

## **COSM01: Introduction to Asian Studies**

(Autumn 2024)

Course director Paul O'Shea, other teachers include Marina Svensson

The course is a 6-credit mandatory component of the Asian studies master programme. It focuses on the history and development of the field of Asian Studies and how to understand contemporary issues from an interdisciplinary Asian Studies perspective. The course will introduce students to doing research in Asian Studies, key sources, key debates within the field, and how the field has developed overtime. The course includes lectures grappling with issues such as academic freedom, colonialism, inter-Asia relations and mobilities, criticism of Asian Studies and area studies generally, and recent research in Asian Studies. It also lays out the key study skills and requirements of the program including critical thinking, academic integrity, finding literature and conducting literature reviews and importantly, an introduction to the resources available in the Asia Library.

The basis of the course remains the same regardless of who teaches it, but the case studies change depending on the teacher. This year I am teaching, my expertise is (North)East Asian international politics. So I remove the Rohingya case, and replace with Okinawa/International Relations case. I also add readings on debates on the meaning of Area Studies within international politics. These readings are grouped separately, as they only be taught when I teach, no other teacher would use them.

The base course literature is 611 pages, the case is 299 pages but students will not read all, they are expected to read 100 of this.

### **Literature**

~~\*Abraham, I. and M. Jaehn. 2020. Immanent Nation: The Rohingya quest for international recognition. *Nations and Nationalism*, 26(4): 1054-1068. [14 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Amako, S. 2017. Methods for area studies and contemporary China study. 6(1): 2-28. [27 pages]

> Pages to read for students: 27

~~Amrith, Sunil. 2011. Reconstructing the 'Plural Society': Asian Migration Between Empire and Nation, 1940-1948. *Past and Present*, 6: 237-257. [20 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~Amrith, Sunil. 2013. The Bay of Bengal and the Malay World: Diasporas and cultural circulation, c. 1780-1950. *Indonesia and the Malay World* 41(120): 183-197. [15 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Andaya, B.W. 2006. Oceans Unbounded: Transversing Asia across 'Area Studies', *The Journal of Asian Studies* 65(4): 669-690.

> Pages to read for the students: 21

~~Barmé, Geremie R. 2008. "Worrying China & New Sinology." *China Heritage Quarterly*, 14. [http://www.chinaheritagequarterly.org/articles.php?searchterm=014\\_worryingChina.inc&issue=014](http://www.chinaheritagequarterly.org/articles.php?searchterm=014_worryingChina.inc&issue=014)~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~\*Brooten, L. and Y. Verbruggen. 2017. Producing the News: Reporting on Myanmar's Rohingya Crisis. *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 47(3): 440-460. [20 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~\*Cheesman, N. 2017. How in Myanmar 'National Races' Came to Surpass Citizenship and Exclude Rohingya. *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 47(3): 461-483. [22 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

**NEW Bleiker, Roland, David Chapman & David Shim (2021), "Visualising Korea: Critical Moments in History, Society and Politics," *Asian Studies Review*, 45:3, 374-380, DOI: 10.1080/10357823.2021.193783**

> Pages to read for the students: 6

> Added; adds new perspectives

**NEW Bleiker, Roland (2018), "Mapping visual global politics." In Roland Bleiker (Ed.), *Visual global politics* (pp. 1-29). Routledge. E-book.**

> Pages to read for the students: 29

> Added; adds new perspectives

Chen, Kuan-Hsing. 2010. *Asia as Method: Toward Deimperialization*. Duke University Press, Chapter 1: Introduction: Globalization and Deimperialization (available for free download at

[https://read.dukeupress.edu/books/book/2159/Asia-as-MethodToward-Deimperialization?utm\\_source=web&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_campaign=j-Syllabi\\_2019-2020](https://read.dukeupress.edu/books/book/2159/Asia-as-MethodToward-Deimperialization?utm_source=web&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=j-Syllabi_2019-2020))

> Pages to read for the students: 18

Chen, Tina. 2021. Global Asias: Method, Architecture, Praxis. *Journal of Asian Studies*, 80(4): 997-1009

> Pages to read for the students: 12

Chen, Tina and Eric Hayot. 2015. Introducing *Verge*: What Does It Mean to Study Global Asias? *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 1(1): pp. 1-2.

