - 179)	C+	(154 - 159)	D+	(134 - 139)
A	(186 - 193)	B	(166 - 173)	C	(146 - 153)	D	(126 - 133)
A-	(180 - 185)	B-	(160 - 165)	C-	(140 - 145)	D-	(120 - 125)

7. Classroom Policies

- **Late Policy**

Any assignments should be submitted by the deadline. Assignments turned in within an hour of the due date will lose 10 percent of total points. Assignments turned in within a day of the due date (i.e. 24 hours past the deadline) will lose 20 percent of total points. Any assignments turned in after that will receive zero (0) points. The student alone is responsible for uploading assignments on time and in a readable format (either PDF or word).

- **Missing Exams**

There is **NO makeup exam**. If a personal emergency prevents students from taking exams on time, the student must contact the instructor at least **three days BEFORE** the scheduled exam date.

- **Syllabus Policies**

The syllabus of each class is filled with important information that helps you succeed in the class. Hence, it is important to read the syllabus thoroughly. However, please also note that the syllabus is subject to change. If any change is made, I will let students know. If you have made it this far, please use google image to find a picture of Kumamon, and send it to me attached to email with the subject line "PS199:It's Kumamon."

- **Academic Honesty**

All work that a student submit and complete in the course must be the student's own. It is students' responsibility to refrain from infractions of academic integrity,

from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. “I did not know” is not an excuse. Please refer to the Academic integrity policy and procedure. <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>

- **Contacting the Instructor**

I will do my best to answer questions via email, but do not expect a response for at least 24-36 hours. Please go over the syllabus before sending me an email about general classroom policies. The syllabus is likely to have an answer for your question. Here are some email etiquette students are highly encouraged to implement. <https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087>

- **Students with Disabilities**

The instructor will do their utmost to make appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. As explained in the University of Illinois Student Code, these accommodations can be coordinated through the Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services, reachable at (217) 333-4603 or disability@illinois.edu

8. Course Outline and Reading Schedule

Week 1. Introduction

Wednesday, January 19 - Introduction to PS199 and East Asia

- Read "Syllabus for PS 199"

Week 2. Part I : The State - State Formation in East Asia

Assignment #1 by January 23

January 24 & 26 - Colonization, War, and State Formation in East Asia

- Clark, Golder and Golder (2009). Chapter 4. The Origins of the Modern State In *Principles of Comparative Politics*.

January 28 - Measuring State Capacity

- Han, E., & Thies, C. (2019). External threats, Internal Challenges, and State Building in East Asia. *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 19(3), 339-360.

Week 3. Part I : The State - Colonial Legacies in East Asia

Assignment #2 by January 30

January 31 & February 2 - Colonial Legacies and Historical Disputes

- Watch "Assassination" (2015).*
- Kohli, Atul. "Where do high growth political economies come from? The Japanese lineage of Korea's "developmental state"." *World Development* 22, no. 9 (1994): 1269-1293.
- Gries, Peter Hays, Qingmin Zhang, Yasuki Masui, and Yong Wook Lee. "Historical beliefs and the perception of threat in Northeast Asia: colonialism, the tributary system, and China-Japan-Korea relations in the twenty-first century." *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 9, no. 2 (2009): 245-265.

February 4 - Ongoing Historical Conflicts in East Asia

- (Optional) Le, Tom (2019) Why Japan-South Korea history disputes keep resurfacing, *The Washington Post*, July 23 2019.

Week 4. Part I : The State - Political Violence and the State Building

Assignment #3 by February 6

February 7 & 9 - Political Violence and Political Trust

- Watch "To Live" (1994).
- Wang, Y (2019). The Political Legacy of Violence During China's Cultural Revolution. *British Journal of Political Science*, 1 -25.

February 11 - Long-term Consequences of Political Violence

- Kang, W., & Hong, J. (2017). Unexplored Consequences of Violence Against Civilians During the Korean War. *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 17(3), 259-283.

Week 5. Part II : The Regime - Democracies and Autocracies

Assignment #4 by February 13

February 14 & 16 - Democracies and Autocracies in East Asia

- Watch “Please Vote for Me” (2007).
- Clark, Golder and Golder (2009). Part of Chapter 5. Democracy and Dictatorship: Conceptualization and Measurement. in *Principles of Comparative Politics*. 149-158.

