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PSCI 430.01: East Asian Strategic Enviroment

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**PSCI 330/430: The East Asian Strategic Environment
Spring 2013**

Tues/Thurs, 2:10-3:40
Social Science Room 254

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Office hours: Wednesday 10-12 and Friday 12:30-2:00, or by appointment

Course Description:

This course will employ a discussion format to provide students with a sophisticated understanding of the rapidly changing strategic environment in the Asia-Pacific region. After an overview of key historical trends shaping the evolving strategic structure in Asia, including the forces leading to the Post-World War II strategic dominance by the United States, the course will use a largely geographic approach to hone in on an overriding theme: The recent emergence of China (and to a somewhat lesser extent, India) as a vital regional/global powers and the response by the U.S. and a range of other key actors to this phenomenon. We will conclude with an assessment of whether a “power shift” is in fact occurring in the Asia Pacific, and to what extent China may pose a threat to the U.S. in the near or middle term.

What this course will help you understand:

- The background of America’s Cold War Containment Policy in Asia, particularly the impact of the Korean War in shaping that policy
- The causes and impact of the end of the Cold War in Asia
- Domestic and strategic forces that shaped China’s switch to a policy of “peaceful rise”
- India’s increased role as a strategic and economic “hedge” against China
- Updated information on Chinese/Indian/US relations in Asia
- Updated focus on potential hotspots like the Korea peninsula, South China Sea and Taiwan
- The potential strategic shift resulting from China’s challenge to US dominance in Asia

Required Readings:

Alice Lyman Miller and Rich Wich, *Becoming Asia: Change and Continuity in Asian International Relations Since World War II* (Stanford University Press, 2011)

Ashley Tellis, et al (ed). *Asia Responds to its Rising Powers, China and India* (National Bureau of Asian Research, 2011).

David Shambaugh (ed), *Power Shift: China and Asia’s New Dynamics* (University of California Press, 2005).

Plus a number of readings/videos that are assigned as appropriate, as noted on an updated Moodle page created for this course

GRADING: Grades will be calculated as follows:

- **Attendance and active participation in class: one-third****
- **A mid-term analysis essay: one-third**
- **final take-home project (position paper): one-third**

****Despite a snafu that led to a massive over-enrollment in this class, it has been developed as having a very heavy “reading and discussion” format. This puts a heavy burden on all students not only do the reading but to come to class having thought about it and prepared to discuss it. In class participation thus represents a significant part of the class grade. PLEASE NOTE: As part of that grade, two students will be assigned responsibility to prepare discussion questions and help guide the class discussion for each class.**

NOTE: Those taking the class for **graduate credit** must take two turns at the latter task, do a brief (20 minute) oral presentation on an agreed-upon topic in class, and must respond to a “higher standard” in class and on the written assignments.

Schedule of Class Topics:

January 29: Goals and Expectations; general introduction

January 31: Origins of the Cold War in E. Asia:
The Chinese Civil War and the “Loss” of China
Assignment: Miller & Wich (M&W), chaps 2&3

February 5: Japan: Occupation and Recovery
Assignment: Miller and Wich, chap. 4

February 7: The Impact of the Korean War
Assignment: read Miller & Wich, chap 5

February 12: The Cold War and Geopolitics in Asia: Decolonization, Nationalism and Revolution In India and Southeast Asia
Assignment: read Miller & Wich, chap 6; ADD)

February 14: The Cold War and Geopolitics in Asia
The US Alliance System
The Chinese-Soviet Alliance System
Assignment: M&W, chaps 7 & 8)

February 19: Vietnam, the Strategic Triangle, and the end of the Cold War between the U.S. and China
Assignment: Miller and Wich, chapter 9;

February 21: Vietnam II: view video *The Fog of War*

Assignment:

February 26/28: The Sino-Soviet Split, the rise and fall of Maoist domestic and foreign policy radicalism, and China emergence into the world community

Assignment: Miller and Wich, read chapter 12; skim p. 161-177

March 5/7: China's Strategic Emergence

Assignment: Tellis, skim p. 35-62; Shambaugh, skim chap. 1, read chap 2 and 12

March 12: China's Economic Influence in Asia and Africa

Assignment: Shambaugh, skim Chapters 3 & 4; **Moodle:** Article on China in Africa

March 19: MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Part II of Class: Regional Issues/Regional Responses

March 21: Taiwan

Assignment: Miller and Wich, p. 254-259; Shambaugh, chapter 7;

March 26/28: China-India

Assignment: Tellis, et al: p. 65-128; 285-313; **Moodle:** Shambaugh and Yahuda, chapter 7

April 2/4: SPRING BREAK –NO CLASS

April 9: Central Asia

Assignment: Shambaugh, chapter 9; Tellis, p. 259-282

April 11: Southeast Asia

Assignment: Shambaugh, chapter 8; Tellis, p. 313-343;

April 16: The DPRK and the nuclear issue

Assignment: **Moodle:** Scott Snyder's article in Shambaugh and Yahuda; Miller and Wich, p. 236-241 and 260-267;

April 18: South Korea maneuvers in a new strategic environment

Assignment: Shambaugh, chapter 6; Tellis, p. 161-192

April 23: Japan's evolving China policy

Assignment: **Moodle:** Michel Green, "Japan in Asia," in Shambaugh and Yahuda; Miller and Wich, p. 234-5 and 266-7; Shambaugh, chapter 5;

April 25: Japan and China, II

Assignment: Tellis, p. 129-159, current media TBA

April 30: Issues in China-U.S. Bilateral Relations, China as a potential Military threat

Assignment: skim Shambaugh, Chapter 12 (bit outdated); Current media, TBA

May 2: Power Shift in the Pacific? China's Challenge to America's long-standing strategic dominance in the Asia Pacific

Assignment: Shambaugh, chapters 13 &14

May 7/9: Power Shift, part II: Continued Assessment of the evolving strategic relationships in Asia, and their impact on the U.S.

Assignment: Shambaugh, chapters 15 and 16

Wednesday, May 15 (5:00 pm): Final Project Due (to be uploaded on Moodle)