

## **Syllabus for the course**

### **THE POWER ELITE OF EAST ASIA**

#### 1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A. Title of the Course: The Power Elite of East Asia

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Number of credits – 3, total hours - 114, contact hours – 42.

B. Pre-requisites

The prerequisites for participating in the course include essential knowledge of the main aspects of research methodology, world history, economics, geography, world culture on the undergraduate level. The expected entry level knowledge does imply special background in Asian studies with working knowledge of English and one of the Eastern languages. Participation in the course requires sufficient competence in using scientific research principles and methods, the necessary research skills acquired at the first year level of Master's program.

The course is closely related to all the courses within the Master's program and could be built in the related curricula. The interdisciplinary nature of the course presupposes that students shall frequently resort to the knowledge and skills obtained during their study at the Master's program in Socioeconomic and Political Development of Modern Asia.

C. Course Type: elective

D. Abstract

The course concerns the power elite of China, Japan, and Korea. We will discuss the historic aspect and the modern ruling class formation, its typical family and social background, education, career, way of life and world view. We will compare the roots of the modern Chinese, Japanese, South and North Korean elite, the sources of their power and the internal interaction mechanisms, as well as the influence on foreign policy. We will speak of the three major groups of the Japanese elite: politicians, bureaucrats, and business elite, the balance of power between them and its recent changes. We will cover the political elite in more details: fractions within the ruling LDP and their struggle since the 1960s to the present day. Informal connections such as 'academic cliques' make up another important topic. We will discuss the five generations of Chinese communist rulers, the centers of power within and outside the Communist Party, the role of the People Liberation Army and the Youth League; the interaction of central and local power, and the struggle between the representatives of different regions; the conflicts between different clans of the communist elite, their economic, ideological, and foreign orientation motives. We shall also discuss the legitimacy of South Korea political elite, major political parties and their structure, main ways of political struggle. We'll touch upon the problem of political corruption. Due to lack of objective information we cannot cover the topics on North Korean power elite as thoroughly as the other countries of the region, still we will outline the main points.

## 2. Course objectives

The main goal of the course is to introduce to students the power elite of East Asia. In doing so, this course seeks to:

1. I will try to give students a systematic picture of the history, structure and main features of the power elites of China, Japan, Korea and other countries in the region
2. We will discuss the main characteristics of these elites: recruitment methods and features of the vertical mobility, rotation of elites, conflicts within elite groups, the availability of alternatives for elites of these countries.
3. We will consider concrete examples of mechanisms of mobility (vertical and horizontal), mechanisms for the development of conflicts and other cases related to the power elite.
4. We will try to compare the elites of different countries of East Asia among themselves. This will help us in better understanding both of the elites and of the international relations in the region and the world.
5. We will talk about various elite theories and how relevant they are to study of the power elites of East Asian countries.

## 3. STUDENTS' LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Show their understanding of the theme of the course.
2. Manifest, in seminar discussions and short written assignments ability to interpret correctly the information on power elite acquired through reading mass-media messages, official statements and research books.
3. Present an essay in which they should freely reveal any topic discussed during the course.

## 4. Course Plan

Week	Topic
1	The background of the East Asia power elites. Elite theories.
2	The power elite of China and Taiwan
3	The power elite of China and Taiwan
4	The power elite of Japan
5	The power elite of Japan
6	The power elite of South and North Korea
7	The power elite of Vietnam. Comparison of power elites of the region

## 5. Reading List

These books are intended to provide students with important factual and background information as well as review and reference works. It is highly recommended that students search also for other studies as reference works.

A. Essential readings:

1. Bottomore, T. (1993) *Elites and Society* (2nd Edition). London: Routledge. URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=178139>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 1993  
SocINDEX with Full Text 1993
2. Bo Zhiye (2007) *China's Elite Politics: Political Transition and Power Balancing* (Series on Contemporary China). URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=312316>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2007
3. Johnson C. Tanaka Kakuei, *Structural Corruption, and the Advent of Machine Politics in Japan*//*The Journal of Japanese Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (Winter, 1986), pp. 1-28 URL: [https://www.jstor.org/stable/132445?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/132445?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents)
4. Ahn Byong-Man (2003) *Elites and Political Power in South Korea*. URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2645/view/1840649712.xml>  
Elgar Social and Political Science - 2010 and Earlier 2003

