Рабочая программа дисциплины
«Международные отношения и процессы глобализации в Азии/
Theory in Asian and International Studies»

для образовательной программы
«Социально-экономическое и политическое развитие современной Азии»
направления подготовки 41.04.03 «Востоковедение и африканистика»
уровень - магистр

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Руководитель Школы А.А. Маслов _____________

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«___»___________ 2015 г., № протокола ______________

Утверждена «___»___________ 2015 г.
Академический руководитель образовательной программы
О.В. Волосюк _______________

Москва, 2015

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Master's Program
in Socioeconomic and Political Development of Modern Asia

Syllabus for the course
"Theory in Asian and International Studies"

Author: Alexandra Sizova, PhD, Associate Professor, aasizova@hse.ru

Recommended by:

Approved by: Academic Council of the School of Asian Studies
Head of the School of Asian Studies
Prof. Alexey Maslov

Moscow, 2015

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The Teaching Course "Theory in Asian and International Studies"
Master's degree program "Socioeconomic and Political Development of Modern Asia"
School of Asian Studies, National Research University-Higher School of Economics

Course syllabus

Instructor: Alexandra Sizova, Dr. (School of Asian Studies, Faculty of Faculty of World Economy and International Affairs, Associate Professor)

2nd year

Outline

Course Description
This course is aimed at the equipping students majoring in Asian studies with a comprehensive understanding of classical and currently forming theoretical approaches as well as some of the main theoretical debates over issues that span the fields of International Relations, Comparative Politics and Asian studies. The course addresses the role of theoretical knowledge in the social studies and humanities, and surveys major social science research programs such as rational choice and historical institutionalism. Additionally, the students will examine the major paradigms and theoretical approaches to the study of international relations (Realism, Liberalism, International Political Economy and Constructivism) and exercise in analyzing the theoretical and empirical advantages and disadvantages of these approaches.

Learning outcomes
By the end of the course the students are expected to be able to:

1. to recognize and critically assess various theoretical paradigms in International Relations, Comparative Politics and area studies
2. to use the key terms and concepts related to the examined theoretical approaches and research programs
3. to explain the logic of major theories of International Relations and Comparative Politics analyzing and illustrating them with empirical examples of Asian countries’ development
4. to identify and explain the cutting-edge trends and theoretical shifts in international and Asian studies
5. to adequately use the mentioned theories and approaches as well as methodological instruments of the contemporary social science in analyzing real-world events in Asian world
6. to effectively work with literature and different types of information resources, to locate, analyse, evaluate, synthesise information on conflict-related issues from a wide variety of sources
7. to distinguish between incoherent explanation and well-grounded argumentation
8. to be able to work in group on theoretical and practical problems linked to Asian and International Relations studies, to critically assess own work and work of the other participants of the course.

Pre-requisites (required academic background)

The pre-requisites for participating at the seminar include essential knowledge of the main aspects of world history, history of international relations, geography as well as research methodology on the Bachelor level. It is desirable that the students have background training in Asian studies. Participation in the seminars requires sufficient competence in using principles and methods of social studies required at the Bachelor level.

In the content respect, the course is closely linked with other courses within the curriculum of the Master’s program “Socioeconomic and Political Development of Modern Asia” (courses on history, comparative politics, security, economics, etc.), which determines its harmonious integration in the curriculum. The interdisciplinary nature of the course presupposes that students shall frequently resort to the knowledge and skills obtained during their study at the MA program.

The course structure

The course falls into the category of the compulsory and is taught at the first year of the Master’s program. The total amount of hours entitled for the course in the first year is 114 hours (40 hours of work at class and 74 academic hours of self-study).

Number of credit units: 3

III. Syllabus

The course schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>Seminars</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Course plan (by topics)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index number of class</th>
<th>Title of the topic</th>
<th>Distribution of hours by a form of work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Basic Research Programs and Perspectives In Contemporary International and Area Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Asia as a Region and Space of International Interactions. New Trends in International Relations in Asia</td>
<td>2 2 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recommended readings:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Role of Theory in Social-Scientific Inquiry. The Significance of Theory in International Relations And Area Studies</td>
<td>2 2 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recommended readings:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 3 | Rational Choice Theory in Contemporary International Relations and Area Studies |
|   | Recommended readings: |

<p>| 4 | Institutional Perspective: The Institutional Approach in IR, Comparative Politics and Regional Studies |
|   | Recommended readings: |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>II</th>
<th>Classical and Contemporary Approaches to International Relations, Comparative Politics and Area Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Realism and Neorealism in Political Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommended readings:**

- **Waltz, K.** Structural Realism after the Cold War // International Security 25, 1 (Summer 2000). PP. 5-41.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6</th>
<th>Liberal tradition in IR and Asian Studies (Classical Liberalism, Neoliberalism, Neoliberal Institutionalism)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommended readings:


7  **Constructivism in International Political Studies**  

Recommended readings:


8. **The Basics of International Political Economy**

| 2 | 4 | 10 |

**Recommended readings:**


Assessment system

A. Assessment criteria

The grading system is based at the “10-point” approach to evaluating students’ knowledge. The form of the final control is examination.

