

Human Rights and Democracy in East Asia.

Mon/Wed 2.30 – 4.00 pm
Fall 2001

Government 231
Asian Studies 231

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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs. 2.00 - 4.00 (or by appointment)

Examines human rights and democracy in East Asia, with particular focus on Japan, China and North and South Korea. Explores the relationships between socio-economic development, regime type and the status of rights with particular reference to rights for the economically marginalized and women. Asks which human rights are universal, under what circumstances, and how conceptions of rights vary from country to country and region to region. Examines the role of non-Asian countries, especially the US, in promoting and abusing rights in Asia, and explores the problems of cultural relativism and the differences between rhetoric and reality in US policy. Special sections deal with the role of the media in creating “reality” and perpetuating stereotypes, and the use and abuse of history in dealing with long-standing rights issues such as the Nanking Massacre, the “Comfort Women” (sex slaves of the Imperial Japanese Army) and the massacre of civilians during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Throughout the course, we will be keeping an eye on current events, integrating what we are learning with what is happening day-to-day in the region.

Readings

The following are available for purchase at the Bowdoin Textbook store. All readings are also available on reserve at the Hawthorne-Longfellow Library.

Required:Course Packet

Joanne Bauer and Daniel Bell (eds) The East Asian Challenge for Human Rights (Cambridge University Press, 1999)

George Hicks The Comfort Women (WW Norton 1994)

Melvin Goldstein The Snow Lion and the Dragon (UC press, 1997)

Wm. Theodore DeBary and Tu Weiming (eds) Confuciansim and Human Rights (Columbia University Press 1998)

Suisheng Zhao (ed) China and Democracy (Routledge, 2000)

Suggested Readings :

(We will be reading a few chapters of each of these – approximately 25-03%. The remainder is – in all three cases – interesting and relevant, but simply too much to assign.)

Bruce Cummings Korea's Place in the Sun (WW Norton 1997)

Henry Scott-Stokes and Lee Eun (eds) The Kwangju Uprising (ME Sharpe, 2000)

Laura Hein and Mark Selden (eds) Living with the Bomb (ME Sharp 1997)

In addition, there are a few readings placed on 2-hour reserve at Hawthorne-Longfellow Library. These are marked by an asterix *.

Requirements:

-Attend and participate in all class sessions. Please note that the quality of your participation is at least as important as the quantity. Read all readings before the session for which they are set assigned.

- Midterm and final examinations.

Six Papers

* Four will be 2-3 page (max) responses – in which you pick a question and use the readings, class discussions, etc, to make a succinct argument.

* Two will be more developed 5-6 papers in which you can make an argument in greater depth.

Schedule for papers:

* These papers will address a set of weekly study questions which will handed out in class on the Wednesday prior to the relevant week. Papers are due in class on the Monday following the relevant week. Late papers will not be accepted, but every student has one “freebie” extension with which you can turn in any paper up to two weeks late with no questions asked.

* Three (2 short, 1 long) to be turned in before the midterm, three by the last day of class.

- Research Paper Option: Students wishing to go into more depth on a particular topic may write a 10-15 page research paper instead of the final 3 papers and the final exam. *ie* you would write two short (2-3-page) papers, one 5-page paper, and one 10-15 page research paper as well as the midterm. This option requires the permission of the instructor. Permission will be granted after the midterm, subject to satisfactory progress in the first half of the class, which usually means grades averaging better than B. You will be required to submit a prospectus by Oct 26 and a first draft by the final day of class which we may then meet to discuss. The finished paper will be due on the first day of exams (Dec 12th). The paper will be worth 35% of your grade.

Grading

Midterm:	10%
Final Exam:	10%
4 short papers:	40% (10% each)
2 longer papers	30% (15% each)
Class participation:	10%

* The class participation grade is necessarily subjective, but if you never say anything in class all semester, you’ll probably get an “F” for this section. This grade also includes performance on occasional in-class writing assignments.

