

East Asia
Geography 450:342 - Fall 2013

Instructor: Irene Tung

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Office Hours: Tuesday 1-3PM at Lucy Stone 239

Class Time: Tuesday, 3:20 PM - 4:40 and Thursday, 3:20 PM - 4:40

Location: Hill Center Bldg for the Mathematical Sciences-009

Introduction and organization of the course

This course is an introduction to the study of people and places in contemporary East Asia from a geographic perspective. The course will survey the region's environment, economy, culture, politics and history. We will discuss contemporary themes such as globalization, migration, industrialization, development, urbanization, militarization, social inequality and social change.

Organization of the course

The course is divided into two main parts. The first part will be a broad survey of contemporary themes in East Asia. We will examine both primary and secondary sources. This part of the course will be evaluated with an in-class midterm. A response paragraph for each article or chapter assigned is due on the day that the reading is due. A guideline for the response paragraphs will be posted on the course Sakai website.

In the second part of the course, we will delve into some key contemporary issues in the geographic scholarship of East Asia : 1) urbanization, class and spatial politics 2) gender, scale and citizenship. This part of the course will proceed in a seminar fashion with increased reading, in-class discussion and out of class writing assignments. For these readings you will write an analytical essay (4-5 pages) in response to questions that I will provide to you in advance of reading the books and accompanying articles.

Throughout the course, student groups will begin class with a 15 minute presentation of the reading. This presentation will highlight the key points of the reading. The presentation should conclude with discussion questions for the class. Every student will be responsible for presenting once during the semester. A guideline for the presentations will be posted on the course's Sakai website.

Grades

15% Reading response paragraphs (for each article or chapter please write one paragraph of at least 150 words)

15% Presentation

15% In-class participation

25% Midterm

30% Reading analysis papers - 4-5 pages (2 papers each worth 15%)

Reading Analysis due dates

November 21th - Geography of Urbanization

December 10th - Citizenship, Gender and Modernity

Required Materials (available on reserve at Library of Science and Medicine and at Rutgers B&N Bookstore)

1. Zhang, Li. *In Search of Paradise: Middle-Class Living in a Chinese Metropolis*. Cornell University Press; 1 edition (April 22, 2010)
2. LeBlanc, Robin. *Bicycle Citizens: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife*. University of California Press: 1999
3. Nakazawa , Keiji and Spiegelman, Art. *Barefoot Gen, Vol. 1: A Cartoon Story of Hiroshima*.

Studying Asia: Avoiding Old Traps

Tuesday September 10

1. Martinez-Robles, David (2008). "The Western Representation of Modern China: Orientalism, Culturalism and Historiographical Criticism"
2. *Recommended but not required:*
Sakai, Naoki. "You Asians:" On the Historical Role of the West and Asia Binary" *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, Volume 99, Number 4, Fall 2000, pp. 789-817

Crisis and Beyond

Thursday September 12

1. *New York Times* October 5, 1993 "Thinking Ahead : Reproducing the Asian Miracle"
2. Lee, Hong-jong. "Development, Crisis, and Asian Values" *East Asian Review*. Vol. 15, No. 2, Summer 2003, pp. 27-42 .

Tuesday September 17

1. Katz, Richard. "Japan's Phoenix Economy." *Foreign Affairs*. Vol. 82 No. 1, January/February 2003, pp. 114-128.
2. Burkett, Paul and Hart-Landsberg, Martin. "The Economic Crisis in Japan". *Critical Asian Studies* 35:3 (2003), 339-372

Thursday September 19

Muchhala, Bhumika. (2007) "Introduction" *Ten years after: Revisiting the Asian Financial Crisis*. pp 5-9

Tuesday September 24

1. Chang, Ha-Joon. "Korea, the misunderstood crisis". *World Development* Volume 26, Issue 8, August 1998, Pages 1555–1561
2. *Recommended but not required:*
Webber, Michael. "Finance and the real economy: theoretical implications of the financial crisis in Asia." *Geoforum* 32 (2001) p 1-13.

