Japanese Foreign Policy
Political Science 464 – UBC – 2006-7 Term 2
http://faculty.arts.ubc.ca/bnyblade/poli464.html

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Course Description and Objectives

This seminar examines the evolution of Japan's foreign economic and security policy over the last sixty years. The first part of the course focuses on the broader theoretic frameworks generally used to explain Japanese foreign policy. The second part considers Japanese foreign policy in Asia and Japanese policy regarding global issues and international organizations. The third part of the course consists of student presentations of their research.

The objective of this seminar is to help students better understand Japanese foreign policy in the context of international relations theory. Students are expected to develop substantive knowledge of postwar Japanese foreign policy. More importantly, students are expected to understand and critically analyze how international relations theory can help explain Japanese foreign policy. In this seminar there is a substantial amount of reading and emphasis is placed on active participation in class discussion and the completion of a major research project.

Course Requirements

Participation
Overall Participation 20
Leading Discussion 15
Reading Summaries 15

20% of your final mark will be based on your overall in-class participation. You are expected to actively contribute to the discussions. Your mark is not based on the quantity of your words, but on their quality. It is important to be able to discuss the readings and topics in depth, raise interesting questions, and engage with your fellow students. It is impossible to participate if you do not attend, although consideration will be made for excused absences. You will also be expected to lead class discussion of a reading twice during the course, and serve as discussant for one of the student presentations. Your performance as a discussion leader and discussant will comprise an additional 15% of your final mark.

In order to encourage students to actively participate in a knowledgeable way, I require that all readings be done before class. You will be expected to take notes on the readings, a summary of which you must submit to me electronically by noon before each class. These summaries will comprise 15% of your final mark. Unexcused late summaries will not be accepted.

Research Project
Proposal 5
Literature Review 5
Presentation 10
Final Paper 30
A final research paper (20~25 pages) is worth 30% of your final mark. An additional 5% is based on the quality and effort you put into your research proposal, due February 13th. 5% is based on a draft literature review, due March 13th. A further 10% is based on an in-progress research report and in-class presentation at the end of term.

The proposal and literature review must be submitted in person at the beginning of class on the day in which they are due. The final paper is due at noon on April 17th. Late assignments will receive a flat penalty of 20% if handed in within a week (or, for the final paper, by the last day of finals). They will receive a zero after that. To avoid penalties a letter from Arts Advising (Buch A201, 822-4028) is required.

Instances of academic dishonesty will be prosecuted in accordance with UBC policy. As per departmental policy, all final papers must be submitted to turnitin.com. Submission to turnitin.com must be done by the end of the day the final paper is due or the late penalty will apply. Details about Turnitin will be made available at a later date.

**Readings and Topics**

There are usually four readings per week, averaging 100 pages. All required readings for this course are available online, and links to all the readings are on the course website. Many of the readings are available through the UBC library’s subscription to electronic journals, and may only be downloaded from a UBC IP Address or proxy server. You are strongly encouraged to download and print out the readings for the entire course early in the term.

**Part I: Theoretic Perspectives on Japanese Foreign Policy**

1. Introduction and Historical Overview (January 9)
2. Domestic Institutions & Foreign Pressures (January 16)
3. Realist Perspectives (January 23)
4. Constructivist Perspectives (January 30)

**Part II: Japan in Asia and the World**

5. Asian Regionalism and Regionalization (February 6)
6. Japan and Asian Regionalism (February 13)
   
   *Midterm Break (February 19-23)*
7. Japan and China (February 27)
8. Japan’s ‘Other’ Pacific-Rim Relations: Korea, ASEAN, Canada (March 6)
9. Japan and Global International Organizations (March 13)
10. Japan and Human Security (March 20)

**Part III: Presentations**

*March 27, April 3, April 10*
Readings

Part I: Theoretic Perspectives on Japanese Foreign Policy

2. Domestic Institutions & Foreign Pressures (January 16)

3. Realist Perspectives (January 23)

4. Constructivist Perspectives (January 30)

Part II. Japan in Asia and the World

5. Asian Regionalism and Regionalization (February 6)

6. Japan and Asian Regionalism (February 13)

Midterm Break (February 19-23)

7. Japan and China (February 27)

8. Pacific-Rim Relations: Korea, ASEAN, Canada (March 6)

9. Japan and Global International Organizations (March 13)
   2. Selections from MOFA website on United Nations Reform

10. Japan and Human Security (March 20)
Research Assignments

Research Proposal

Due Date: February 13\textsuperscript{th} (Last class before break)

Expected Length: 2-3 pages, although length is less important than content

Expected Format: Entirely at your discretion

What I want to know having read the proposal:

1. What is the general research area (topic) you are interested in?
2. What research question(s) are you considering trying to answer?
3. Why are these questions puzzling? (i.e. Why isn’t the answer obvious?)
4. Why should I care about the topic & questions?
5. What sort of evidence will you use to answer the question (given time and space limitations)?

Draft Literature Review

Due Date: March 13\textsuperscript{th}

Expected Length: 5 pages, although length is less important than content

Expected Format: Entirely at your discretion, although I expect a full bibliography at the end

What I want to know having read the draft literature review:

1. What is your question, what is your answer?
2. What are potential counterarguments in the literature?
3. What sources will you use for evidence in substantiating your answer/disproving counterargs?

Research Progress Report

Due Date: Email to the entire class by 5 p.m. the day before you present

Expected Length: 5 pages, although length is less important than content


What I want to know having read the progress report:

1. What will the final paper argue? How will it support the argument?
2. What research has been done to date? What remains to be done?