

Teaching guide

IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Degree:	International Relations		
Field of Knowledge:	Social and Legal Science		
Faculty/School:	Law, Business and Governance		
Course:	TODAY'S WORLD V: CHINA, INDIA AND JAPAN		
Type:	Compulsory	ECTS credits:	6
Year:	3	Code:	7030
Teaching period:	Fifth semester		
Area:	Geopolitics and Today's World		
Module:	Foundations for a Theory of International Relations		
Teaching type:	Classroom-based		
Language:	English		
Total number of student study hours:	150		

Teaching staff	E-mail
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SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

This course provides a comprehensive and multidisciplinary introduction to contemporary Asia, the new fulcrum of global economics and politics. After a brief description of each of Asia's subregions and historical background, students will be introduced to the economics, political systems, and international relations of the region. The factors behind Asia's economic rise will be examined, as well as the growing trend towards regional integration and multilateralism. The political evolution and challenges of the main states (China, Japan, and India) will also be studied, together with the obstacles to democracy in Asia. The region includes on the other hand some of the most

relevant hotspots in the world (Taiwan, North Korea, Kashmir, the maritime disputes in the South and East China seas, etc) which will be analyzed against the backdrop of the ongoing strategic transition caused by China's rise. The course will examine the transformation of Asia's regional security architecture, and the foreign policies of the main powers, including the United States. By studying these different dimensions of modern Asia, we'll be able to better understand the world of the 21st century.

In the globalized era, the creation of cultural bonds is crucial to develop a peaceful development of international relations. The development of safer communities in the future depend in a high degree on mutual understanding and tolerance among people in different communities, in different countries, all over the world . Inspired by this idea, this course does not only aim at developing a greater knowledge of the three nations involved (China, India and Japan) at the present; it aims at promoting a holistic approach to their generally unknown identities and perspectives.

It aims at stimulating curiosity to explore the depth of different cultures, to avoid remaining in the surface. This course aims at encouraging you to think twice, to activate your critical thinking and, above all, to detach yourself, as much as possible, from the stereotypes you may have regarding other realities such as those in China, India and Japan.

We will aim at providing a first general outlook of the main characteristics and most important historical events to, throughout the four-month period of this course, expand some of the most relevant items and concepts of such events. This inductive, exploratory method will allow us to conclude in some general items that characterize the reality of the three countries nowadays.

GOAL

To understand the social, political, economic and cultural dynamics of Asia, with a special focus on the Indian, Chinese and Japanese societies.

The specific aims of the subject are:

GENERAL GOALS

As general goals, this module aims at contributing to the new learning model of "Formar para Transformar" by:

- Boosting our students' integral development.
- Developing our students' critical, independent thinking and objectivity.
- Promoting creativity and the capacity to inter-relate multidisciplinary contents.

SPECIFIC GOALS

- Encouraging curiosity towards China, India and Japan as an introductory step towards specialization on a more globalized approach to international relations.
- Acquiring the basic knowledge regarding the history and cultural items of China, India and Japan with the aim of applying it to the analysis of their current affairs.
- Stimulating our students long term contribution to international relations according to a new reality, in which Asia plays a crucial role.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

REQUIRED PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

- Political Theory.
- International Relations Theory.

COURSE SYLLABUS

INTRODUCTION

BLOCK I. Main regional context, international organisations and initiatives; and their impact on the global balance of power.

BLOCK II. Main characteristics of China, India and Japan today: current states of affairs in terms of political, social, economic, national and international security affairs. Main milestones and characteristics of current state of affairs in India, China and Japan. Nationalism and main priorities in the three countries nowadays.

BLOCK III. Back to the roots. India, China and Japan's main pre-colonization historical, philosophical and cultural milestones.

BLOCK IV. Western Colonization of India, China and Japan. Impact and consequences. Main colonization characteristics, historic milestones and consequences in the three countries.

BLOCK V. India, China and Japan's national revival and independence movements. Main milestones and characteristics of recovered national sovereignty in India, China and Japan. Consequences and post-colonial identity building.

The course will include regular analysis and practice exercises in relation to the studied contents.

EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

- Participatory Masterclass: Unlike the classic lecture, in which the weight of teaching lies with the teacher, in participatory lecture seek the student pass from passive to active, promoting their participation. This requires that teachers do a good structuring of content, have clarity and are able to keep the attention and interest of the student.

