

SOC 380 A. DEMOCRATIZATION IN EAST ASIA

Binghamton University, Spring 2007

Tuesday and Thursday 4:25-5:50
AAG 021

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

What is democracy? Why do some countries become democracy while others do not? Who are the protagonists and antagonists of democratization? How different democratic systems work? Why does Japan have a prime minister, while Korea has a president? Why Taiwan has a stable party system, while Korean parties fluctuate from one election to another? Will China eventually democratize? What is the role of civil society in bringing about and strengthening democracy?

These are the questions that will be explored in this course by reading and discussing about the comparative experiences of democratic transition and democratic politics in East Asia. The primary focus will be placed on four East Asian countries (Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and China), but the course readings and discussion will be drawn from broad theoretical and comparative perspectives.

The course largely consists of three sub-themes. First, students develop a conceptual and theoretical understanding of democracy and democratization by reading established theories of democracy and democratic transition. Second, based on the theoretical framework, students build a historical understanding of political development of each country. The readings and lectures will help students investigate why and how democratization took place and learn the working of democratic institutions, such as executive-legislative arrangements, electoral systems, and political parties. Last, but not least, students expand their understanding of East Asian democracy by contemplating on the achievements and limits of democratic experiences of Japan, Korea, and Taiwan and the possible contours of democratization in China.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Participation: 10%	Do the assigned readings, come to class, participate in class discussion, and ask questions.
Web memos: 10%	Each student signs up for <u>two sessions</u> to post his/her comments on the readings on Blackboard. The comments should be at least <u>half-page long</u> and posted <u>by Monday noon</u> before the Tuesday class.
Presentation & report: 20%	Each student signs up for a specific topic and prepares a report to be presented in class. Three to four students working on similar topics will be assigned to a specific session. The report should also be submitted in a <u>written form (4-5 pages)</u> on the day of presentation.
Two quizzes: 30%	There will be two quizzes to test students' understanding of the key concepts and arguments discussed in the lecture and assigned readings. <u>Quiz 1 on March 15 and Quiz 2 on May 3.</u>
Final paper: 30%	Choose a paper topic that is relevant for the overall theme of this course. The final paper should address an interesting research question pertaining to the question of democracy in Asia, as broadly defined. It can be a one country study or a comparative study of two or more countries. <u>10 page-long, double-spaced. Outline due on March 27.</u> <u>Final paper due on May 10 with 2 extra points</u> or <u>May 15 with no extra point.</u>

Absence

Regular attendance is a must for this class. If students have inevitable reasons for their absence, in-advance notification via email is required.

Incomplete

No incomplete will be granted in this course unless the student provides evidence of family or medical emergencies.

Plagiarism (<http://library.lib.binghamton.edu/instruct/plagfaculty.htm>)

Plagiarism is defined as presenting the work of another person as one's own work (including papers, words, ideas, information, computer code, data, evidence organizing principles, or style of presentation of someone else taken from the internet, books, periodicals, or other sources). Plagiarism includes:

- Quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing without acknowledgement, even a few phrases
 - Failing to acknowledge the source of either a major idea or ordering principle central to one's own paper
 - Relying on another person's data, evidence, or critical method without credit or permission
 - Submitting another person's work as one's own
 - Using unacknowledged research sources gathered by someone else.
- Any detection of plagiarism will result in a failing grade and a report to the University administration.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required books

Tony Saich, *Governance and Politics of China*, 2nd edition (New York: Palgrave, 2004)

Samuel Kim (ed), *Korea's Democratization* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 2003)

Louis D. Hayes, *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, 4th edition (Armonk: M.E.Sharpe: 2005)

Other readings are available on Blackboard (Course Reserves)

COURSE SCHEDULE

Jan 23: Introduction and overview of the course

Jan 25: **What is democracy?**

®Philippe Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy Is...and Is Not" (*The Global Resurgence of Democracy*, 1996)

®Larry Diamond, "Defining and Developing Democracy" (*Developing Democracy*, 1999)

Jan 30: **Democratic transition**

®Valerie Bunce, "Comparative Democratization" (*Comparative Political Studies*, Aug/Sep 2000)

Feb 1: Democratization in East Asia

ⓂMinxin Pei, “The Fall and Rise of Democracy in East Asia” (*Democracy in East Asia*, 1998)

ⓂJunhan Lee, “Primary Causes of Asian Democratization” (*Asian Survey*, Nov/Dec 2002)

