COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a junior seminar in political science. It is designed primarily for majors interested in exploring in depth the relationship between U.S. foreign policy and developments in East Asia. Although geographically quite distant from the Asian mainland, the United States has been involved militarily, diplomatically and economically with that region since the 19th Century. Following the defeat of Japan in the Pacific component of World War II, the United States has maintained a strong military presence throughout the Asia-Pacific and has fought costly wars in Korea and Viet-Nam, all as integral components of the Cold War. Today, the rise of China; the cross-Straits problem surrounding Taiwan; the economic torpor of Japan; the continued division of the Korean peninsula and the nuclear program of North Korea; and the potential for Muslim terrorism in Southeast Asia are but a few of the problems that animate the interactions between East Asia and the United States. This seminar will explore the historical and contemporary foreign policies of the United States toward Asia with an eye toward analyzing the ways in which Asia has been shaped by American, and in turn American policies have been shaped by events in Asia.

REQUIREMENTS: This seminar will focus on reading rather than research and the seminar will emphasize discussion and analysis of various interpretations of events; it will not be a lecture course. To make this work effectively, students will be expected to have done a careful reading of each week’s assignments prior to the weekly meeting and to come to class prepared to discuss the readings, the arguments they present and the extent to which these readings agree or disagree with one another.

In addition to the discussions in seminar, each student will be expected to write 5 short (5-8 page) papers analyzing some portion of the readings for specific weeks. The specific assignments for the readings will be worked out in our second meeting.

Grades will be based on the following:

- Seminar participation: 33%
- Written papers: 67%, with a sliding scale designed to give slightly more credit for later papers

READINGS: All of the readings are required. We will read all or most of the following books, copies of which should be available for purchase through the campus bookstore. They will also be on two hour reserve in Moffitt. The various articles assigned that are not in the books are identified for electronic access.


LaFeber, *America, Russia and the Cold War 1975-2002* (note this is the latest edition), McGraw Hill

Overholt, *Asia, America and the Transformation of Geopolitics*, Cambridge UP


PLAGARISM: A final word that should perhaps be unnecessary: I expect all work for this class to be original and to be done by the individual student. (This does NOT mean simply downloading without technical assistance…..) If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, there is a detailed description of university policies at [http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Citations.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Citations.html). A core comment is extracted here:

**What is plagiarism?**

Plagiarism is using the ideas and writings of others and representing them as your own. Even if you do not copy another source word-for-word, but rather rephrase the source without attributing it to the original author by including a footnote, you are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic standards and is punishable with a failing grade, possible expulsion from the institution, and may subject you to ostracism by your peers.

**PART 1—INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

Jan. 20: INTRODUCTION

No required readings

Jan. 27: OVERVIEW OF AMERICAN ASIAN POLICY AND PREWAR HISTORY


Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Chap 4 (Kang)

PART 2—THE COLD WAR PERIOD

Feb. 3: ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR AND DOCTRINE OF CONTAINMENT

Mr. X article,
LaFeber, Chaps. 1, 2, 3, 4
Yahuda, Introduction, Chap. 1 (pp. 1-40)
Ikenberry Chap. 1 in Ikenberry and Moon

Feb. 10: THE U.S.-JAPAN ALLIANCE

Yahuda, Chap. 7
Hemmer, Christopher and Katzenstein, Peter J. “Why is there No NATO in Asia?...” International Organization, 56, 3 (Summer 2002): 575-608.

Feb. 17: THE KOREAN WAR

LaFeber, Chaps. 5, 6, 7
Cumings, “Collision” in Korea’s Place in the Sun, pp. 237-298.

Feb. 24: THE VIET-NAM WAR

Yahuda, Chaps. 2-3
LaFeber, chaps. 9, 10, 11 (pp. 267-280)

Mar. 3: CHINA—FROM CONFRONTATION TO DÉTENTE

Yahuda, Chaps. 4, 5, 6
LaFeber, Chap. 11 (pp. 280-297)

Mar. 10: THE ‘ASIAN MIRACLE’


PART 3: THE POST-COLD WAR PERIOD

Mar. 17: THEORY

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Introduction, Kang, Chap 4 (review), Kirshner, Chap. 8, Nau, Chap. 6

Yahuda, chap. 8

Overholt, Chaps. 1, 2, 3

Mar. 31: POWER SHIFTS

Overholt, Chaps, 4, 5, 8

Ikenberry and Moon, Chap. 2 (Goldstein)

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Chap. 1 (Christensen), 2 (Goldstein)

LaFeber, Chaps. 12 (just skim for sense of US policy shifts), 13, 14

Friedberg, Aaron, “Ripe for Rivalry?” International Security 18,3 (Winter, 1993/94) : 5-53

Apr. 7: SHIFTS BY AMERICA’S ALLIES

Ikenberry and Moon, Chap. 3, 5, 7
PART 4: NEW CHALLENGES

Apr. 14: AMERICA AFTER 9/11

Ikenberry and Moon, Introduction, Chaps. 10, 11, 12
Overholt, Chaps. 8
Yahuda, Chaps. 9, 10, 11
LaFeber, Chap. 15

Apr. 21: NORTH KOREA & CROSS-Straits

Ikenberry and Moon, Chap. 6, 9

Overholt, 5
McDevitt, Michael “Taiwan: The Tail that Wags the Dogs,” Asia Policy, 1 (Jan. 2006): 69-93.

Apr. 28: THE NEW ASIAN REGIONALISM

Ikenberry and Moon, Chap. 3, 11
Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Chap. 7


May 5: LOOKING AHEAD

Overholt, Chap. 9, 10

Ikenberry and Moon, Chap. 12

Ikenberry and Mastanduno, Chap. 10 (Copeland), Conclusion