B. Grading taxonomy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading item</th>
<th>Total score</th>
<th>Item status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>0-40%</td>
<td>no less than 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written &amp; oral assignments</td>
<td>0-40%</td>
<td>no less than 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>0-20%</td>
<td>obligatory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Grading Policy and Assessment Items

Students should participate in all kinds of work during the course.

1. Accumulated Grade: 60%

- **Contribution to the seminar discussions** (25%). There will be a number of interactive teaching classes, including discussions on methodology, oral and written answers to the professor’s questions based on the readings, methodology games, etc. One class participation totals max. 10 points. A student abstaining from answer gets 0 points. Class attendance is essential. Students who stayed away from a class can get additional points by fulfilling additional tasks assigned by the professor.
The Group project / tutorial presentation to share with the class (35%). The presentation reveals students’ knowledge of the topic they have developed, an ability to persuasively answer their colleagues’ questions, make coherent argumentation as well as their public speech skills.

2. Final examination (written answers): 40%.

The written answer (essay) requirements:
- Format: Times New Roman, 12, 1 space, min 2-max 3 pages per question.
- The essay should contain elements of scientific research and demonstrate a student’s knowledge of the relevant literature. Where necessary, the author can support his/her answer with empirical examples.
- The paper should be original with bibliography, proper footnotes and quotation marks.
- No late submissions will be accepted.
- Plagiarism will be punished by giving “0” points for the paper.

The written answer (essay) grading criteria
A “10 points” work:
- shows the results of the original student’s research
- should demonstrate analytical and independent research skills of a student – the paper moves beyond merely quoting ideas in the secondary literature
- shows the broader evidence of its findings for the topic discussed or for the discipline of political and conflict studies
- includes explanation of the aim, goals of the research, methodology employed in it as well as substantiation of the theoretical approach applied to the research
- is flawless in reasoning, substance, mechanics
- paragraphs flow smoothly
- one major topic is discussed in a separate paragraph
- each topic is discussed in depth before moving on to the next one
- the paper starts with a substantial statement of intent, maintains its clarity and focus throughout the text
- has good structure and effective order
- all concepts and terminology are used correctly
- has no ambiguity of points under discussion and meanings
- thoughts are completed
- evidence is used in proper context
- paper shows thorough understanding of the course material
The grading system for the assessment items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Outstanding”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Very good”</td>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>A-, A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Good”</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>B-, B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Satisfactory”</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>C, C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Poor”</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. The course policy and requirements

- Students are required to fulfil all the components of assessment in order to get a final grade for the course.
- Reading, analyzing and synthesizing of the required readings is a pre-requisite for participating at every class.
- Attendance of the classes is essential.
- Contribution to the discussions at class is extremely significant for successful completion of the course and for achieving the main learning goals.
- A student’s absence at class or abstaining from answer equals to “0” points for participation.
- Students’ absence at less than a half of classes equals to “0” points for participation.
- Submitting of less than a half of the required assignments equals to “0” points for activity on seminars.
- Late paper submissions, plagiarism and “copy-paste” will be punished by deducing 5 points per case of breach of the order.

VII. Teaching methodology

Besides traditional teaching methods, the course involves a number of interactive methods (round table discussions, panel discussions, work in pairs, interactive tutorials, etc.) and requires active participation of students during class discussions. The teaching is aimed at developing academic, cognitive, transferrable skills and is completely oriented at active learning. The employed methods of teaching suppose to develop independent thinking, critical assessment, own thought formulation, practice special techniques of analysis. The professor applies a set of traditional and new teaching tools in order to deliver the course in an engaging and effective way.
The professor recommends readings and provides some of them to the students in the electronic form. Students as well are encouraged to find the course-related material themselves upon consultation with the instructor.

**List of recommended literature and sources**

**A. Essential readings**

**B. Additional readings**