- Independent Work. In this approach the student takes the initiative with or without the help of others (teachers, peers, tutors, mentors). It is the student diagnosing their learning needs, formulate learning goals, identify the resources you need to learn, choose and implement appropriate learning strategies and evaluates the results of their learning. The teacher becomes the guide, the facilitator and a source of information that assists the students' work. This methodology will be of particular interest to the development of skills related to research

- Small Groups Work: The number of students scheduled at our University allows a group work in small groups. They are evaluated as "group productivity", which demands both individual responsibility and positive interdependence, basis of professional teamwork.
- Problem-Solving Learning: The teacher proposes a problem that has not been given prior specific training, working individually or in groups in the classroom or virtual mode, and then has to be worked individually by the student.
- Compulsory Seminars attendance.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME

CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY	INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY
60 hours	90 hours
	INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ADAPTATION TO IN-PERSON AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS 90h

SKILLS

Basic Skills

Students must have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in an area of study that is founded on general secondary education. Moreover, the area of study is typically at a level that includes certain aspects implying knowledge at the forefront of its field of study, albeit supported by advanced textbooks

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess skills that can typically be demonstrated by coming up with and sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field of study

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) in order to make judgments that include reflections on pertinent social, scientific or ethical issues

Students must be able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to both an expert and non-expert audience

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of independence

General Skills

To acquire critical, analytical, synthetic, reflective, theoretical and practical thought to be able to understand, analyse, interpret and rigorously and independently sum up international reality from a multidisciplinary standpoint.

To be able to apply group work with common objectives, fostering the analysis and pooling of various approaches.

Specific skills

To understand and analyse decision-making in foreign policy in the main states of China, India and Japan.

Learning and memorization of most relevant events and concepts, indispensable to understand current India, China and Japan.

Application of acquired knowledge into specific case studies.

Group discussion and objective analysis.

Academic Essay Writing

Multidisciplinary approach and abstraction.

Development of basic acquired knowledge into original and creative projects.

LEARNING RESULTS

Has learnt the basic knowledge regarding China, India and Japan to apply theory into practice.

Able to comprehensively apply acquired knowledge from this and other courses into particular situations.

Able to apply acquired knowledge to conduct critical thinking and an objective approach to concrete, given situations.

Able to compose clear, well-structured analysis.

Able to conduct a transversal approach to the acquired knowledge in this course, relating them to other disciplines.

Able to develop creative and original insights.

Able to analyze the decision-making in the foreign policy of of China, India and Japan.

LEARNING APPRAISAL SYSTEM

A. Ordinary Evaluation System (Ordinary Call)

1. Attendance and Active Participation: 10% - Assessed based on engagement during class and demonstrated interest in the course.
2. In-class Activities and Exercises: 40% - Graded assignments, presentations, or projects completed during class time.
3. Written Test: 40% - Theory test featuring multiple-choice questions, problem-solving exercises, and case analyses.
4. Seminar Attendance: 10% - Attendance and participation in relevant seminars.

B. Extraordinary Evaluation System (Extraordinary Call)

1. Extraordinary Written Test: 70% - A more comprehensive exam to assess understanding and application of all course content. This test could include a mix of multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, essay questions, case studies, and problem-solving exercises.
2. Seminar Attendance: 10% - Attendance and active participation in relevant seminars or additional review sessions.
3. In-class Activities and Exercises: 20% - Graded assignments, presentations, or projects completed during class time.

C. Academic Dispensation Evaluation System

1. Written Project: 50% - An extensive project to demonstrate the understanding of the course content. This could involve research, case studies, or practical application of the course material.
2. Dispensation Exam: 40% - A modified version of the final exam tailored to the student's circumstances. The exam would cover all course content but could be formatted differently (e.g., open-book, take-home, oral exam) depending on the reasons for the academic dispensation.
3. Seminar Attendance: 10% - Attendance and participation in relevant seminars.

D: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THIS COURSE: In order to pass this course, every student needs to pass their continuous assessment activities (or written project in case of having Dispensa Académica), as well as the final written exam. The minimum grade in the exam is 5/10 in order to pass the course.

* Las conductas de plagio, así como el uso de medios ilegítimos en las pruebas de evaluación, serán sancionados conforme a lo establecido en la Normativa de Evaluación y la Normativa de Convivencia de la universidad.

**Students who failed the subject and have to repeat their written test, they will have to complete the tasks in order to pass the course.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND OTHER RESOURCES

Basic

Kishore Mahbubani The Great Convergence: Asia, the West, and the Logic of One World 2013

Additional

Pankaj Mishra From the Ruins of Empire 2013