

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Discipline: International Relations / Political Science

Fall 2008

PLIR 100Z: The Rise of New Great Powers

Lower Division

Faculty Name: Leonard Schoppa

Suggested Pre-requisites: none.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each time a new great power has risen up from among the collection of nations, the world has been transformed. The rise of European powers led to the colonization of vast parts of the world. The rise of Germany, Japan, and Russia led to World War and Cold War, both of which engulfed large parts of the world, forcing most nations to choose sides. The rise of the United States made the world safe for giant corporations and massive capital flows, leaving “third world” countries little choice but to go along for the ride. Now we are seeing the rise of a new great power, China, prompting important questions about how this nation’s rise will remake the world. What patterns can we find in the earlier stories of the rise of great powers that can help us predict how the rise of China will remake the world? How exactly do great powers exercise power? How does their competition for power and security shape their own behavior and the choices available to other nations? Does the competition for power inevitably lead to a breakdown in cooperation and war? And how exactly is the rise of China remaking the world today, in places like Brazil, Southern Africa, India, and East Asia? We will reflect on these questions as we circle the globe, pausing at each destination to consider how it was and is being shaped by the clash of great powers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Students will learn to recognize international power in its various dimensions: military, control over resources, control over trade, control of money, and influence over culture and values.
2. Students will become familiar with some of the leading theories of international relations: realism, liberalism, and constructivism.
3. Students will learn how the rise of new great powers affected the places we visit during the colonial era, World War II, and the Cold War.
4. Students will examine how the rise of China is playing out in the different regions we visit.
5. Students will consider how the rise of China is complicating efforts to cooperate in allocating scarce natural resources; maintaining a liberal trading system; preserving international financial stability; and dealing with global climate change, human rights, and the war on terror.

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Lecture # and Date	Lecture Topic – Key Questions	Reading Assignment
B1. Sept 1	<u>Introduction</u> What are “Great Powers”? What is international power? Can we theorize about IR? Introduce Realism	Mearsheimer, <u>The Tragedy of Great Power Politics</u> (Norton, 2001), pp. 29-54.
B2. Sept 3	<u>Rise of the West and the Rise of China</u> European powers balance each other. Are Asians failing to balance China? Introduce Liberalism & Constructivism	Kang, Chapters 1-3, pp. 3-75
B3. Sept 6 (arrive Brazil)	<u>The Great Powers and Brazil</u> Great Power competition among Europeans and the birth of Brazil US v Soviets and Brazil US v China in Brazil today (guest speaker: Ehlers)	James Lockhart and Stuart B. Schwartz, “Brazil in the Sugar Age,” in their book <u>Early Latin America</u> (Cambridge University Press, 1983), pp. 202-252.
B4. Sept 13	<u>Competition and Cooperation in Gaining Access to Natural Resources</u> Colonialism and war motivated by competition for resources. Postwar efforts to develop deep and reliable international markets for oil and other key resources. China and India’s growing thirst for oil and resources.	Daniel Yergin, <u>The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money and Power</u> (Free Press, 1993), pp. 305-327. Pak K. Lee, “China’s Quest for Oil Security,” <u>Pacific Review</u> 18:2 (June 2005), pp. 265-301.
B5. Sept 15	<u>The European Scramble for Colonies</u> What allowed Europeans to colonize such large areas of the world? Why did they do it? How did this process play out in Southern Africa? (guest speakers: O’Neill & Mohamed Adhikari)	Jared Diamond, <u>Guns, Germs, and Steel</u> (Norton, 1999), pp. 239-264. Jon Bridgman and Leslie Worley, “Genocide of the Hereros,” in Samuel Totten et al, (eds.), <u>Genocide in the Twentieth Century</u> (1995): pp. 3-31.
B6. Sept 18 (arrive Namibia)	<u>The Great Powers and Namibia</u> Britain v Germany in Southern Africa Genodie of the Hereros US v Soviets in Southern Africa US v China in region today (interport lecturer Mohamed Adhikari will give first half of this lecture)	Christopher Clapham, “The Resort to Superpowers,” in his book <u>Africa and the International System</u> (Cambridge, 1996), pp. 134-159. Josha Eisenman and Joshua Kurlantzick, “China’s Africa Strategy,” <u>Current History</u> , May 2006, pp. 219-224.

