



**LINGUISTICS, LANGUAGES & CULTURES**

**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**EAST ASIAN STUDIES (EAST) 201-01  
UNDERSTANDING CONTEMPORARY EAST ASIA**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	<b>Mark Baron</b>
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	403-220-6007
<b>OFFICE</b>	SS 744
<b>EMAIL</b>	baronm@ucalgary.ca
<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	Tu 11:00 – 13:00 or by appointment
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca">http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>LECTURE LOCATION</b>	PF 126
<b>LECTURE TIMES</b>	MoWeFr 10:00 – 10:50

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** The purpose of this course is to provide students with an interdisciplinary introduction to contemporary East Asia focusing on China, Japan, and the Korean Peninsula. Lectures will address the anthropological, geographical, historical, politico-economic, and socio-cultural factors that are said to distinguish contemporary East Asia as a distinct sub-area of the wider Asian region. In addition, they will analyze the inter- and intra-civilizational contacts and transfers that have shaped contemporary East Asia from its origins to the present, and the processes of state formation and regime transition that East Asian societies have undergone throughout the contemporary period.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES** This course is designed to impart a facility in the specialized vocabulary, core concepts, theories, methods, and debates specific to the interdisciplinary study of East Asia. In addition, it is structured to provide students with the intellectual background and critical skills needed to take senior East Asia-related courses across the disciplines, and to provide students with a foundational course which they can use to initiate or augment a concentration in East Asian Studies at the undergraduate level.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK** Alice Lyman Miller and Richard Wich, *Becoming Asia: Change and Continuity in Asian International Relations since World War II*, (Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2011).

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

Test #1 Wednesday, February 5, 2014	30%
Test #2 Wednesday, March 12, 2014	30%
Cumulative Final Exam Scheduled by the Registrar	40%
	100%

**GRADING SYSTEM**

Grades will be assigned using the grading scale below. Be advised that the student does not have any 'right' to a certain grade, but is responsible for earning grades. The instructor has unfettered discretion to evaluate student performance and assign all grades.

A+ = 95+    B+ = 80-84    C+ = 66-69    D+ = 54-57  
 A = 90-94    B = 75-79    C = 62-65    D = 50-53  
 A- = 85-89    B- = 70-74    C- = 58-61    F = 0-49

**TESTS #1 AND #2**

**Test #1** (closed-book) will be multiple-choice in format. It will consist of 40 questions and cover (1) Miller and Wich (2011): chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4, as well as (2) all lectures for the period Friday, January 10, 2014 to Monday, February 3, 2014.

**Test #2** (closed-book) will be multiple-choice in format. It will consist of 40 questions and cover (1) Miller and Wich (2011): chapters 5, 7, 8, and 10, as well as (2) all lectures for the period Friday, February 7, 2014 to Monday, March 10, 2014.

**Make-Up Tests:** Make-up tests will be given only in extreme circumstances that are outlined in the *Departmental Policies of Linguistics, Languages & Culture* (see **Course Outline: Medical Exemptions**), as well as the *University of Calgary Calendar (2013-2014)*, and supported by appropriate documentation. **NOTE:** Make-up tests will be closed-book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled test.

**EXAMINATION  
CUMULATIVE FINAL**

The Registrar-scheduled cumulative final exam (closed-book) will be essay in format. It will cover all lectures, assigned readings, and supplementary materials for the period Friday, January 10, 2014 to Friday, April 11, 2014. The instructor will provide further details about the final exam in class only on Friday, April 11, 2014.

**Writing:** East Asian Studies courses often include essay assignments, tests, and final examinations. In cases where the coursework includes a written component, the quality of the writing, including presentation and grammar, may affect the grade. Please see **Section E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum** statement under **Academic Regulations** in the *University of Calgary Calendar (2013-2014)*.

Deferred Final Exams: For information regarding final examinations, please see **Section G. Examinations and Tests** under **Academic Regulations** in the *University of Calgary Calendar (2013-2014)*. **NOTE**: Deferred final exams will be closed-book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled exam.

**CLASS PREPARATION  
AND PARTICIPATION**

All students are expected to have completed and thoughtfully considered the assigned readings by the commencement of each class. Students are advised that lectures do not repeat the assigned readings verbatim. On the contrary, they are drawn from a variety of sources including the instructor's own educational background, research interests, and teaching experience. **Thus, students are forewarned that regular attendance is highly recommended as they will be required to demonstrate proficiency in all the material covered in lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and supplementary course materials (i.e. videos) in all of their coursework. This means that all reading assignments are examinable whether they have been discussed in class or not, and that students will be held accountable for whatever is said in class by both the instructor and their peers.** Students who expect to have difficulty attending regularly are strongly urged to consult with the instructor immediately as no make-up lectures or video showings will be arranged for missed classes.

**RECORDING  
LECTURES**

Recording of lectures is permitted for individual private study only at the discretion of the instructor. Any other use of recording constitutes Academic Misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. Both the student and the instructor must sign the appropriate Release Form to facilitate recording lectures.

**CONTACTING YOUR  
INSTRUCTOR**

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or during office hours. Should you wish to meet with the instructor outside of office hours, please telephone, email, or speak to him after class to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

**PROPER USE OF EMAIL**

Email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor. However, it does limit the effectiveness of the communications and may not be the best way for instructors to answer student questions, especially those requiring an explanation of concepts covered in this course or some personal concerns. Therefore, email use is to be restricted to making appointments with the instructor or informing him of emergencies. **The instructor will not answer detailed questions concerning the course curriculum, Tests #1 and #2, or the cumulative final examination over email.**

**OUTLINE & READINGS**  
(Subject to change as circumstances warrant)

**I: Introduction to Contemporary East Asia**

1. What is a Region and how do we Study It?  
Required Reading:  
None
2. Debates on the Origins and Development of Contemporary East Asia  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapters 1 and 2

**II: Contemporary East Asia, 1945-1991**

1. State Formation and Regime Change in Cold War East Asia
  - (a) China  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 3
  - (b) Japan  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 4
  - (c) The Two Koreas  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 5
2. The Cold War Regional System in Contemporary East Asia
  - (a) Cold War Regional System I: Bipolar East Asia  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapters 7 and 8
  - (b) Cold War Regional System II: Tripolar East Asia  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 10
  - (c) The Breakdown of the Cold War Regional System  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 11

**III: Contemporary East Asia since 1991**

1. The Post-Cold War Regional System: Continuity and Change  
Required Reading:  
Miller and Wich – chapter 14

2. Debates on China's Rise

Required Reading:

Miller and Wich – chapter 12

3. Japan and the Koreas in the New Century

Required Reading:

Miller and Wich – chapter 13