February 18 - Asian Values and Democracy

- Fukuyama, Francis. 1995. Confucianism and Democracy. *Journal of Democracy* 6(2): 20-33.

Week 6. Part II : The Regime - Democratic Transition

Assignment #5 by February 20

February 21 & 23 - Democratic Transition in East Asian Countries

- Watch “1987: When the Day Comes” (2017).*
- Clark, Golder and Golder (2009). Part of Chapter 6. The Economic Determinants of Democracy and Dictatorship. in *Principles of Comparative Politics*.

February 25 - Comparing Democratic Transition in East Asian Countries

- Tien, H. M., & Shiau, C. J. (1992). Taiwan’s democratization: A summary. *World Affairs*, 155(2), 58-61.

Week 7. Part II : The Regime - Failed Transitions

Assignment #6 by February 27

February 28 & March 2 - Failed Transition to Democracy in China

- Watch “The Gate of Heavenly Peace” (1995).

March 4 - Democratic Movement in Hong Kong

- Tharoor, Ishaan. [4 reasons Hong Kong’s protests failed \(and 4 reasons they didn’t\)](#), *The Washington Post* (Oct 8, 2014).

Week 8. Part II : The Regime - Varieties of Autocracies

Assignment #7 by March 6

March 7 & 9 - Comparing China and North Korea

- Watch “Under the Sun” (2015).
- Song, W., & Wright, J. (2018). The North Korean Autocracy in Comparative Perspective. *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 18(2), 157-180.

March 11 - Comparing Economic Development in China and North Korea

- Jeong, Eun-Young & Yoon, D. (2019, Feb 25). The New Look of North Korea’s Economy: ‘it’s all capitalism there now’ *Wall Street Journal*.

Week 9. Midterm Review and Midterm

Monday, March 21 - Midterm Review

Wednesday, March 23 - Midterm

March 25- No Section Discussion

Week 10. Part III : The Economy - Developmental States

Assignment #8 by March 27

March 28 & 30 - Comparing Developmental States in East Asia

- Watch “Nameless Gangster” (2012).*
- Stubbs, Richard. What ever happened to the East Asian Developmental State? The unfolding debate, *The Pacific Review* 22, no. 1 (2009): 1-22.

April 1 - Corruption and Developmental States

- Green, Duncan. “China’s Gilded Age: a fantastic new book from Yuen Yuen Ang”. July 9, 2020.

Week 11. Part III : The Economy - Developmental States (2)

Assignment #9 by April 3

April 4 & 6 - Trade, Workers, and Development in East Asia

- Watch “Last Train Home” (2009).*
- Deyo, Frederic C. “Labor and Development Policy in East Asia.” *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 505 (1989): 152–61.

April 8 - Individual Meeting for the Paper

Week 12. Part IV : State-Society Relations - Politics of Identity

Assignment #10 by April 10

April 12 & 14 - Politics of Identity in East Asia

- Watch “Infernal Affairs”(2003).
- Syaru Lin (2018). Analyzing the Relationship between Identity and Democratization in Taiwan and Hong Kong in the Shadow of China.

April 16 - Identity and Support for Democracy

- Hur, Aram. “The next ‘Korea problem’ may be about the growing identity divide on the peninsula” *Washington Post* (February 21, 2018).

Week 13. Part IV : State-Society Relations - Gender Politics

Assignment #11 by April 17

April 18 & 20 - Gender inequality and LGBT issues in East Asia

- Watch ‘Your Name Engraved Herein (2020)’*.

- Haque, M. Shamsul. “Citizen participation in governance through representation: Issue of gender in East Asia.” *International Journal of Public Administration* 26, no. 5 (2003): 569-590.

April 22 - Same Sex Marriage in East Asia

- Rich, Timothy S., Andi Dahmer, and Isabel Eliassen. “Explaining support for same-sex marriage: Evidence from Taiwan.” *International Journal of Taiwan Studies* 2, no. 2 (2019): 321-340

Week 13. Part V : Future of East Asia

- Watch “10 Years Japan” (2021)*.
- Economist, [Asia’s Looming Labor Shortage](#). Feb 11, 2017.
- Mitch Shin. [South Korea and US Agree on Draft End-of-War Declaration ‘In Principle’](#). Dec 29, 2021.

April 29 - No Discussion Section

Week 15. Review and Final

Paper Submission by May 1

Monday, May 2 - Course Review

Wednesday, May 4 - Final Exam