Fall 2020

INR 4224. CRN. 85651: Contemporary International Politics of Asia

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, College of Science

3 credit hours

August 24-December 12, 2020

Instructor: Debidatta A. Mahapatra
Class Meetings: Wednesday, 6 PM-8:50 PM
Credit hours: 3
Mode of Teaching: M (Synchronous Zoom meetings)
Office Hours: Email or Zoom meeting or appointment
Instructor E-mail: Debidatta.Mahapatra@ucf.edu.

UCF Catalogue Description

Prerequisite(s): ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or C.I. Corequisite(s): None. Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s): None.
Examination of the foreign policies of major and secondary powers in Asia, with particular attention to China and Japan.

Course Objectives

1. Students will have an understanding of international relations in Asia and its various dimensions. They will be able to think theoretically about Asian IR.
2. Students will be able to explore changes in Asia and the increasing complexities of IR in the region.
3. Students will be able to explore the role of various actors and dynamics – external, regional, sub-regional and trans-regional – in Asian IR. The focus will be on select actors including China, India and Japan.
4. The students will have an understanding of the role of the United States in the region.
5. Students will improve their writing, communication and research skills.

Course Design

This course is a combination of academic activities involving zoom lectures, discussions, directed readings, papers, group projects, and occasional audiovisuals. Each activity serves a purpose, be it information transmission and retention, promoting rigorous analysis, or encouraging the development of new ideas. Failing to engage will adversely impact your grade. For this reason, pre-class preparation is essential for this course. Students are expected to have read the assigned material prior to the class, and be prepared to discuss the same in the class. All the material may not be addressed in the class and discussions and lectures may go beyond the readings. You are responsible to engage in both and in case of doubt raise questions.

Because of the continued remote instruction requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will use Zoom for synchronous ("real time") class meetings. Meeting dates and times will be scheduled through Webcourses@UCF and should appear on your calendar.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with Zoom by visiting the UCF Zoom Guides at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/zoom/>. You may choose to use Zoom on your mobile device (phone or tablet).

Things to Know About Zoom:

- You must sign in to my Zoom session using your UCF NID and password.
- The Zoom sessions are recorded.
- Improper classroom behavior is not tolerated within Zoom sessions and may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct.
- You can contact Webcourses@UCF Support at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/> if you have any technical issues accessing Zoom.

Assignments

Class Attendance, and Preparation and Participation: 10% (5%+5%)

We will have Zoom meeting each Wednesday except on the holidays and on the midterm and the final term exams. I will send you the weblink to the meeting before the class.

For the Zoom meeting, you need to have a smooth internet connection. You are required to have video camera on during the meeting. Though the zoom meeting can not give the experience of face-to-face class, my goal is to have maximum class experience. So, for that, it is necessary to have each other's presence in the class is necessary.

Your active participation in the class is necessary if this class is to be a successful learning experience. This means you must come in prepared - having read the assignments and then actively participate in the class discussions, making evident that you have read and thought about the issues at hand.

You are encouraged to attend every class and participate in class discussion. Unless there is an emergency and the instructor is duly informed, the students are required to attend each class. The students must inform in advance if they are going to miss a class. Missing more than three classes will result in a lower letter grade.

At the beginning of each class, after the first class, which will be devoted to mutual introduction and syllabus discussion, we will devote 10 to 15 minutes on current events in Asia. Students are encouraged to remain up-to-date and be aware of the developments at the local, national and international levels in Asia so that they can bring to class issues of significance. The alert students will be awarded extra points.

Quizzes: 10%

You will have six quizzes, including the syllabus quiz in the first week. It will be available at the quiz section of the Canvas. You will have one attempt, 30 minutes, to complete the quiz. The quiz questions (approx. 10) will be based on the reading material and class discussion of the past two weeks. We will discuss quiz questions in our next Zoom meeting after the quiz.

Discussion essays (150-200 words) and comments: 20%
There will be 10 discussions (No discussion during the first week and the last week, the exam weeks, and the holidays). You will post your essays on the Discussion forum in the Canvas. You are also required to make at least one comment per week on another student's essay on this forum. The discussion question will be available on Monday of the discussion week and cover its various aspects during the class discussion of that week. The essay and comments are due by 11:59 PM of Friday of that week. The essay must connect the reading material and class discussion in a meaningful way. The students who miss three exercises (out of 10) will receive a lower letter grade. The students who miss five such exercises will receive a grade further below the lower letter grade. The students who post all the 10 essays and comments will have their lowest grade dropped.

The accumulated knowledge from working on the quizzes and short essays will be helpful in your mid-term and final exams, and in writing your critical thinking paper.

