

IGS 400
Asia in the Modern World: China, Japan and Tigers Grow Up (Speaking Intensive)

Credit: 3 hours; Prerequisite: IGS program For Whom Planned: IGS program majors and minors, and interested undergraduates with a background in the study of international and global issues

Instructors:
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Catalog description: A study of geographic and political conditions in globalizing Asia. Emphasis is placed on major urban centers, particularly **China** (Beijing-Shanghai), **Japan** (Tokyo-Osaka), and the **Five Tigers** (Seoul-Singapore).

Student Learning Outcomes: The general purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge about East Asian societies and their connections to North America through the perspective of globalization. A comparative approach is a key element for synthesizing understanding of global urban patterns.
Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Locate a broad range of source information related to international and global issues.
- Evaluate critically the quality of that source information.
- Analyze critically the diverse data and perspectives pertaining to a variety of international/global issues.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of intercultural sensitivity and the processes of cross-cultural development
- Present clear and persuasive oral arguments on international and global topics.
- Understand the processes of globalization and the functions of cities in regard to fundamental social changes;
- Examine the conditions and problems of globalization in Asian urban centers and compare/contrast with those in the U.S. to appreciate the interrelations ;

- Evaluate the interconnections among regions in such aspects as colonial and neocolonial relationships, human rights, cultural priorities, economic and technological evolution, environmental impact and overall sustainability;

Teaching Method and Assignments: This speaking intensive course includes in-class discussions, two tests and a combined oral and written final project presented in class by student thematic teams. Visual aid excerpts illustrating regional themes, country cultures and challenges will supplement lectures. Combining the spatial, cultural, historical and economic interests of regional geography with insights on political systems creates a capstone inquiry that integrates diverse course backgrounds of students to produce a stimulating examination of a contemporary issue. It is necessary to complete reading assignments before the class period listed in order to participate in class discussion and benefit from the lecture. As a "Speaking Intensive" course, a major goal is building skills for the effective exchange of well-constructed and well-expressed ideas.

Major themes for comparison are urban physical and human environmental sustainability, political-economic development, cultural transition and management of disparities;

Final Project: Evaluation includes an in-class **oral and written presentation**. Project will compare and contrast a theme as it plays out in major Asian urban areas and in other global centers outside Asia, reflecting the place specific concentrations of students in each team. Presentations will include a map of the areas covered, an outline of the presentation, major points of focus, questions to guide class discussion, and conclusions of presenters. A Power Point format is preferable. Group dynamics will be assessed based on "Small Group Communication Competencies" rating, and presentation based on "Eight Public Speaking Competencies". To maximize skills, students are required to visit the Speaking Center to receive feedback coaching. A note from the SC confirming the visit must be turned in.

Evaluation and Grading: A=100-93; A- = 92-90; B+=89-87; B=86-83; B- = 82-80; C+=79-77; C=76-73; C- = 72-70; F=less than 70. Midterm and Comprehensive exams = 35% each; project = 15%, including 5% for small group competency. Class participation (discussion participation) = 10%, Speaking evaluation form =5%. The exams test mastery of underlying concepts, familiarity with key terms, and appropriate application to contemporary events. The midterm includes a regional map.

Required Texts:

1. Yusuf, S. and K. Nabeshima. 2006. *Postindustrial East Asian Cities: Innovation for Growth.* Palo Alto: Stanford University Press.
2. Abrahamson, M. 2004. *Global Cities*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Academic Integrity Policy: Each student is required to sign the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work submitted for the course. Refer to *UNCG Undergraduate Bulletin.*

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all class meetings and participate in class discussion with thoughtful and relevant comments. Students who miss class do not do well on

exams, since material covered in class supplements as well as emphasizes important points made in the text. A roll sheet may be circulated on random days as a check on attendance. Office hours are for students who need assistance with material covered in classes they attend. Make-up exams will not be given without verifiable evidence of extreme unforeseeable hardship. It is necessary to complete reading assignments before the class period listed in order to participate in class discussion and benefit from the lectures. Students who miss class during the first two weeks will be dropped from the roll.

Final Examination: The final examination primarily covers material since the midterm, as well as some general synthesizing essay(s).

Additional Requirements: Turn off all electronic items before class begins. No food inside the classroom except on day assigned.

Course Calendar (subject to revision by instructors)

Wk	Date	Topic	Reading
1	1/20	Globalization and Cities ; intro to "8 speaking skills", assessment rubric	Abrahamson Ch.1: Introduction: Global Cities; Speaking Effectively Handouts
	1/22	Globalization and Economy: E. Asia and USA	Abrahamson Ch 4: Cities in the Global Economy
2	1/27	Global Economic Geography	Yusuf Ch. 1, pp. 1-28
	1/29	Urbanization in the Developing World	Third World Cities (Blackboard) Drakakis-Smith pp. 1-10
3	2/3	China: regional overview, BJ, SH	Yusuf pp. 56-9, 60-7;
	2/5	China: PRD, West	Walcott "Dragon's Tail" (Blackboard)
4	2/10	Cities in USA and E. Asia	Abrahamson Ch.2: People, Places and Lifestyles; "The Sun Also Rises" (Blackboard); Yusuf "Tokyo" pp.29 ff
	2/12	Japan and its Cities	"Keeping the Lights On" (Blackboard) Yusuf Seoul pp.50 ff
5	2/17	Korea and its Cities	Hill and Kim (Blackboard)
	2/19	Singapore	Yusuf pp. 39-43; 101-128
6	2/24	Summary: E. Asia, cities, globalization	Instructors
	2/26	MIDTERM	
7	3/3	Immigration in Asia; divide into project teams, discuss assignment, assessment "Small Group Competencies"	Abrahamson Ch 3, pp. 48-71
	3/5	Immigration in Asia	McGee and Wu (Blackboard)
8		SPRING BREAK	
9	3/17	Economic global development	Yusuf Ch. 3, pp.69-100
	3/19	Economic global development; check project team presentation outlines	Yusuf (continued)

10	3/24	Urban Sustainability in Asia	Kidokoro, Onishi and Marcotullio (Blackboard)
	3/26	Urban Sustainability in Asia	Kwon (Blackboard)
11	3/31	Information Exchange Theme	Yusuf Ch. 9, pp. 271-86
	4/2	Information Exchange Theme	Abrahamson Ch. 6, pp. 121-138
12	4/7	Globalization and Governance: E. Asian and USA	Abrahamson Ch.8: Some Final Thoughts
	4/9	Urban Governance Theme	Yusuf Ch. 10, pp. 303-310
13	4/14	**PROJECT** Presentations: Environment	Class Group 1
	4/16	**PROJECT** Presentations: Economic	Class Group 2
14	4/21	**PROJECT** Presentations: Immigration	Class Group 3
	4/23	**PROJECT** Presentations: Information Exchange	Class Group 4
15	4/28	**PROJECT** Presentations: Governance	Class Group 5: Speaking Evaluation Forms Due
	4/30	**COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION**	