Being the World's Factory

Thursday September 26

Chun, Allen. "Fuck Chineseness: On the Ambiguities of Ethnicity as Culture as Identity". *Boundary 2*. June 1, 1996

Tuesday October 1

1. Pun, Ngai and Chan, Jenny. "The Spatial Politics of Labor in China: Life, Labor, and a New Generation of Migrant Workers." *South Atlantic Quarterly* (2013) 112(1): 179-190;

2. Hung, Ho-Fung. "America's Head Servant? The PRC's Dilemma in the Global Crisis" *New Left Review* 60 Nov Dec 2009

Thursday October 3

Chen, Chih-jou Jay. "Growing Social Unrest and Emergent Protest Groups in China" in *Rise of China: Beijing's strategies and implications for the Asia-Pacific*. edited by Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao, Cheng-yi Lin, Cheng-Yi Lin Routledge, 2009.

Film - Last Train Home

Tuesday October 8

Lee, Ching Kwan. *Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt*. - [Selections]

The Continuing Korean War

Thursday October 10

Ahn, Christine. March 8, 2013. "Why Women Must End the Korean War"

Film - In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee

Tuesday October 15

1. Hart-Landsberg, Martin. "Korean unification: learning from the German experience." *Journal of Contemporary Asia*; 1996, Vol. 26 Issue 1, p59-80, 22p
2. Healy, Hall. "Korean Demilitarized Zone: Peace and Nature Park". *International Journal on World Peace*. Vol. 24, No. 4 (DECEMBER 2007), pp. 61-83

Thursday October 17

Choo, Hae Yeon "Gendered Modernity and Ethnicized Citizenship: North Korean Settlers in Contemporary South Korea" *Gender and Society* Vol. 20 No. 5, October 2006

Film - Ghosts of Jeju

US Military Presence in East Asia: Then and Now

Tuesday October 22

1. Clinton, Hilary. "America's Pacific Century" November 2011. *Foreign Policy*.
2. Halloran, Richard. "The US-Taiwan military charade" *Taipei Times*. April 27, 2012.
3. "Japan-America military alliance: Hard landing" Jul 26th 2012 *The Economist*.

From Hiroshima to Fukushima

Thursday October 24

Nakazawa, Keiji and Spiegelman, Art. *Barefoot Gen, Vol. 1: A Cartoon Story of Hiroshima*. Introduction

Film - Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women

Tuesday October 29

Nakazawa , Keiji and Spiegelman, Art. *Barefoot Gen, Vol. 1: A Cartoon Story of Hiroshima.*

Tuesday November 5 - *MIDTERM*****

Geography of Urbanization

Thursday November 7

Zhang, Li. *In Search of Paradise: Middle-Class Living in a Chinese Metropolis* Cornell University Press; 1 edition (April 22, 2010) Chapters 1-2

Film - The Fastest Changing Place on Earth

Tuesday November 12

Zhang, Li. *In Search of Paradise: Middle-Class Living in a Chinese Metropolis* Cornell University Press; 1 edition (April 22, 2010) Chapters 3-6

Thursday November 15

Zhang, Li. *In Search of Paradise: Middle-Class Living in a Chinese Metropolis* Cornell University Press; 1 edition (April 22, 2010) Chapters 7, Epilogue

Tuesday - November 19 -

1. Hsing, You-tien.- *The Great Urban Transformation* - Chapters 4, 5 and 8
2. Johnson, Ian. *New York Times* "China's Great Uprooting: Moving 250 Million Into Cities" June 15, 2013.

Thursday November 21 **Reading Analysis due**

Film- Up the Yangtze

Citizenship, Gender and Scale

Tuesday November 26

LeBlanc, Robin. *Bicycle Citizens: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife.* California: 1999 - Forward, Chapters 1-4

Thursday November 28 THANKSGIVING NO CLASS

Tuesday, December 3

LeBlanc, Robin. *Bicycle Citizens: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife.* California: 1999, Chapters 5-6, Conclusion

Thursday December 5

1. Seungsook Moon. *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea.* Introduction and Chapter 2
2. Sunhyuk, "Democratization and Environmentalism: South Korea and Taiwan in Comparative Perspective"

Tuesday December 10 - **Reading Analysis Due**