

HIS 378 US-East Asian Relations

MW 8:30-9:50, in HSSC N2175

Prof. W. Luo

Office hours in Mears 312: M&W 2-4pm and by appointment

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Course Description:

Civilizations do not clash; empires do. This seminar explores the history of U.S.-East Asian relations from the nineteenth century to the present day, beginning with the U.S. entrance into Asia as a colonial power and end with the legacy of the Cold War. It juxtaposes the perspectives, interests, and arguments of U.S. and East Asian actors to understand this social, political and cultural history. This seminar investigates the global dimension of U.S.-Asian interactions: how did transnational and international forces between U.S. and Asian societies and governments shape key dynamics of the global twentieth century? Why was there unprecedented support for U.S. overseas expansion in this period? And how did U.S. and Asian migrants, lobbyists, NGOs and other private actors develop a sustained impact on global politics?

Readings:

All reading assignments will be provided on Pweb as PDFs

Requirements:

- a) The seminar paper (50%.) This paper will be a 20-to-30-page research paper (6000-7500 words) based on work with primary and secondary sources. Detailed grading rubric will be posted under Assignments on PWeb.
- b) Class participation (20%.) You are expected to attend class on time and participate actively throughout the semester. All readings are to be completed prior to the class period for which they have been assigned. You should come to class prepared to discuss them in detail.
- c) Paper proposal and peer comments (20%.) You will be required to write a five-page (double-spaced) proposal for your seminar paper, which will be due on March 31 (15%). You will read and give feedback on your small group's proposals (5%), which are due on April 8.
- d) Presentation of your research (10%) Toward the end of the semester you will give a brief (10 min) presentation of your research result.

Grading Scale:

93-100% A	83-86% B	70-76% C
90-92% A-	80-82% B-	60-69% D
87-89% B+	77-79% C+	below 60% F

Policies

Academic honesty:

In all assignments written for this course, you must abide by the College's rules on plagiarism. (http://catalog.grinnell.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=2537#Honesty_in_Academic_Work) Do not submit someone else's work as your own, quote from a source without citing it, or provide inappropriate help to a classmate on exams and assignments. If you paraphrase or quote any text from another you must indicate where the text comes from. Failure to comply with the requirement of academic honesty may result in receiving no credit for the assignment in question or even failing the course in cases of serious academic dishonesty. If you are in doubt about any of the rules, please consult with me, or the professionals in the Writing Lab, *before* submitting your class materials and assignments.

Religious holidays:

Grinnell College offers alternative options to complete academic work for students who observe holy days. Please contact me within the first 2 weeks of the semester if you would like to discuss a specific instance that applies to you.

Inclusive classroom and student accessibility services:

I strive to create a fully inclusive classroom. Thus I welcome individual students to approach me about distinctive learning needs. In particular, I encourage students with disabilities, including invisible or non-apparent disabilities such as chronic illness, learning disabilities, and psychiatric disabilities, to discuss reasonable accommodations with me, and to have a conversation about how our classroom or course activities could impact the disability and what accommodations would be essential to you.

You will also need to have a conversation about and provide documentation of your disability to the Coordinator for Student Disability Resources, John Hirschman, located on the 3rd floor of Goodnow Hall (x3089). Students should then notify me within the first few days of classes so that we can discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course and coordinate your accommodations.

Attendance and extension policies:

If you have legitimate reasons to miss class or turn in an assignment late, please let me know in advance and supply relevant documentation. Everyone is allowed 1 absence without penalty during the semester. If you have 2 or more absences (regardless of reasons,) you will incur deduction of your participation grade. You are encouraged to come to talk to me about ways to make up for absences if you have legitimate reasons to miss more classes. Everyone is allowed 1

extensions of 24 hours on 1 writing assignments without penalty, except the final paper. If you have 2 or more late submissions (regardless of reasons) you will incur grade deduction on the assignment depending on the amount of time lapsed. You are encouraged to come to talk to me about ways to make up for the grade.

Schedule

**The reading assignments are subject to change*

Week 1 Introduction

Jan 22 Introduction

Week 2 Method

Jan 27 You are writing a seminar paper... what does that mean?