Mid-Term Examination: 25 %, Wednesday, October 7
The mid-term examination will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions and four short essay type questions (150 words each). All these questions will be based on reading materials and class discussions before the exam. The exam will be available on the quiz section of the Canvas on Wednesday from 12:01 AM to 11:59 PM. The exam will be available on the quiz section of the Canvas. You will have one attempt, 150 minutes, to complete the exam.
We will discuss the exam before one week of the exam. We will also discuss possible answers to the questions in our next Zoom meeting after the exam.

Critical thinking paper: 20%, Friday. November 20
Each student will work on a topic, provided by the instructor, and write a critical thinking paper. You will have to write a paper of 2000 words. Times New Roman 12 font, double-spaced). The topics and the paper format will be available on the canvas.
Students will be encouraged to have group discussion on their topic. I will allocate time for the group discussion during our Zoom meeting. You will engage in group discussion and exchange ideas. While examining the topic and applying the concepts discussed in the class, you must bring your novel perspectives. We will discuss this assignment in detail in our meeting.

You have to upload your paper on Canvas by Friday, November 20. For every 24 hours that pass thereafter, 5% of the credit is lost.

Final Examination: 25%, TBA (Monday, December 7 – Saturday, December 12, 2020)
The final examination will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions and four short essay type questions (150 words each). All these questions will be based on reading materials and class discussions after the midterm exam. The exam will be available on the quiz section of the

Canvas. You will have one attempt, 150 minutes, to complete the exam. We will discuss the exam before one week of the exam.

Grades
The grade scale I use is below. Scores having .5 or higher will be rounded up.

100>g≥94: A	89>g≥88: B+	79>g≥78: C+	69>g≥68: D+	59>g≥0: F
93>g≥ 90: A-	87>g≥ 84: B	77>g≥ 74: C	67>g≥64: D	
	83>g≥ 80: B-	73>g≥ 70: C-	63>g≥60: D-	

Academic Integrity
Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at <http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/process/roc>. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.

2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.

3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.

4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.

5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.

6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.

7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, consult the International Center for Academic Integrity <http://academicintegrity.org>.
For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices" <http://wpacouncil.org/node/9>.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating
Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/docs/goldenrule.pdf>. UCF faculty members have a

responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade>.

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at <http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html>.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/AEDlocations-UCF> (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <https://my.ucf.edu> and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video (<https://youtu.be/NIKYajEx4pk>).

STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19

University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf. Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification

Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.

Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness

If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities
Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will

be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.1MakeupAssignmentsForAuthorizedUniversityEventsOrCocurricularActivities.pdf>
In other cases, except medical emergencies, there will be no make-up assignments. For medical emergency cases, I will need documentary evidence.

Accessibility
The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, political beliefs, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu/
If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact Student Accessibility Services. Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services - http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/ & sas@ucf.edu

University Writing Center
Colbourn 105
407-823-2197
http://uwc.ucf.edu/
The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to UCF students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Trained peer consultants provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix papers or to make better writers, but to teach writers strategies to navigate complex situations for writing, both in and outside the University. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. To make the best use of the UWC, visit far enough before your due date to allow yourself time to revise after your consultation, browse the writing resources on our website, and arrange a regular weekly appointment if you'd like long-term help. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by phone or by using the TutorTrac scheduler on our website; walk-in consultations are also available. In addition, the UWC seeks graduate and undergraduate tutors from all majors; contact the UWC to learn more about peer writing consulting and ENC 4275/5276: Theory & Practice of Tutoring Writing, our three-credit tutor-education course.

Religious Observances
Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy at

<http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALOct17.pdf>.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students
Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

Changes to the Syllabus
In the event that there is a need for any changes to the syllabus, an e-mail will be sent to all students' knights-mail accounts (as maintained by the registrar), and will be mentioned in the class meetings. Changes become effective immediately after their mention in the class, or the sending of the e-mail, whichever comes last.

Cancellation of Class
In the event that the instructor needs to cancel class, an e-mail will be sent to all students through Canvas email prior to class time.

Readings
You should purchase David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda's edited book *International Relations of Asia* (Rowman & Littlefield 2014, Second edition). It is available in the bookstore and from a variety of online vendors. I will provide additional material from time to time.

