GOVT 238
East Asian International Relations
Spring 2010
MWF 9:00-9:50am
Kirby 204

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Office hours: MW 1:00-3:00pm (and by appointment)

Course description:
This course explores the major theoretical and empirical issues in the international relations of East Asia. We will examine various analytical perspectives on the sources of stability and conflict in East Asia and evaluate them by using empirical evidence from the East Asian region since the “clash of civilizations” in the nineteenth century up to the current regional order. Topics for discussion include U.S. strategy in East Asia, the impact of the rise of China on regional security, nuclear proliferation, territorial disputes, nationalism, economic interdependence and regionalism.

Prerequisite:
GOVT 102 Introduction to International Politics (or permission of the instructor)

Course requirements:
The grading criteria for this course are as follows:
   - Mid-term exam (30%)
   - Final exam (40%)
   - Policy analysis paper (20%)
   - Class attendance and participation (10%)

Students are expected to attend all sessions, to have carefully read and considered the required readings, and to actively participate in class discussions. Students are also strongly encouraged to raise questions or concerns about difficult concepts in lectures/readings both during sections and office hours.

Students who are unable to attend class must notify the instructor in advance or bring appropriate written documentation (from a physician, etc). Late papers will be penalized one-third of a grade (e.g. B+ becomes a B) for each day past the due date. In addition, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that s/he is available to take the final exam on the date and time assigned for the course. Students with special needs due to disability should make requests for accommodation in the first week of classes so that arrangements can be made.

Students are responsible for the content and integrity of all academic work. Please consult the Student Handbook for College policies on academic honesty (http://www.lafayette.edu/student_life/StudentHandbook_0910_FINAL.pdf).
Course readings:
The following books are required for purchase and will be made available at the campus bookstore. They will also be placed on reserve at the library. Other course readings and additional material will be made available through Moodle.


Course objectives:
Through the completion of this course, students are expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes:

- identify key concepts and theories in the study of East Asian international relations;
- critically assess opposing theoretical arguments by evaluating the validity of empirical evidence;
- participate in critical debate and/or discussion based on the formulation of an argument with supporting evidence; and
- apply theoretical knowledge to a variety of issue areas and policy scenarios.
Course Schedule

Part I. Historical and Theoretical Overview

Week 1: Introduction
Lecture dates: Jan 25, 27, 29

Week 2: Historical Legacies in the East Asian Regional Order
Lecture dates: Feb 1, 3, 5

Week 3: The Cold War in East Asia – Structural and Regional Factors
Lecture dates: Feb 8, 10, 12

Week 4: The Cold War in East Asia – Domestic Politics
Lecture dates: Feb 15, 17

There is no lecture on Friday, February 19.
Week 5: U.S. Strategy in Post-Cold War Asia  Lecture dates: Feb 22, 24, 26

Part II. Sources of Conflict and Cooperation in Contemporary East Asia

Week 6: Changing Alliance Relations  Lecture dates: Mar 1, 3

Mid-term exam (in-class): March 5, 2010

Week 7: Great Power Conflict in Asia – Power Transition and Sino-U.S. Relations  Lecture dates: Mar 8, 10, 12

***** Spring Break: Week of March 15 *****

Week 8: The Rise of China and the Future of Regional Order  Lecture dates: Mar 22, 24, 26
Week 9: North Korea and Nuclear Proliferation in East Asia
Lecture dates: Mar 29, 31, Apr 2


Policy analysis paper due: April 5, 2010

Week 10: Territorial Disputes
Lecture date: Apr 5, 7, 9


Week 11: Historical Memory and Nationalism
Lecture dates: Apr 12, 14, 16


Week 12: Economic Interdependence
Lecture dates: Apr 19, 21, 23


Week 13: Regionalism and Multilateralism
Lecture dates: Apr 26, 28, 30


Week 14: Transnational Issues
Lecture dates: May 3, 5, 7
□ Mely Caballero-Anthony, “SARS in Asia: Crisis, Vulnerabilities, and Regional Responses” Asian Survey 45, 3 (2005)

Final Exam: TBA