

## City University of Hong Kong

**Information on a Course**  
**offered by Department of Asian and International Studies**  
**with effect from Semester B in 2014/2015**

**Part I**

<b>Course Title:</b>	Authoritarian Resilience and Democratic Change in East Asia
<b>Course Code:</b>	AIS5032
<b>Course Duration:</b>	One semester
<b>Credit Units:</b>	3
<b>Level:</b>	P5
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	English
<b>Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title)</b>	Nil
<b>Precursors: (Course Code and Title)</b>	Nil
<b>Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title)</b>	Nil
<b>Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title)</b>	Nil

**Part II****Abstract**

Perhaps in no other region in the world is there such a wide variety of political regimes. On the one hand there is the highly repressive Stalinist/'sultanistic' family-based communist dynasty in North Korea, 'market-Leninist' rule in China and Vietnam, and coercive military rule in Thailand and, until recently, in Burma/Myanmar. On the other hand, there are stable new democracies in South Korea, Taiwan, and Indonesia (as well as an older one in Japan). This 'natural laboratory' of different forms of rule in East Asia (Northeast and Southeast Asia) also includes a number of regimes between the non-democratic and democratic ends of the political spectrum. There are competitive authoritarian regimes (in Malaysia and Singapore), and unstable democracies (in the Philippines and, until recently, Thailand). A number of the non-democratic regimes are remarkably resilient (remarkable in that much of the rest of the world, outside of the Middle East, has seen a strong decline in authoritarianism). In the few democratic transitions that have taken place in the region, several of the new democracies are not yet consolidated and, in the case of Thailand, have broken down.

## Course Aims

This course aims to expose students to major theories of political authoritarianism and democratization in order to account for patterns of regime change and continuity in the East Asian region. It will also enable students to apply political science concepts and to carry out comparative analysis across country cases.

## Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:*

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Apply theoretical understandings of regime continuity and change in East As	40
2.	Reflect critically on state power, political elites, and social forces in different regime settings	15
3.	Analyze, simulate and negotiate processes of political transition	15
4.	Design and construct models of resilient political institutions	15
5.	Apply multi-disciplinary critical thinking skills to solve problems, consider new approaches, and demonstrate the ability to accomplish innovation	15

## Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)

*(designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs)*

CILO No	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1	Lectures, readings, discussions, position paper	
CILO 2	Lectures, readings, discussions, position paper	
CILO 3	Simulation exercises of political transitions	
CILO 4	Simulation exercises of institutional design and operation	
CILO 5	Discussions and position paper	

## Assessment Tasks/Activities

*(designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs)*

CILO No	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting	Remarks
1-5	Attendance and participation	20%	
1,2	Presentation	20%	
1,2,5	Position paper	30%	
3-4	Simulation exercises and assessment reports	30%	

**Grading of Student Achievement:** Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A- ...F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

<b>A-/A/A+</b>	Excellent understanding of theories of regime change and continuity, as well as ability to apply concepts and to use comparative methods. Analysis provided in all assessment activities is of consistently high quality.
<b>B-/B/B+</b>	Good to very good understanding of theories of regime change and continuity, as well as ability to apply concepts and to use comparative methods. Analysis provided in all assessment activities is of sound quality.
<b>C-/C/C+</b>	Incomplete understanding of theories of regime change and continuity, as well as ability to apply concepts and to use comparative methods. All assessment items are completed, but their quality is weak.
<b>D</b>	Inadequate understanding of theories of regime change and continuity. Little ability to apply concepts or to use comparative methods. Assessment activities are very low quality or not completed.
<b>F</b>	Failure to demonstrate any understanding of theories of regime change and continuity, or any ability to apply concepts and to use comparative methods. Assessment activities are not completed.

### Part III

#### Keyword Syllabus:

democracy, democratization, democratic transitions, authoritarianism, authoritarian durability, state formation, elites, elections, political parties, political culture, ethnicity, socioeconomic classes, civil society

#### Syllabus

##### *Sets of Topics*

1. Regime types in East Asia:

Typologies of democratic, authoritarian, and hybrid regimes in the East Asian setting

2. Democratization in East Asia

Theories of democratic preconditions, transitional processes, and consolidation. Political culture, institution, and elections.

3. Authoritarian resilience in East Asia:

Democratic breakdowns, reversals, military governments, personal dictatorships, and single-party and electoral authoritarianism.

4. State apparatuses and political elites:

Comparative analysis of state apparatuses, state power, and position holders; elite-level statuses and relations; structure and agency in regime continuity and processes of change.

5. Ethnicity, socioeconomic classes, and civil society:

Patterns of ethnic affiliation and conflict; socioeconomic class formation and class dynamics; rise of business classes, new urban middle classes, and organized labor; civil society organizations and social movements.

6. East Asian political economy and security:

Developmental states and late-industrialization; patrimonialist states and economic liberalization; regionalism, ASEAN + 3 and an East Asian community; conflict and security.

**Recommended Reading:**

**Text(s):**

Required Reading

Case, William. 2002. *Politics in Southeast Asia: Democracy or Less* (London: Routledge).

Slater, Dan. 2013. 'Democratic Careening,' *World Politics*, 65, pp. 729-763.

Recommended Reading

Beeson, Mark. 2007. *Regionalism and Globalization in East Asia: Politics, Security, and Economic Development* (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan).

Case, William, ed. 2010. *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge).

Huntington, Samuel P. 1991. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* (Norman OK: University of Oklahoma Press).

Kuhonta, Erik Martinez, Dan Slater, and Tuong Vu, eds. 2008. *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis* (Stanford: Stanford University Press).

Rich, Roland. 2007. *Pacific Asia: In Quest of Democracy* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner).

Wood, Alan T. 2004. *Asian Democracy in World History* (London: Routledge).

**Online Resources:**

Asia Foundation, <http://asiafoundation.org/>.

Asian Human Rights Commission, <http://www.ahrchk.net/index.php>.

Freedom House, <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page+1>.

International Center for the Study of East Asian Development,  
[http://www.icsead.or.jp/7pubilcatoin/wp2006\\_e.html](http://www.icsead.or.jp/7pubilcatoin/wp2006_e.html).

National Endowment for Democracy, <http://www.ned.org/>.

Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, <http://www.tfd.org.tw/index.php>.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, <http://www.unescap.org/>

World Bank, <http://www.worldbank.org/>.