Feb 6: Japan, Democracy from outside

ⓂHayes, Chapter 1 and 2 (p.11-44)

Feb 8: Korea, Developmental authoritarianism

ⓂSoong Hoom Kil, “Development of Korean Politics-A Historical Profile” (Kil and Moon, *Understanding Korean Politics*, 2001) p.47-64

Feb 13: Korea, Democratization by social movements

ⓂSunhyuk Kim, “Civil Society in the Third Democratic Juncture, 1984-1987” (*The Politics of Democratization in Korea*, 2000)

Feb 15: Taiwan, One-party authoritarianism

Ⓜ Denny Roy, “Martial Law and Kuomintang Domination” (*Taiwan, A Political History*, 2003)

■ Presentation on authoritarian leaders

Feb 20: Taiwan, Democratization from above

ⓂTun-jen Cheng and Stephan Haggard, “Regime Transformation in Taiwan” (*Political Change in Taiwan*, 1992)

Feb 22: Democratic institutions 1: Presidentialism versus parliamentarism

ⓂMatthew Solberg Shugart and John Carey, “Basic choices in Democratic Regime Types” (*Presidents and Assemblies*, 1992)

ⓂDonald Horowitz, “A Primer for Decision Makers” (*Electoral Systems and Democracy*, 2006)

Feb 27: Democratic institutions 2: Elections and political parties

ⓂRichard Gunther and Larry Diamond, “Types and Functions of Parties” (*Political Parties and Democracy*, 2001)

Mar 1: Japan, The iron triangle

ⒺHayes, Chapter 3 and 4 (p. 47-88)

- Presentation on Japan's prime ministers

Mar 6: Korea, Dynamic democracy

ⒺChan Wook Park, "Elections in Democratizing Korea" (*How Asia Votes*, 2002)

Mar 8: NO CLASS

Mar 13: Taiwan, Pan-blues versus pan-greens

ⒺJohn Hsieh, "Continuity and Change in Taiwan's Electoral Politics" (*How Asia Votes*, 2002)

Mar 15: QUIZ 1

Mar 20: China, From communist revolution to capitalist economy

ⒺSaich, Chapter 3 (p.57-90)

Mar 22: China, Democratic centralism versus increasing decentralization

ⒺSaich, Chapter 4 and 5 (p.91-110, 121-136)

- Presentation on the Tiananmen incident

Mar 27: Civil Society

ⒺLarry Diamond, "Civil Society" (*Developing Democracy*, 1999)

→FINAL PAPER OUTLINE DUE

Mar 29: Japan, Members without advocates

ⒺHayes, Chapter 7 (p.131-142)

ⒺRobert Pekkanen, "Japan's Civil Society in Comparative Perspective" (*Japan's Dual Civil Society*, 2006)

- Presentation on Japanese NGOs

April 3 and 5: NO CLASS

Apr 10: Japan, "Foreigners" in Japan

ⓂApichai Shipper, "The Political Construction of Foreign Workers in Japan" (*Critical Asian Studies* 43-1, March 2002)

Apr 12: Korea, Contentious civil society

ⓂSunhyuk Kim, "Civil Society in Democratizing Korea" (*Korea's Democratization*, 2003)

■ Presentation on Korean NGOs

Apr 17: Taiwan, Politicized civil society

ⓂYun Fan, "No Civil Society No Democracy" (*Civil Society and Political Change*, 2004)

Apr 19: China, Fledgling civil society

ⓂSaich, Chapter 7 (p.180-212)

■ Presentation on Chinese NGOs

Apr 24: Democracy and culture: the Asian values debate

ⓂAmartya Sen, "Democracy as a Universal Value" (*The Global Divergence of Democracies*, 2001)

ⓂFareed Zakaria, "Culture Is Destiny: A Conversation with Lee Kuan Yew" (*Foreign Affairs*, Mar/Apr 1994)

Apr 26: Nationalism in East Asia 1

ⓂJeff Kingston, "One Hand Clapping: Currents of Nationalism in Contemporary Japan" (*Japan's Quiet Transformation*, 2004)

ⓂKatherine Moon, "Korean Nationalism, anti-Americanism, and Democratic Consolidation" (*Korea's Democratization*, 2003)

May 1: ■ Presentation on Nationalism in China

May 3: QUIZ 2

May 8: ■ Presentation on Democracy and the Internet

May 10: **Wrap-up/FINAL PAPER DUE with 2 extra points**