Academic Honesty

Unless otherwise stated, all work you submit for grades is assumed to be your own. When you use information or ideas that came from someone else, you should acknowledge your source appropriately. Please reread “Sources” and the Bowdoin

Honor Code, and check with me if you are in doubt. Deliberate attempts to pass off someone else's work as your own for credit will result in failure in the course and referral to the Judicial Board. Note that submitting the same work for credit in two (or more) different courses without permission also constitutes academic dishonesty and a breach of the honor code. BUT I will usually be happy to grant permission for dual submissions,

Lecture Timetable Fall 2001

Truth, Memory and Narrative

Sept. 3 (M) Introduction

Sept. 5 (W) Truth: Rashomon

Akutagawa: In a Grove

Hein and Selden "Commemoration and Silence"

Yui "Between Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima/Nagasaki"

George Roeder "Making things visible"

Western Values in Theory and Practice

Sept 10 (M) Thinking Morally: Vietnam

Hitchens "The Case against Kissinger"

Vistica (NYT) "One Night in Thanh Phong"

Schell "War and Accountability"

Taibbi Kerry to Thanh Phong: Shit Happens!

www.exile.ru/116/feature.php

Sept. 12 (W) Thinking Morally:

Nagel War and Massacre & Ruthlessness in Public Life

Nye, "How to Judge Moral Reasoning"

"Asian Values" in Practice and Theory

Sept 17 (M) Human Rights and Asian Values: the politics

UN Declaration of Human Rights

DeB and W 2 "A Bill of Worries"

Kausikan The International Politics of Human Rights

B&B Intro,

Sept 19 (W) Human Rights and Asian Values: the debate

Culture is Destiny: An interview with Lee Kuan Yew

Kim Dae Jung "The Myth of Asia's Anti-Democratic Values"

B&B 1 (Tatuso)

and/or B&B 2 (Donnelly) Human Rights and Asian Values

B&B Ch 4, (Yasuaki) An Intercivilizational Approach"

Nathan The Place of Values in Cross-Cultural Studies

Confucianism and Human Rights

Sept 24 (M) Confucianism and Human Rights

DeB and TW: Intro, 3 (Ching) 6 (Chang), Epilogues

Sept 26 (W) Other Asian Perspectives on Rights

*Dali Lama Human Rights and Universal Responsibility
Inada A Buddhist Response to Rights*

Human Rights and Democracy in Korea

Oct 1 (M) The Battle for Democracy in Korea (Video)

* *Cummings Ch 7 pp.337-394*

Oct 3 (W) Democracy in Korea; the Kwangju Massacre and after...

* *Kwangju Uprising: Chs 1-4 + Foreword
Kim "Men's Talk"*

Oct 8 (M) *Fall Vaction – no class*

Oct 10 (W) Famine in North Korea

* *Cummings Ch 8 394-434*

Oct 15 (M) KEI visit: NO CLASS at scheduled time. MANDATORY attendance at KEI presentation 4-6 pm and dinner 6.30-

Oct 17 (W) *Midterm*

China - Democracy

Oct 22 (M) History of Democracy in China

Zhao Chs 1-3 (pp 1-72)

Oct 24 (W) Guest Lecturer: Lance Guo

China – Human Rights

Oct 29 (M) Chinese views on rights

Chen Xitong Checking the Turmoil

Deng Xiaoping Speech to Officers

** Fan and Ostini Human Rights and Media Coverage in China
DeB &TW 14 (Goldman), 15 (Palatiel)*

Oct 31 (W) China – current issues

Nov 5 (M) Tibet. Guest Speaker: Kidder Smith

The Snow Lion and the Dragon

Nov 7 (W) Summing Up

Zhao Chs 9-11 (pp 189-252)

B&B 9 (Chan)

Women in Asia

Nov 12 (M) Korea and Japan

Clark and Lee Women's Status in East Asia

Iwao "Japanese vs US Women"

Ling The Limits of Democratization

Nov 14 (W) Thailand and Malaysia

B&B 7 + 8:

Othman "Rights of Women in Malaysia" (PP. 169-192)

Satha-Anand Buddhism and Prostitution in Thailand (pp. 193-212)

Rights and Economic Development

Nov 19 (M) Economic Development and Rights

B&B 3, 10, 11 (Sen, Ghai, Tan)

Nov 21 (W) Thanksgiving: NO CLASS

“How Should the Past be Judged?”

Nov 26 (M) The Comfort Women

Hicks entire esp chs 8,9,10

Nov 28 (W) Battles over history and memory

Hein + Yang on media coverage of the comfort women
Burress “Wars of Memory”

Promoting Rights or Interfering Abroad?

Dec 3 (M) US and Japanese Policy in Asia

Arase Japan and Human Rights in Asia
Harding Breaking the Impasse over Human Rights
Nathan Getting Human Rights Right
Yi Ding Opposing Interference in Other Countries

Dec 5 (W) Are Rights Universal?

B&B 5 (Taylor)
Sen “Human Rights and Asian Values”

Dec 8 - 11 Reading Period

Dec 12-17 Exams (Date TBA)