Description: This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to the histories, societies and cultures of East Asia. We are going to discuss, among other things, the formation of East Asia as a geographic, cultural, and political entity; the confrontation of Chinese and Japanese traditions with Western technology and the modernization of East Asian countries; the heritage of Confucianism in modern East Asia; the emergence of modern nation-state in East Asia; the achievements and potential crises of contemporary East Asian economy; the rise of urban culture and modern urban landscape; the emergence of civil society and the conflict between civil society and state, etc. This course deals with East Asian civilization in both the traditional and the modern eras, but the focus lies in the modern period (late 19th, 20th and 21st centuries).

Owing to the limit of time, not all the aforementioned topics can be fully developed and discussed during the semester. For this term’s class, we are going to focus on the following topics: the patterns of economic development of major East Asian countries, especially Japan and China; The formation of modern nation-states in East Asia; modern urban landscape; the rise of civil society in East Asia; and popular culture in contemporary East Asia.

Requirements:

1. **Mid-term paper and final paper:** Students are required to finish a mid-term paper (5-7 pages) and a final paper (10 -12 pages).

2. **Three reading notes:** Students are required to finish three short reading notes (1-2 pages) during the semester in addition to the mid-term and final paper.

3. **Quizzes:** There are no regular exams for this class but may be quizzes without warning. In addition, preview quizzes may be given on line through sakai.rutgers.edu website from time to time (in other words, these are quizzes about the topics and reading materials we are going to cover and must be finished before one comes to class.)

4. **Group presentations and responses:** Students in this class will be divided into groups and throughout the semester you are required to constantly work with one another to prepare weekly presentations. From the second week of the class, during every class meeting one group will make presentation and lead group discussion on the general topics and reading materials of the day. After the presentation of the day, all the other students are required to either raise questions or make comments on it. It assures that
everyone in the class will participate in the discussion one way or another. The group presentation will be graded as a teamwork.

Students are encouraged to meet me beforehand to discuss their group presentation.

**Oral Presentation Grading Criteria**

**For the presenters:**

- 20-30 minutes of presentation
- PPT or the like to support your oral presentation
- General performance of the team
- well rehearsed
- intelligible delivery
- Presentation needs to contain statement on:
  - Succinct summary of the reading material
  - Questions and comments on the reading: which part do you find most interesting, convincing, or relevant to the general topic of the class? And the least interesting and convincing part? What is your alternative opinion?
  - Connection with your living environment and personal experience
  - Leading questions to the class; further research needed or desirable

**For the discussants (rest of the class):**

- Attentive listening to the presentation
- Familiarity of the reading material
- Insightful questions and comments
- Courtesy to the presenters and fellow students

**Required Reading materials:**

All the required reading materials will be uploaded to the sakai.rutgers.edu website.

**Grading Policy:**

Attendance: 5% (Note: three UNEXCUSED absences will lead to F)
Three Notes: 15%
In-class Presentation and Responses: 25%
Mid-term Paper: 20%
Final Paper: 25%
Quizzes: 10%

**Schedule:**
Part I: General Survey of Modern East Asia in Post WWII Era

Week 1: A Survey of East: Past and Present (I)

09/05: General Introduction
09/07: Borthwick, Chapter 6 “Miracle by Design: The Post-War Resurgence of Japan”

Week 2: A Survey of East: Past and Present (II)

09/12: Borthwick, Chapter 7 “The New Asian Capitalists”
09/14: Borthwick, Chapter 10 “China’s Long March toward Modernization”

Part II: East Asian Capitalism: Patterns of Economic Developments of East Asian Countries

Week 3:

09/21: Ku-Wai Li, Capitalist Development and Economism n East Asia, Chapters 2, 4, pp. 20-52, 80-112.

Week 4:

09/26: Ku-Wai Li, Capitalist Development and Economism n East Asia, Chapters 8, 10, pp. 200-228, 260-268; Andersson and Gunnarsson, Development and Structural Change in Asia-Pacific, “Introduction”, pp. 1-14
09/28: Andersson and Gunnarsson, Chapter 2 and Chapter 9, pp. 17-47, 170-197; Li, He. “The Chinese Path of Economic Reform and Its Implications.” Deadline of the First Reading Note

Part III: Nationalism, National States, and East Asian Modernity

Week 5:


Week 6:

10/12: Boyd and Ngo, State Making in Asia, Chapters 2, 4, pp. 35-52, 91-105.

Week 7:
10/17: Chow, Doak and Fu, *Constructing Nationhood in Modern East Asia*, Chapters 2, 6, 12, pp. 47-84, 189-214, 359-387.

10/19: Chien and Fitzgerald, *The Dignity of Nation*, Chapters 6, 8, 10, pp. 93-114, 141-164, 189-206; **Deadline of the Second Reading Note**

**Part IV: The Rise of Civil Society in Modern East Asia**

**Week 8:**

**Week 9:**

**Week 10:**

**Part V: East Asian Cities: Modern, Post-modern and Beyond**

11/09: Rowe, *East Asia Modern*, Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 1-44

**Week 11:**
11/14: Rowe, *East Asia Modern*, Chapter 4, pp. 93-157 (I)
11/16: Rowe, *East Asia Modern*, Chapter 4, pp. 93-157 (II)

**Week 12:**

11/23: Thanksgiving Recess

**Part V: Popular Culture in Contemporary East Asia**
Week 13:


Week 14:


**Part VI: Conclusion: East Asia and the 21st Century**

Week 15:

12/12: Borthwick, Chapter 13: “Pacific Century: Regional and Global Perspectives”; Conclusion; **Deadline of the Final Paper**
Selected Bibliography


Shambaugh, David, ed. *Charting China’s Future: Domestic and International Challenges*. 


