



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Asia-Pacific Studies	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Konstantinas Andrijauskas Other:	Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University, Vokiečių str. 10, LT-01130, Vilnius, tel. +370 52514130, e-mail: tspmi@tspmi.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First	Optional

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Seminars	Autumn semester	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: English language proficiency (at least level B2 required)	Co-requisites (if relevant): None

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	140	32	108

Purpose of the course unit		
The principal goal of this course unit is to introduce the Asia-Pacific region from the political point of view, i.e. its principal states' political systems, relations among themselves as well as with outside actors. The course examines not only the Western part of the Pacific littoral (Northeast and Southeast Asia), but also the South Asian region (Indian subcontinent) and the most important "peripheral" countries.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Would demonstrate knowledge about the main domestic and international political features and specifics of the key countries and regions belonging to the Asia/Indo-Pacific, namely China, Japan, the Koreas, India and Southeast Asia	Problem-oriented lecturing and demonstration (multimedia), active study methods (group discussions), individual study, research methods (search for information)	Seminar discussions, examination, research paper
Would be able to critically assess the arguments for the Asia-Pacific as the world's most dynamic region and the principal destination of the global power shift from the West to the East and from the North to the South	Problem-oriented lecturing and demonstration (multimedia), active study methods (group discussions), individual study, research methods (search for information)	Seminar discussions, examination, research paper
Would be able to gather and systematically prepare information through individual efforts: find, evaluate and present data about the selected topic related to the course.	Research methods (search for information, literature analysis, preparation of the research paper), individual study	Research paper

Examination									20	
Total	18		14					32	108	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Seminar participation and discussions	30%	during the semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - answer to the question - consistency of the argument - depth of analysis • attendance and participation during seminars – 20% • short mid-term examination – 10%
Research paper	30%	during the semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - answer to the research question posed - consistency of the argument / structure of assignment - quality of literature / sources / data - depth of analysis - style of writing • research paper form – up to 3000 words introduction to conclusion inclusive, based on at least ten academically valid sources, and answering a commonly agreed-upon research question relevant to the course
Final examination	40%	during the examination session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - answer to the question - consistency of the argument - demonstration of literature knowledge / quality of data - depth of analysis • examination form – in-class, closed-book, open-question

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Jo Inge Bekkevold and Bobo Lo (eds.)	2019	<i>Sino-Russian Relations in the 21st Century</i>		Palgrave Macmillan
Brown, James D.J. and Jeff Kingston (eds.)	2018	<i>Japan's Foreign Relations in Asia</i>		Routledge
Croissant, Aurel and Philip Lorenz	2018	<i>Comparative Politics of Southeast Asia: An Introduction to Government and Political Regimes</i>		Springer
Ganguly, Sumit and Eswaran Sridharan (eds.)	2024	<i>The Oxford Handbook of Indian Politics</i>		Oxford University Press
Gilbert, Mark Jason	2017	<i>South Asia in World History</i>		Oxford University Press
Hayes, Louis D.	2012	<i>Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan</i>		M.E.Sharpe
Jacobsen, Knut A. (ed.)	2016	<i>Routledge Handbook of Contemporary India</i>		Routledge
Lam, Willy Wo-Lap (ed.)	2018	<i>Routledge Handbook of the Chinese Communist Party</i>		Routledge
Moon, Chung-in and M. Jae Moon (eds.)	2020	<i>Routledge Handbook of Korean Politics and Public Administration</i>		Routledge

Nathan, Andrew J. and Andrew Scobell	2012	<i>China's Search for Security</i>		Columbia University Press
Rozman, Gilbert and Joseph Chinyong Liow (eds.)	2018	<i>International Relations and Asia's Southern Tier: ASEAN, Australia, and India</i>		Palgrave Macmillan
Saich, Tony	2021	<i>From Rebel to Ruler: One Hundred Years of the Chinese Communist Party</i>		Harvard University Press
Shambaugh, David (ed.)	2022	<i>International Relations of Asia</i>	3 rd edition	Rowman & Littlefield
Sohn, Yul and T. J. Pempel (eds.)	2019	<i>Japan and Asia's Contested Order: The Interplay of Security, Economic, and Identity</i>		Palgrave Macmillan
Rudolph, Jennifer and Michael Szonyi (eds.)	2018	<i>The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power</i>		Harvard University Press
Widmalm, Sten (ed.)	2022	<i>Routledge Handbook of Autocratization in South Asia</i>		Routledge
Yahuda, Michael	2019	<i>The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific</i>	4 th edition	Routledge
Recommended reading				
Chang, Teh-Kuang and Angelin Chang (eds.)	2018	<i>Routledge Handbook of Asia in World Politics</i>		Routledge
Dayley, Robert	2017	<i>Southeast Asia in the New International Era</i>	7 th edition	Westview Press
Hayes, Peter and Chung-In Moon (eds.)	2018	<i>The Future of East Asia</i>		Springer Nature
Kohli, Atul and Prerna Singh (eds.)	2016	<i>Routledge Handbook of Indian Politics</i>		Routledge
Malone, David M., C. Raja Mohan and Srinath Raghavan (eds.)	2015	<i>The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy</i>		Oxford University Press
Oberst, Robert C. et al.	2014	<i>Government and Politics in South Asia</i>	7 th edition	Westview Press
Rozman, Gilbert and Sergei Radchenko (eds.)	2018	<i>International Relations and Asia's Northern Tier: Sino-Russia Relations, North Korea, Mongolia</i>		Palgrave Macmillan
Pekkanen, Saadia M., John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot (eds.)	2014	<i>The Oxford Handbook of International Relations in Asia</i>		Oxford University Press

NOTE: Including Open Educational Resources in the reading list is recommended