> Pages to read for the students: 2

~~China File. 2020. The Future of China Studies in the U.S. *China File*, 27 August.  
<https://www.chinafile.com/conversation/future-of-china-studies-us>~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~\*Coddington, K. 2021. The everyday erosion of refugee claims: Representations of the Rohingya in Thailand. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 24(2): 274-291 [17 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Constable, Nicole. 2017. Revisiting Distant Divides and Intimate Connections in Asia: Comments on Engseng Ho's 'Inter-Asian Concepts for Mobile Societies', *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 76(4): 953-959. [7 pages]

> Pages to read for the students: 7

Duara, Prasenjit. 2021. Circulatory Histories of the Nation-State. *Verge: Studies in Global Asias*, 7(1): 5-12 (7 pages)

> Pages to read for the students: 7

> Added; adds new perspectives

Duara, Prasenjit. 2010. Asia Redux: Conceptualizing a Region for Our Times. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 69(4): 963-983. [20 pages]

> Pages to read for the students: 20

**NEW Edwards, Dan and Marina Svensson (2017), "Show us life and make us think: engagement, witnessing and activism in independent Chinese documentary today," Studies in Documentary Film, 11:3, 161-169, DOI: 10.1080/17503280.2017.1354504**

> Pages to read for the students: 8

> Added; adds new perspectives

**NEW Gueorguiev, Dimitar D. 2022. "Introduction: Progress under Threat: Academic Freedom in Asia." In: *New Threats to Academic Freedom in Asia*, edited by D. Gueorguiev. Association for Asian Studies. <https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/new-threats-to-academic-freedom/>**

> Pages to read for the students: 17

> Added; adds new perspectives

Huat, Chua Beng, K. Dean, H. Eng seng, H.K. Chong, J. Rigg, and B. Yeoh. 2019. Area Studies and the crisis of legitimacy: a view from South East Asia. *South East Asia Research* 27(1): 31-48.

> Pages to read for the students: 17

Hudson, M.J. 2014. Placing Asia in the Anthropocene: Histories, Vulnerabilities, Responses. *Journal of Asian Studies*, 73(4): 941-962.

> Pages to read for the students: 21

Hutt, M. 2019. Area Studies and the importance of 'somewheres' *South East Asia Research* 27(1): 21-25.

> Pages to read for the students: 5

Ho, Eng seng. 2017. Inter-Asian Concepts for Mobile Societies. *Journal of Asian Studies*, 76(4): 907-928.

> Pages to read for the students: 21

Isaac, A.P., J. Mathew, A. Nerlekar, P. Schalow, and T. Sears. 2021. Further thoughts on Asian Studies 'inside-out'. *International Journal of Asian Studies* 18: 217-224.

> Pages to read for the students: 8

Jackson, P.A. 2018. Space, Theory, and Hegemony: The Dual Crises of Asian Area Studies and Cultural Studies. *Sojourn: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia* 33(S): 199-241. [43 pages]

> Pages to read for the students: 43

\*Jaehn, Miriam. 2022. From Refugees to Legitimate Minority? Rohingya Performing National Belongings in Thailand. *SOJOURN: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia*, 37(3): 465-489.

> Pages to read for the students: 24

King, Victor T. 2014. "Southeast Asian Studies: the Conundrum of Area and Method". In *Methodology and Research Practice in Southeast Asian Studies*, edited by Mikko Huotai, Jürgen Rüländ and Judith Schlehe. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. Pp.44-63.

E-book available in LUBsearch.

> Pages to read for the students: 20

\*Kironka, K. and Ni Ni Peng. 2021. How state-run media shape perceptions: an analysis of the projection of the Rohingya in the *Global New Light of Myanmar, South East Asia Research* 29(1): 16-31

> Pages to read for the students: 15

\*Maclean, Ken. 2018. The Rohingya Crisis and the Practices of Erasure. *Journal of Genocide Research* 21(1): 83-95

> Pages to read for the students: 12

McEwan, Cheryl. 2013. "Postcolonialism." In *The Companion to Development Studies*, edited by Vandana Desai and Rob Potter. London and New York: Routledge. Pp. 137-41. E-book. [5 pages]

> Pages to read for the students: 5

Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. (2019). Liquid Area Studies: Northeast Asia in Motion as Viewed from Mount Geumagang. 27(1): 209-239.

> Pages to read for the students: 30

Nair-Venugopal, Shanta. 2012. "Introduction." In *The gaze of the West and framings of the*

*East*, edited by Shanta Nair-Venugopal. Palgrave Macmillan. Pp. 3-25. E-book.

> Pages to read for the students: 23

Prasse-Freeman, E. 2017. The Rohingya Crisis. *Anthropology Today* 33(6): 1-2.