Important dates

Class Begins	Wednesday, August 26
Withdrawal deadline	Friday, October 30, 2020
Midterm Exam	Wednesday, October 7, 2020
Veteran's Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2020, No Class
Thanksgiving holiday	Wednesday, November 25, 2020, No class
Final Exam	TBA (Monday, December 7 – Saturday, December 12, 2020)

Assignment due dates

Quizzes	
Syllabus quiz	Thursday, August 27
First quiz	Friday, September 4
Second quiz	Friday, September 18
Third quiz	Friday, October 2
Fourth quiz	Friday, October 23
Fifth quiz	Friday, November 6
Essays	
First essay	Friday, September 4
Second essay	Friday, September 11
Third essay	Friday, September 18
Fourth essay	Friday, September 25
Fifth essay	Friday, October 2

Sixth essay	Friday, October 16
Seventh essay	Friday, October 23
Eighth essay	Friday, October 30
Ninth essay	Friday, November 6
Tenth essay	Friday, November 20
Midterm Exam	Wednesday, October 7
Critical Thinking paper	Friday, November 20
Final Exam	TBA (Monday, December 7 – Saturday, December 12)

Course Schedule

August 26
Introduction

Syllabus quiz, Thursday, August 27

September 2
A multidimensional approach to international politics in Asia
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 1.
Gandhi's speech at Inter-Asian Relations Conference, 1947, https://icwa.in/pdfs/mahatma.pdf
J. K. Galbraith. 1964. "Reflection on the Asian Scene." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 23 (4): 501-504.
Vincent H. Shie & Craig D. Meer. 2010. "Is this the Asian Century? China, India, South Korea and Taiwan in the Age of Intellectual Capitalism." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 40 (1): 1-21.

First essay due - Friday, September 4
First quiz due - Friday, September 4

September 9
Legacies and theories
International Relations of Asia, Chapters 2 and 3.

Second essay due – Friday, September 11

September 16
Role of External Powers: the United States
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 4.
Ronald L. Tammen and Jacek Kugler. 2006. "Power Transition and China-US Conflicts." *Chinese Journal of International Politics* 1: 35–55.

Third essay due - Friday, September 18
Second quiz due - Friday, September 18

September 23
Role of External Powers: Europe

International Relations of Asia, Chapter 5.
Julianne Smith and Torrey Taussig. 2019. The Old World and the Middle Kingdom: Europe Wakes Up to China's Rise. *Foreign Affairs*. September/October, https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2019-08-12/old-world-and-middle-kingdom

Fourth essay due - Friday, September 25

September 30
Discussion midterm exam
Regional powers: China
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 6
Yan Xuetong. 2006. "The Rise of China and its Power Status." *Chinese Journal of International Politics* 1: 5–33.
Michael C. Davis and Victoria Tin-Bor Hui. 2019. "Will China Crush the Protests in Hong Kong?." *Foreign Affairs*. August, https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2019-08-05/will-china-crush-protests-hong-kong

Fifth essay due - Friday, October 2
Third quiz due - Friday, October 2

October 7
Midterm Exam

October 14
Regional powers: India
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 7.
Sumit Ganguly. 2016. "India after Nonalignment." Foreign Affairs. September, https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/india/2016-09-19/india-after-nonalignment

Sixth essay due - Friday, October 16

October 21
Regional powers: Japan
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 8.
Richard Katz.2017. "Trump and Japan: Reality Check for Abe and the President." *Foreign Affairs* February, https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/japan/2017-02-16/trump-and-japan

Seventh essay due - Friday, October 23
Fourth quiz due - Friday, October 23

October 28
Sub-regional actors: ASEAN, and Australia
International Relations of Asia, Chapters 9 and 10.
Garry Rodan. 1997. "Civil society and other political possibilities in Southeast." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 27 (2): 156-178.

Kishore Mahbubani and Kristen Tang. 2018. ASEAN: An Unexpected Success Story. *The Cairo Review of Global Affairs*. https://www.thecairoreview.com/essays/asean-an-unexpected-success-story/

Eighth essay due - Friday, October 30

November 4
Sub-regional actors: Central Asia, and Korean Peninsula
International Relations of Asia, Chapters 11 and 12.
Victor Cha and Katrin Fraser Katz. 2018. "A Better North Korea Strategy: How to Coerce Pyongyang without Starting a War." Foreign Affairs. June, https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/north-korea/2018-06-01/better-north-korea-strategy

Ninth essay due - Friday, November 6
Fifth quiz due - Friday, November 6

November 11
Veteran's Day, No class

November 18
Asian regional economy
International Relations of Asia, Chapter 13.
Pranab Bardhan. 2009. "India and China: Governance Issues and Development." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 68 (2): 47-357

Tenth essay due - Friday, November 20
Critical Thinking paper due - Friday, November 20

November 25
Thanksgiving holiday, No class

December 2
Discussion on final exam
Globalization and international relations in Asia
International Relations of Asia, Chapters 14, 15 and 16
Mark R. Thompson. 2015. "Democracy with Asian Characteristics." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74 (4): 875-887.
Evan A. Feigenbaum. 2017. "China and the World: Dealing with a Reluctant Power." *Foreign Affairs* 96 (1): 33-40.

December 7
Final Examination

Online Resource
http://mahbubani.net/