B. Additional readings:

1. Roberts, Lachlan N; Lewis, Cooper R. *Taiwan: Economic, Political and Social Issues*. URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=3020616>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2008
2. Wang, Yuan-Kang. *Harmony and War: Confucian Culture and Chinese Power Politics*. Columbia University Press URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=908634>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2010
3. Akhavan Majid R. *The press as an elite power group in Japan* // *Mass communication faculty publications*. – 1990 URL: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1077699090006700401>
4. Asako Y.; Iida T.; Matsubayashi T.; Ueda M. *Dynastic politicians: theory and evidence from Japan*//*Japanese j. of political science*. – Cambridge, 2015. – Vol.16, sp. issue 01. – Pp.5 – 32 URL: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/273908419\\_Dynastic\\_Politicians\\_Theory\\_and\\_Evidence\\_from\\_Japan](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/273908419_Dynastic_Politicians_Theory_and_Evidence_from_Japan)
5. Kaplan D.E., Dubro A. Yakudza. *Japan's criminal underworld*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Readings, Mass., 1986. 336 p. URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=977264>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2012
6. Krauss E.S. Pekkanen R.J. *The rise and fall of Japan's LDP. Political party organizations as political institutions*. Cornell University Press, 2011. URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=3138177>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2010
7. Maclachlan, Patricia L. *The electoral power of Japanese interest groups: an organizational perspective* //*J. of East Asian studies*. – Boulder, 2014. -- Vol.14, №3. – P.

429 – 458. URL: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-east-asian-studies/article/electoral-power-of-japanese-interest-groups-an-organizational-perspective/ECB8DBC98D9FF3A4D90B1E01139A8A09>

8. Morikawa H. A History of Top Management in Japan, Managerial Enterprises and Family Enterprises. Oxford, 2001. URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=241325>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2001
9. Siniawer E.M. Befitting bedfellows: yakuza and the state in modern Japan // J. of social history. – Oxford, 2012. –Vol.45, N 3. - P.1 – 19. URL: [https://www.jstor.org/stable/41678902?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/41678902?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents)
10. Kim, Hong Nack; Kihl, Young W. North Korea: The Politics of Regime Survival URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1900023>  
ProQuest Ebook Central - Academic Complete 2005

## 6. Grading System

Lecturer grades the work performed in class (on lectures and seminars) as well as independent work of the student. Scores in decimals are rounded arithmetically.

Grades are allotted on the scale of 10:

10, 9, 8 – «excellent»,

7, 6 – «good»,

5, 4 – «satisfactory»,

3, 2, 1 – «fail»

with course elements weighted accordingly:

## 7. Guidelines for Knowledge Assessment

Each week students will work on various combinations of readings, discussions, and research. The course will combine lectures and seminars. Class attendance is required.

### Evaluation

Final grade = 0.7\*cumulative grade + 0.3\* grade for exam

Cumulative grade consists of:

Class attendance 20%

Group discussion and readings – 40%

Written essay or presentation – 40%

### Assessment Scheme

Type of assessment	Mode of assessment	2 year	Description
		2 module	
Final assessment	Final exam	Last week of 2nd module	Written test Duration – 80 minutes

### Assessment criteria

Students will have to take one final exam. The final exam will consist of one question related to general knowledge of the theme of the course. Students are to choose from the list of the questions and to deliver a detailed answer on a key question of the course. The questions will

be formulated and circulated among students by the sixth week of the second module. All questions of the final control will be discussed during lectures and seminars.

### Academic Integrity

As per the University policy, plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is a deliberate use of somebody else's work without proper referencing and representing it as a student's own. That includes ideas as well as text, whether paraphrased or presented verbatim. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will automatically fail the assignment, may summarily fail the course, and could be subject to a disciplinary action by the University.

The instructor's evaluative judgment of tests and exams is final and will not be subject to revision except in cases of a mathematical error.

### Communication and Support

Office hours are given at the top of this syllabus. Arrangements can be made if a student cannot meet with the instructor during regular office hours for consultations. Email is the most reliable method of reaching the instructor outside of the office. Expect a reply within 24 to 48 hours.

### Class Participation & Attendance

Participation and attendance are necessary because lectures and discussions provide the essentials for achieving the course's goals and objectives. Thus, a portion of student's grade will be determined by the in-class performance and presence, aside from graded test and exam (see *Grading* for the details). Students are required to attend each class, arrive on time, remain attentive, maintain a proper classroom decorum, respond to questions and participate in discussion. Students are encouraged to take notes and ask questions.

### Deadlines

Meeting deadlines is essential. Late papers and projects will not be accepted.

8. Methods of Instruction: lecturing, discussions, case studies
9. Special Equipment and Software Support: laptop, projector