> Pages to read for the students: 2

~~\*Prasse-Freeman, E. 2022. Nothing to lose but their (block)chains: Biometrics, technomimaries,~~

and transformations in Rohingya lives. *American Ethnologist* 49(4): 563-579 [16 pages]

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Rafael, Vincente L. 1999. Regionalism, Area Studies, and the Accidents of Agency. *The American Historical Review* 104 (4): 1208-1220. [13 pages]

Reader, Ian. 1998. "Review: Studies of Japan, Area Studies, and the Challenges of Social Theory" *Monumenta Nipponica* 53(2):237-255.

> Pages to read for the students: 20

~~Said, Edward W. 2003. *Orientalism*. London: Penguin. Pp. 1-28. Price 133 SEK at Bokus.com. [28 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Sato, Jin, 2020. "Research at a Distance: Area Studies in the Post-Pandemic Era," *International*

*Journal of Asian Studies* 17, 105–108.

> Pages to read for the students: 4

Sato Jin, S. Sonoda, 2021, "Asian studies "inside-out": a research agenda for the development of Global Asian Studies". *International Journal of Asian Studies* 18, pp. 207–216.

> Pages to read for the students: 10

Sidaway, J.D., E.L. Ho, J.D. Rigg, C.Y. Woon. 2016. Area studies and geography : Trajectories and manifesto. *Environment and Planning D : Society and Space* 34(5) : 777-790.

> Pages to read for the students: 23

Shirana, Masakazu and Ikeda, Teiichi. 2017. "Japan is Great." *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus* 15(3)4. Available at: <http://apjif.org/2017/03/Shirana.html>

> Pages to read for the students: 8

**NEW** Svensson, Marina, "Chinese universities: restrictions on academic freedom and global implications," in *China: Shifting Power and Human Rights Diplomacy*. Ismail, D., van der Schaaf, K. & Deklerck, S. (eds.). Netherlands: Amnesty International Netherlands, 2020, pp. 119-127. Accessed at [https://www.amnesty.nl/content/uploads/2020/02/STATEGIC-STUDIES-CHINA\\_webversie.pdf?x67191](https://www.amnesty.nl/content/uploads/2020/02/STATEGIC-STUDIES-CHINA_webversie.pdf?x67191)

> Pages to read for the students: 9

> **Added; adds new perspectives**

Sugimoto, Yoshio. 2010. *An Introduction to Japanese Society*. 3rd ed. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 1-36. E-book.

> Pages to read for the students: 36

Teng, Emma. 2017. Hong Kong's Eurasian Web Viewed through the Lens of Inter-Asian Studies: Comments on Engseng Ho's 'Inter-Asian Concepts for Mobile Societies' 76(4): 943-951.

> Pages to read for the students: 8

Tharaphi Than. 2021. Why does area studies need decolonization? Commentary, *Critical Asian Studies*, 20 November.

<https://criticalasianstudies.org/commentary/2021/11/20/commentary-tharaphi-than-whydoes->

[area-studies-need-decolonization](https://criticalasianstudies.org/commentary/2021/11/20/commentary-tharaphi-than-whydoes-area-studies-need-decolonization)

Van Schendel, W. 2002. Geographies of knowing, geographies of ignorance: jumping scale in Southeast Asia. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 20: 647-668. [21 pages]

> Pages to read for the students: 21

~~\*Wahab, Sharif, A. 2022. Hybrid governmentality in practice: Territoriality and biopolitics in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh. *Political Geography*, 94. [22 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~Walder, Andrew G. 2004. "The Transformation of Contemporary China Studies, 1977-2002." In *The Politics of Knowledge: Area Studies and the Disciplines*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. 314-340. Available at:~~

~~<http://www.ciaonet.org/resources.asiaportal.info/book/szd01/index.html> [27 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~\*Walker, J.R. 2022. Rakhine Skies: "Remote Sensing, Human Rights, and the Rohingya Crisis." *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, 113(1): 30-45 [15 pages]~~

5

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~\*Ware, A. and C. Laoutides. 2019. Myanmar's Rohingya Conflict: Misconceptions and Complexity, *Asian Affairs* 50(1): 60-79. [20 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Winichakul, Thongchai. 2014. Asian Studies across Academies. *Journal of Asian Studies*, 73(4):

879-897.

> Pages to read for the students: 18

~~Yang, Mayfair Mei-Hui. 2004. Spatial Struggles: Postcolonial Complex, State Disenchantment, and Popular Reappropriation of Space in Rural Southeast China. *The Journal of Asian Studies* 63(3): 719-755. [36 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

Yeh, Emily. 2017. Commentary: On the Possibilities of Transdisciplinary Asian Studies. 76(2): 499-503.

