

# ECONOMY, SOCIETY, AND POLITICS IN ASIA

SOCI 406/HIST 426

Spring 2018

**Class time:** Monday & Wednesday, 16:00-17:15

**Location:** CASE B26

**Instructor:** Burak Gürel

**Office:** SOS 253

**Office hours:** Wednesday, 13:30-15:00

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## Course description

This course examines economic, social, and political change in major Asian countries from the nineteenth century up until today from a comparative and historical perspective. It discusses capitalism, modernization, colonialism, nationalism, socialism, developmentalism, and neoliberalism with reference to the experiences of China, India, Japan, and other Asian countries.

## Course requirements

**Attendance and Participation:** Unless you have a legitimate excuse, you are expected to attend all classes. If there is an extenuating situation preventing you from coming to class, please inform me in advance. If you miss more than four classes **with or without** a legitimate excuse, the possibility of you successfully finishing this class would significantly decrease. Each student is expected to actively participate in class discussions.

**Position papers:** Each student is required to write a total of **3** position papers on the reading materials of the weeks of her/his own choosing. The length of each position paper should be between 2 and 4 double-spaced pages (*Times New Roman*, 12-point font). Position papers should be submitted (**via email** to the instructor) **before** the start of the first class meeting of the week (Wednesday) in which the related reading materials are to be discussed. Position papers about the previous weeks' readings are **not** going to be accepted.

**Midterm exam:** There will be one midterm exam. It will include fill in the blanks, multiple choice test questions, and short essay questions.

**Final paper:** Each student is expected to write a research paper related to the course content. Students are required to submit a paper proposal (two double-spaced pages maximum). This proposal should include an explanation of the content of the proposed paper (one page) and a bibliography (one page).

## Grade distribution

**Attendance and participation: 10%**

**Position papers: 15%**

**Midterm exam: 35%**

**Final paper: 40%**

## Grading scale

Letter Grade	Scale	Suggested Grade Range
A+, A	4	90 – 100
A-	3,7	87 – 89
B+	3,3	83 – 86
B	3	80 – 82
B-	2,7	77 – 79
C+	2,3	73 – 76
C	2	70 – 72
C-	1,7	67 – 69
D+	1,3	64 – 66
D	1	60 – 63
F	0	0 – 59

<https://cssh.ku.edu.tr/en/about/faculty-resources/grading-scale/>

## **Koç University's Policy on Academic Honesty**

Official university regulations describe academic dishonesty and sanctions against it as follows: "Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating, plagiarism, or collusion are serious offenses and are not tolerated at Koç University. University Academic Regulations and the Regulations for Student Disciplinary Matters clearly define the policy and the disciplinary action to be taken in case of academic dishonesty. Failure in academic integrity may lead to suspension and expulsion from the University. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying from a classmate or providing answers or information, either written or oral, to others. Plagiarism is borrowing or using someone else's writing or ideas without giving written acknowledgment to the author. This includes copying from a fellow student's paper or from a text (whether printed or electronic) without properly citing the source. Collusion is getting unauthorized help from another person or having someone else write a paper or assignment."

### **Disability statement**

If you have a disability that you think might interfere with your performance in this course, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible for proper accommodation.

### **Reading List & Schedule**

#### **Week 1: Introduction (February 5&7)**

#### **Week 2: Asia Before the Rise of the West (February 12&14)**

Giovanni Arrighi, *Adam Smith in Beijing: Lineages of the Twenty-First Century*, London & New York: Verso, 2007, pp. 314-336.

Andre Gunder Frank, *ReOrient: Global Economy in the Asian Age*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998, pp. 84-117, 126-130.

#### **Week 3: The Decline of Asia in the Modern World System (February 19&21)**

Giovanni Arrighi, *Adam Smith in Beijing: Lineages of the Twenty-First Century*, London & New York: Verso, 2007, pp. 76-77, 336-344.

W. G. Beasley, *Japanese Imperialism, 1894-1945*, Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1987, pp. 14-26.

Andre Gunder Frank, *ReOrient: Global Economy in the Asian Age*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998, pp. 238-276.

Jack Gray, *Rebellions and Revolutions: China from the 1800s to the 1980s*, Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1990, pp. 22-51.

Ho-fung Hung, *The China Boom: Why China Will Not Rule the World*, New York: Columbia

University Press, 2016, pp. 15-33.

#### **Week 4: Rising Japan within Declining Asia (February 26&28)**

W. J. Macpherson, *The Economic Development of Japan, 1868-1941*, Cambridge & New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995, pp. 17-36.

W. G. Beasley, *Japanese Imperialism, 1894-1945*, Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1987, pp. 27-40, 85-100, 142-155, 198-219.

#### **Week 5: The End of the Monarchy and the Failure of the Republican China (March 5&7)**

Jack Gray, *Rebellions and Revolutions: China from the 1800s to the 1980s*, Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1990, pp. 126-151, 170-248.

#### **Week 6: Chinese Revolution (March 12&14)**

Jack Gray, *Rebellions and Revolutions: China from the 1800s to the 1980s*, Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1990, pp. 126-151, 249-286.

Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic*, New York: The Free Press, 1999, pp. 3-51.

#### **Week 7: Transformation of China in the Mao Era (March 19&21)**

Chris Bramall, *Sources of Chinese Economic Growth, 1978-1996*, Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 125-197.

