## Modern East Asian History

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<th>CREDIT</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
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<td>Alisa Jones</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jonesam12@gmail.com">jonesam12@gmail.com</a></td>
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* Please leave the fields blank which haven't been decided yet.

### [COURSE INFORMATION]

**COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS**

Little more than a century ago, East Asia – once the richest, most developed region in the world – found itself powerless in the face of the military, technological and economic might of the European imperialist powers and the United States. Yet, within a century, many of these countries have once again become key players in the contemporary world order - economically, politically, culturally, and potentially militarily. How did this transformation come about, how did it manifest in different times and places, what were the problems faced, and what are the prospects for the region in the 21st century?

In order to answer some of these questions, this course traces the history of political, economic, social and cultural change across East Asia from the nineteenth century to the present. In particular, the course highlights tensions both within and between countries over power, status and resources, the challenges of retaining ‘tradition’ while attaining ‘modernity’, and between competing visions of what modernisation means and how it should be accomplished. Using primary sources in English translation, such as writings and speeches on key issues of the day by prominent thinkers and leaders from different periods and countries, as well as newspaper articles, film footage, photographs, literary works and material culture, we will attempt to understand some of the dynamics of this most dynamic region both from ‘within’ and from ‘without’.

### PREREQUISITE

None

### COURSE REQUIREMENT

**Attendance** is required. To avoid penalties for absence, please notify me in advance if you cannot come to class.

**Readings.** Please bring your primary source packets to class as we will use them for analysis and discussion.

**Assignments.**

Assignment 1: 1 - 2 page essay
Assignment 2: Report on site of historical interest. This must not only describe what the site commemorates, but how it does so, and what perspective on history it (attempts to) convey (i.e. what does it want us to know/believe about the past?)
Assignment 3: Korean history: group project
Course Syllabus
YONSEI INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL 2011

GRADING POLICY

1. Attendance and classroom participation 10%
2. Assignments and presentations 50%
3. Final examination 40%

TEXTS & REFERENCES

We will be reading selected chapters and short excerpts from a variety of sources including both scholarly histories and primary sources in English translation. Most of the latter can be found in the second volumes of the Sources of Chinese/Japanese/Korean Tradition series. We will also make use of maps, photographs and other images, films, documentaries and literary works in class. In addition, you will have the opportunity to select primary sources of your own according to your interests in particular time periods, countries or issues. A course packet with copies of all required reading materials will be available at the copy centre. Supplementary materials will be placed on reserve at the main library, may be accessed online and/or will be distributed in class.

General histories
Miller, Modern East Asia: An Introductory History
Schirokauer and Clark, Modern East Asia: A Brief History
Ebrey, Walthall and Palais, Modern East Asia
Cohen, East Asia at the Center

INSTRUCTOR'S PROFILE

PhD University of Leeds, UK; Post-doc Stanford University, USA
Research interests: East Asian historiography, public history, history education; identity politics and East Asian international relations.

[WEEKLY SCHEDULE]

* Your detailed explanations would be very helpful for prospective students to get a pre-approval for credit-transfer from their home university in advance.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK (PERIOD)</th>
<th>WEEKLY TOPIC &amp; CONTENTS</th>
<th>COURSE MATERIAL &amp; ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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| 06.27 ~ 07.01 | Tradition and transformation
M. No class
T. Introduction.
W. ‘Traditional’ East Asia.
Th. Reform and Revolution | W. Assignment 1 due.
Miller, Intro. xi-xiv & Ch. 2
Th. Primary sources 1 | |
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| 2 (07.04 ~ 07.08) | Re-drawing the map of East Asia: the changing balance of power  
M. The rise and rise of Japan  
T. The fall of Joseon and Japanese colonial rule in Korea and Taiwan  
W. European colonies in East Asia  
W. Schirokauer and Clark, pp243-255; primary sources 4.  
Th. Ebrey, Walthall and Palais, pp402-427; primary sources 5. | |
| 3 (07.11 ~ 07.15) | Ideas, ideologies and conflicts of interest  
M. Cultural and social change (1)  
T. Cultural and social change (2)  
W. Isms and anti-isms: imperialism, nationalism, pan-Asianism, Communism  
Th. WWII in East Asia | M & T. Short stories; primary sources 6  
W. Primary sources 7  
Th. School textbook extracts (China, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, USA) | |
| 4 (07.18 ~ 07.22) | Hot and cold wars  
M. Assignment 2: presentations  
T. Revolution in China  
W. Cold War tensions and post-colonial East Asia  
Th. Hot wars in East Asia: Korea and Vietnam | M. Prepare your presentations  
T. Primary sources 8  
| 5 (07.25 ~ 07.29) | The rise of the dragons  
M. Post-war Japan  
T. Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan  
W. Post-Mao China: reform and opening  
Th. ‘Asian values’ and ‘modernity’ | M. Buruma, *Inventing Japan*, pp129-152  
Primary sources 9  
T. Cohen, pp424-443; primary sources 10  
W. Goldman and Nathan, ‘Searching for the Appropriate Model for the PRC’, pp297-320; primary sources 11  
Th. *Culture Matters*, pp244-255, 263-66; pr | |
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| 6 (08.01 ~ 08.04) | M. What about North Korea?  
T. East Asia in the 21st Century  
W. Final exam  
Th. Final project presentations | M. Primary sources 12; *North Korea: The Politics of Regime Survival*, Ch. 1  
T. Choose your own primary sources | |