

Sociology 179: Globalizing East Asia (Fall 2017)
Tuesdays, 17:10-19:59, 402 Barrows
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 15:30-17:00, and by appointment

The course will survey the recent political-economic and cultural transformations in East Asia, chiefly Japan, South Korea, and China (and to lesser extent Hong Kong and China). The focus will be on criticizing ethnocentric and nationalistic accounts in order to arrive at a more satisfactory transnational and comparative understanding of the region.

If you have no background, then please read Warren Cohen, East Asia at the Center, New York: Columbia University Press, 2001 (available at www.ou.edu/USChina/texts/Cohen2000EastAsiaCenter.pdf) or a similar overview of modern East Asia.

Three things you should note at the outset. First, this is NOT an introductory course. If you know very little about East Asia, then you will either have to catch up very quickly or you will almost surely flounder: unpleasant for you and, for what it's worth, myself as well. Secondly, please note that class participation is 25% of your final grade. Repeated absences will mean 0 (F) for the quarter of your final grade. Finally, class participation means, at the very least, attention to what happens in the classroom. As much as you may fancy yourself a virtuoso of multi-tasking, I take an especially dim view of pupils who pay more attention to their smartphones or laptops than they do to the goings-on in the classroom.

Requirements

Class participation (25%)
Examination (35%)
Final project and presentation (40%)

Readings

All the reading assignments will be available on the Internet, except for K-pop, and chapters from The Dream of East Asia.

Schedule

29 August: Introduction

5 September: Nationalist Mirage

Benedict O'G Anderson, Imagined Communities, rev. ed., 1991, chaps.1-3, 5-6.

https://sisphd.wikispaces.com/file/view/Benedict_Anderson_Imagined_Communities.pdf

Eric Hobsbawm, "The Invention of Tradition," in Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger, eds., The Invention of Tradition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983.

http://faculty.washington.edu/ellingsn/Hobsbawm_Inventing_Traditions.pdf

12 September: Political Economy

Robert Wade, "Introduction to the 2003 Edition," Governing the Market, rev. ed., Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003 [1990].

<http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/i4724.pdf>

John Lie, Han Unbound, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1998, chap. 3.

<https://berkeley.academia.edu/JohnLie>

John Lie, "The Confucian Ethic in South Korea?" Kyongje Yongu, 1996.

https://www.academia.edu/17683421/The_Confucian_Ethic_in_South_Korea_A_Critique

19 September: The Family and Gender Relations

John Lie, "From Agrarian Patriarchy to Patriarchal Capitalism," in Valentine M. Moghadam, ed., Patriarchy and Economic Development, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1996.

https://www.academia.edu/2128924/From_Agrarian_Patriarchy_to_Patriarchal_Capitalism_Gendered_Capitalist_Industrialization_in_Korea

John Lie, "The State as Pimp," The Sociological Quarterly 38:251-263, 1997.

https://www.academia.edu/2128913/THE_STATE_AS_PIMP_Prostitution_and_the_Patriarchal_State_in_Japan_in_the_1940s

Yu Xie, "Gender and Family in Contemporary China," Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, 2013.

<http://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/pubs/pdf/rr13-808.pdf>

26 September: Education

Randall Collins, "Credential Inflation and the Future of Universities," Italian Journal of Sociology of Education 2, 2011.

http://www.ijse.eu/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/2011_2_12.pdf

Ronald Dore, "The Diploma Disease Revisited," Sussex: Institute of Development Studies, 1980.

<https://www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/dore11.2final.pdf>

Thomas P. Rohlen, "The Juku Phenomenon," Journal of Japanese Studies, 1980.

http://www.jstor.org/stable/132321?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

3 October: Popular Culture

John Lie, K-pop, University of California Press, 2015, Prelude, Interlude, chap.1.

John Lie, "The Divergent Trajectories of South Korea and Japan in the Twenty-First Century," The Annual Report, Center for Korean Studies, Kyushu University 16:53-63, 2016.

https://www.academia.edu/26424651/The_Divergent_Trajectories_of_South_Korea_and_Japan_in_the_Twenty-First_Century_A_View_from_Popular_Music_or_Girls_Generation_vs_AKB48

10 October: The Rise of China

Lie, The Dream of East Asia, chap.1.

17 October: **EXAMINATION**

24 October: Taiwan and Hong Kong

Lie, The Dream, chap.2.

31 October: Japan

Lie, The Dream, chap.3.

7 November: North and South Korea

Lie, The Dream, chap.4.

14 November: Conclusion

21 November: Thanksgiving HOLIDAY

28 November: Project Presentations