> Pages to read for the students: 5

~~\*Yoni, Nyana. 2021. Enacting Border Governance through Multi-scalar Violence: Exclusion and discrimination of Rohingya people in Rakhine state. *Modern Asian Studies*, 56(2): 567-602. [35 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

New: Zackari, Karin, "Academics as Critics: New Trends in Thailand," [criticalasianstudies.org](https://criticalasianstudies.org), Commentary Board, May 7, 2023; <https://doi.org/10.52698/PUZD7174>.

> Pages to read for the students: 2

> Added; adds new perspectives

~~\*Zakari, F.B. 2019. Religion, Mass Violence, and Illiberal Regimes: Recent Research on the Rohingya in Myanmar. *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 38(1): 98-111. [14 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

~~Zhou, Xian. 2019. The Problems of Sinologism and Strategies to Cope with Them. *Contemporary Chinese Thought* 49(1): 71-80. [10 pages]~~

> Removed from the list; is no longer relevant

### **International Relations and Okinawa Specific Literature:**

Acharya, Amitav and Buzan, Barry (2017) 'Why is there no Non-Western International Relations Theory? Ten years on', *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, Vol. 17, No 3 pp. 341–370.

#### **PAGES 29**

Ames C. (2016) Amerikamun: Consuming America and Ambivalence toward the U.S. Presence in Postwar Okinawa. *The Journal of Asian Studies*. 2016;75(1):41-61. doi:10.1017/S0021911815001655

#### **PAGES 20**

Angst, Linda Isako (2001) The Sacrifice Of A Schoolgirl: The 1995 Rape Case, Discourses of Power, and Women's Lives in Okinawa, *Critical Asian Studies*, 33:2, 243-266, DOI: 10.1080/14672710122284

#### **PAGES 23**

Envall HDP & Kerri Ng (2015) The Okinawa "Effect" in US–Japan Alliance Politics, *Asian Security*, 11:3, 225-241, DOI: 10.1080/14799855.2015.1111339

#### **PAGES 17**

Hidefumi Nishiyama (2022) Base Built in the Middle of 'Rice Fields': A Politics of Ignorance in Okinawa, *Geopolitics*, 27:2, 546-565, DOI: 10.1080/14650045.2020.1801646

#### **PAGES 19**

Hikotani, Takako, Yusaku Horiuchi, Atsushi Tago Revisiting negative externalities of US military bases: the case of Okinawa, Pages (from-to)325-349, *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* Volume23 Issue number2

#### **PAGES 24**

Hiyane, R., & Piao, L. (2023). Stabilization of Anti-U.S. Military Bases Sentiment: Japan's Evolving Compensation Policies and Base Politics in Okinawa. *Armed Forces & Society*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095327X231167772>

#### **PAGES 20**

Johnston, A. I. (2012). What (if anything) does East Asia tell us about international relations

theory?. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 15, pp. 53-78.

**PAGES 25**

Kovner, Sarah. The Soundproofed Superpower: American Bases and Japanese Communities, 1945–1972 SARAH KOVNER *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 75, No. 1 (FEBRUARY 2016), pp. 87-109 (23 pages)

**PAGES 23**

Loo, Tze M. 2019. Japan Review 33 Special Issue: War, Tourism, and Modern Japan: 173–193 “Paradise in a war zone”: The U.S. Military and Tourism in Okinawa, 1945–1972

**PAGES 20**

Mearsheimer, John J. (2016) ‘Benign Hegemony’, *International Studies Review*, Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 147–149

**PAGES 2**

O’Shea, P. (2019). Strategic narratives and US military bases in Japan: How ‘deterrence’ makes the Marine base on Okinawa ‘indispensable’. *Media, War & Conflict*, 12(4), 450-467.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1750635218810904>

**PAGES 17**

Inoue, Masamachi. “We Are Okinawans But of a Different Kind” New/Old Social Movements and the U.S. Military in Okinawa, *Current Anthropology* Volume 45, Number 1 February 2004, pp. 85.104

**PAGES 20**

Weinek, Nora and Sato, Fumika LIVING WITH THE US MILITARY: THE WOMEN WORKING ON OKINAWAN BASES *Hitotsubashi Journal of Social Studies* 50 (2019), pp. 1-14.

**PAGES 14**

Yan, Xuetong (2016) ‘Political Leadership and Power Redistribution’, *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, Vol. 9, No. 1, pp. 1–26

**PAGES 26**