Professor Mike Mochizuki  
Office: 1957 E Street NW Suite 503 (Sigur Center for Asian Studies)  
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**Course Description**

This graduate seminar will examine some of the major issues of Asian security by linking theory and practice. Various theoretical traditions and arguments will be applied to concrete problems of Asian security, and concrete problems of Asian security will be analyzed for their general theoretical implications. Readings and seminar discussions will involve a mix of political science and policy analysis to encourage intellectual synergy between these two modes of inquiry.

**Course Requirements**

The course has the following three sets of requirements:

1. Regular class attendance and active participation in the discussions based on the required readings. Students will be asked to make brief presentations to kick off the discussions. Each student must submit one discussion question that is provoked by the readings prior to each session. This discussion question should be posted in the relevant “discussion board” forum on Blackboard by 8 am on Thursday.

2. Two short "think pieces" of no more than 1,500 words in length. These papers may be one of the following three types: (1) explanatory (explanation of a particular aspect or puzzle of Asian security), (2) theoretical (evaluation of the utility of one or more theories in understanding some feature of Asian security), and (3) policy analysis (definition of a concrete Asian security problem and evaluation of possible policy responses or the policy lessons of a historical event). Depending on your choice of topics, these papers may be due on two of the following three dates: Oct 1, Nov 5, and Dec 7. You have the option of writing three papers and having the best two papers count for your final grade.

3. Take-home final examination (handed out on the last day of class –Dec 3) or a 20-25 page research paper. Students choosing to write a research paper must submit a proposed research topic by Oct 8 and a preliminary outline and list of sources by Nov 12. The due date for the take-home final or research paper is Dec 14th (Monday).
Course grades will be calculated in the following manner:

- Short papers (2 @ 20% each) 40%
- Final exam or research paper 45%
- Class attendance and participation 15%

Course Readings

The following book has been ordered for purchase at the GW bookstore:
- Muthiah Alagappa (ed.), *Asian Security Order: Instrumental and Normative Features* [ASO]

The other readings will be put on electronic reserve on Blackboard for this course.

Learning Assessment and Course Objectives

- Understanding and evaluating the major theoretical traditions and debates in the international security field.
- Identifying and analyzing key security policy challenges and opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Integrating theoretical and policy analysis.
- Assessing the applicability of various concepts and theoretical traditions to explain concrete developments in Asian security.
- Exploring the theoretical implications or significance of historical and contemporary Asian security developments.

Schedule of Topics and Readings

Sept 3  Introduction

Sept 10 Power Balances & Transitions: Japanese Expansion & the Asia-Pacific War

- Jack Snyder, *Myths of Empire: Domestic Politics & International Ambition* Chapters 1, 2 & 4.

Further Reading

Sept 17  Power Balances & Transitions: U.S. Primacy and China’s Rise


Further Reading

Sept 24  Alliance Politics: US-Japan Alliance and Japan’s “Normalization”


Further Reading

Oct 1  Alliance Politics: US-ROK Alliance and ROK’s Strategic Options

Oct 8 Territorial Disputes


Further Reading

- Kimie Hara, “50 Years from San Francisco: Re-Examining the Peace Treaty and Japan’s Territorial Problems,” Pacific Affairs Vol. 74, No. 3 (Fall 2001), pp. 361-382.

Oct 15 Contested Memories, Reconciliation and Regional Security

- Yinan He, “Remembering and Forgetting the War,” History & Memory Vol. 19, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 2007), pp. 43-74.

Further Reading

Oct 22 Nuclear Proliferation

Further Reading
• Etel Solingen, *Nuclear Logics: Contrasting Paths in East Asia and the Middle East*.
• Kurt M. Campbell, Robert J. Einhorn & Mitchell B. Reiss (eds.), *The Nuclear Tipping Point: Why States Reconsider Their Nuclear Choices*. 
Oct 29  Deterrence and Coercive Diplomacy in Acute Conflicts: North Korea & Taiwan


Nov 5  Economic Integration and Regional Security


Further Reading
Nov 12  Energy Security: Cooperation or Conflict?


Further Reading

Nov 19  Managing Internal Conflicts


Further Reading

Dec 3 Regional Security Institutions and Order


Further Reading