Watch the linked video on “expert writing” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtIzMaLkCaM>) and complete the assignment (Pweb)

Jan 29 How to do the history of “East-West” relations?

Huntington, Samuel P. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72, no. 3 (1993): 22-49. Accessed January 21, 2020.

Said, Edward W. *Orientalism* (Introduction)

Stephen Walt, “International Relations: One World, Many Theories”

Week 3 Foundation of Modern East Asian Political Order

Feb 3 Nations and Empires

Zhang Feng, “Rethinking the ‘Tribute System’

Donghyun and Tikhonov "The Korean Courtiers' Observation Mission's Views on Meiji Japan and Projects of Modern State Building."

Feb 5 “Asian Colonialism”

Perdue, Peter C., “Comparing Empires: Manchu Colonialism,” *The International History Review*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (Jun., 1998), pp. 255-262

David, Howell, *Geographies of Identity in Nineteenth-century Japan* (California, 2005), pp. 20-44; 131-153.

Larsen, Kirk W. *Tradition, Treaties, and Trade: Qing Imperialism and Choson Korea, 1850-1910*. Chapter 3 “Treaties and Troops: Bringing Multilateral Imperialism to Korea”.

Week 4 Inter-relations, Intervention, and Migration

Feb 10 Problematic Encounters

Warren Cohen, “Challenge to the West” in *East Asia at the Center*

Israel, “Alice in Wonderland: Through the China Looking Glass and What America found There”, in: *Progressivism and the Open Door: America and China, 1905-1921*, pp. 3-30.

Manela E. “Dawn of a New Era: The ‘Wilsonian Moment’ in Colonial Contexts and the Transformation of World Order, 1917–1920.”

Feb 12 What’s On the Move

Sunil Amrith, “Asia’s Great Migrations, 1850-1930” in *Migration and Diaspora in Modern Asia*

Frieden, Jeffrey A. “The Economics of Intervention: American Overseas Investments and Relations with Underdeveloped Areas, 1890–1950.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 31, no. 1 (1989): 55–80.

Week 5 Wars and Peace

Feb 17 Japan and WWII

Akira Iriye, "War, Peace, and U.S.-Japanese Relations"

Yamamoto et al. *Race, Rights, and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment* (excerpts)

Alexander Buhk. "Japan's History Textbooks Debate: National Identity in Narratives of Victimhood and Victimization"

Feb 19 The Cold War

Brooks, “Introduction,” “New York and San Francisco: Politics in the Political Capitals of

Chinese America,” in: *Between Mao and McCarthy: Chinese American Politics in the Cold War Years*

Charles Armstrong, “The Cultural Cold War in East Asia, 1945-1950,” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 62:1 (Feb. 2003): 71-99

Week 6 New Order

Feb 24 The Return of Great Powers?

Warren Cohen, ‘The Resurgence of East Asian Economic Power’ in *East Asia at the Center*

Feb 26 “Grand Strategy”

Paul M. Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*. New York: Random House, 1990 (excerpts)

Charles Hills, *Grand Strategies: Literature, Statecraft, and World Order*, Yale University Press, 2010 (excerpts)

Week 7 Student Selected Readings

March 2 TBD

March 4 TBD

Week 8 Present and Future

March 9 “The China Problem”

Shambaugh, David L. "China Engages Asia: Reshaping the Regional Order." *International Security* 29, no. 3 (2004): 64-99.

Asia Society: The Avoidable War (excerpts)

March 11 Conclusion

Michael D. Swaine, “Managing Asia’s Security Threats in the Trump Era,” Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 19 January 2017

Hillary Clinton, “America’s Pacific Century,” *Foreign Policy* 189 (Nov. 2011), pp. 56-63.

Nicholas D. Anderson, "America's North Korean Nuclear Trilemma," *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol. 40, no. 4 (Winter 2018), pp. 153-164.

Spring Break (March 16-27)

Weeks 9-13: Individual and Small Group Meetings (to be scheduled with me)

Week 14: In-class presentations

Final Paper due (May 12, 5pm)