Ho-fung Hung, *The China Boom: Why China Will Not Rule the World*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2016, pp. 34-51.

Maurice Meisner, *Mao's China and After: A History of the People's Republic*, New York: The Free Press, 1999, pp. 352-375, 413-426.

James E. Nickum, "Labor Accumulation in Rural China and Its Role since the Cultural Revolution," *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, Vol. 2, No. 3, 1978, pp. 273- 286.

#### **Week 8: Chinese Capitalism (March 26&28)**

Joel Andreas, "Changing Colours in China," *New Left Review*, No: 54, 2008, pp. 123-142.

Chris Bramall, *Sources of Chinese Economic Growth, 1978-1996*, Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 459-471.

Chris Bramall, *Chinese Economic Development*, London & New York: Routledge, 2009, pp. 469-496.

Burak Gürel, "Changing Relations of Production in Chinese Agriculture from Decollectivization

to Capitalism,” *McGill Sociological Review*, Vol. 4, 2014, pp. 67- 92.

Ho-fung Hung, *The China Boom: Why China Will Not Rule the World*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2016, pp. 52-83.

### **Week 9: Midterm (April 2&4)**

Midterm review: April 2

### **MIDTERM EXAM (APRIL 4, Location: CASE B26)**

Spring Break (April 9-13)

### **Week 10. India from Colonization to Independence (April 16&18)**

Perry Anderson, *The Indian Ideology*, London & New York: Verso, 2013, pp. 1-91.

Francine Frankel, *India's Political Economy: A Gradual Revolution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005, pp. 28-70.

Ravi Palat, “Book Review: The Indian Ideology,” *Critical Asian Studies*, Vol: 45, No: 2, 2013, pp. 323-330.

Yahya Chaudhry, “The Poverty of Indian Ideology,” May 5, 2013, <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2013/12/the-poverty-of-indian-ideology/>

### **Week 11. Social Roots of India's Underdevelopment (April 25)**

Francine Frankel, *India's Political Economy: A Gradual Revolution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005, pp. 113-200.

Vivek Chibber, *Locked in Place: State Building and Late Industrialization in India*, Princeton & Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2003, pp. 161-192, 222-243, 248-254.

**There will be no class meeting on April 23.**

### **Week 12. Asian Economic Development from a Comparative Perspective (April 30 & May 2)**

Giovanni Arrighi, “Globalization and the Rise of East Asia: Lessons from the Past, Prospects for the Future,” *International Sociology*, Vol. 13, No. 59, 1998, pp. 59-77.

Manuel Castells, “Four Asian Tigers with a Dragon Head: A Comparative Analysis of the State, Economy, and Society in the Asian-Pacific Rim,” in R. P. Appelbaum & Jeffrey Henderson (eds.), *States and Development in the Asian-Pacific Rim*, London: Sage, 1992, pp. 33-70.

Burak Gürel, “The Role of Collective Mobilization in the Divergent Performance of the Rural Economies of China and India (1950-2005),” *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 2018 (Forthcoming).

Massoud Karshenas, “‘Urban Bias’, Intersectoral Resource Flows and the Macroeconomic Implications of Agrarian Relations: The Historical Experience of Japan and Taiwan,” *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol. 4, No. 1-2, 2004, pp. 170-189.

### **Week 13. Social and Political Conflict in Contemporary Asia (May 7&9)**

Deepankar Basu and Debarshi Das, “The Maoist Movement in India: Some Political Economy Considerations,” *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol: 13, No: 3, 2013, pp. 365-381.

Beverly J. Silver and Lu Zhang, “China as the Epicenter of World Labor Unrest,” in Ho-fung Hung (ed.), *China and the Transformation of Global Capitalism*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009, pp. 174-187.

Ho-fung Hung, “Labor Politics under Three Stages of Chinese Capitalism,” *South Atlantic Quarterly*, Vol. 112, No. 1, 2013, pp. 203-212.

Michael Levien, “The Politics of Dispossession: Theorizing India’s ‘Land Wars’,” *Politics & Society*, Vol. 41, No. 3, 2013, pp. 351-394.

Yao Li, “A Zero-Sum Game? Repression and Protest in China,” *Government and Opposition*, 2017, pp. 1-27.

### **Week 14. Authoritarianism in Contemporary Asia (May 14 &16)**

Aijaz Ahmad, “India: Liberal Democracy and the Extreme Right,” *Socialist Register 2016*, pp. 170-192.

Diana Fu and Greg Distelhorst, “Grassroots Participation and Repression under Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping,” *The China Journal*, No: 79, 2018, pp. 100-122.

Kanishka Jayasuriya, “Authoritarian Statism and the New Right in Asia’s Conservative Democracies,” *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 2018, 1-21.

A.G. Noorani, “India’s Sawdust Caesar,” December 25, 2015, <http://www.frontline.in/the-nation/indias-sawdust-caesar/article7961470.ece>

Stephan Ortmann and Mark R. Thompson, “China and the ‘Singapore Model’,” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol: 27, No: 1, 2016, pp. 39-48.

Tariq Thachil, “Elite Parties, Poor Voters: Theory and Evidence from India,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol: 108, No: 2, 2014, pp. 454-477.

**The deadline for the submission of final papers (via email) is June 1, 2018.**