B7. Sept 25 (arrive S. Africa)	<u>Great Powers & Efforts to End Apartheid in South Africa</u> (interport lecturer: Mohamed Adhikari)	Nigel Worden, <u>The Making of Modern South Africa</u> , 4 th ed. (Blackwell, 2007), chapter 6. Movie: Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony.
B8. Oct 4	<u>Competition and Cooperation in Trade</u> Mercantilism v Liberalism GATT/WTO trade regime Difficult for world to accommodate growing Indian and Chinese trade, but no trade war yet.	Clyde Prestowitz, <u>Three Billion New Capitalists: The Great Shift of Wealth and Power to the East</u> (Basic Books, 2005), pp. 1-21.
B9. Oct 6	<u>Competition and Cooperation in International Finance</u> How nations employ financial power Challenge of maintaining stable international money Postwar regime of the IMF Relevance to India and East Asia (guest speaker: Warnock)	James Fallows, "The \$1.4 Trillion Question," <u>The Atlantic</u> , Jan/Feb 2008.
B10. Oct 8	<u>Technological and Cultural Power</u> How nations employ soft power Types of soft power (tech, religion, pop culture) India v US, past and present (IPlecturer: Annakutty Valiamangalam)	Joseph Nye, "The Changing Nature of Power," in his book <u>Soft Power</u> (Public Affairs, 2006), pp. 1-32.
B11. Oct 11	Midterm	
B12. Oct 13 (arrive India)	<u>The Great Powers and India</u> India during Colonial era India during the Cold War India and the US v China competition	Emmott, Chapter 1, 2, and 5, pp. 1-53 and 135-174.
B13. Oct 14 (arrive Malaysia)	<u>The Great Powers and SE Asia</u> SE Asia during Colonial era and WWII SE Asia during the Cold War SE Asia & the US v China competition	Kang, Chapter 6, pp. 126-152.
B14. Oct 27	<u>Asian Financial Crisis</u> Case study in challenge of maintaining international financial stability. US v Japan v China: who will take the lead in maintaining financial order in East Asia? (guest speaker: Warnock)	Stephan Haggard, "Introduction," in his book, <u>The Political Economy of the Asian Financial Crisis</u> (Institute for International Economics, 2000), pp. 1-14.
B15. Oct 29 (arrive Vietnam)	<u>Vietnam War</u> Causes and Consequences of the Wars in Indochina from the 1950s to the Killing Fields of the 1970s.	Stanley Karnow, <i>Vietnam: A History</i> (Viking Press, 1983), pp. 2-59. Movie: Killing Fields

B16. Nov 5 (arrive China)	<u>China Reemerges as a Great Power</u> China's power today and tomorrow Will it act like great powers that came before? Conflict over status of Taiwan (interport lecturer: Alejandro Reyes)	Kang, Chapter 4, pp. 79-103. Emmott, Chapter 3, pp. 54-95.
B17. Nov 13 (arrive Japan)	<u>Japan's Response to the Rise of China</u> (interport lecturer: Taro Kono)	Kang, Chapter 7, pp. 153-182. Emmott, Chapter 4, pp. 96-134.
B18. Nov 20	<u>The Great Powers in NE Asia</u> Hub-and-spokes bilateralism led by the United States during the Cold War. Beyond bilateralism in Japan Korea's response to the rise of China	Kang, Chapter 5, pp. 104-125. Emmott, Chapter 7, pp. 208-238.
B19. Nov 21	<u>The North Korean Nuclear Crisis</u> Case study in challenge of maintaining security order. US-led effort under Clinton Five-party talks under Bush Recent Developments	Emmott, Chapter 8, 239-279.
B20. Nov 24	<u>The United States & the Rise of China</u> Will the U.S. balance China? Policies under Clinton and Bush. Prospective policies of new president.	Kang, Chapter 8, pp. 185-196. Emmott, Chapter 9, pp. 280-311.
B21. Nov 26 (arrive Hawaii)	<u>Challenge of Cooperating on Global Environmental Issues</u> The problem of global warming Kyoto and Bali. Challenge of accommodating China (guest speaker: Rosencrantz)	Emmott, Chapter 6, pp. 178-204.
B22. Nov 29	<u>Challenge of Cooperating on Global Human Rights Issues</u> United Nations efforts in Rwanda, the Balkans, and East Timor: when does cooperation work best? China's sensitivities. Lack of effort in Myanmar.	Ardeth Maung Thawngmung and Paul Sarno, "Myanmar Impasses: Alternatives to Isolation and Engagement?" <i>Asian Journal of Political Science</i> 14:1 (September 2006), pp. 40-63.
B23. Dec 1	<u>Challenge of Cooperating in the "War on Terror"</u> Broad coalition right after 9/11 The shrinking coalition since 2003. Hard and soft power in the struggle against Islamic extremism.	No Readings
B24. Dec 2	EXAM	

FIELD COMPONENT

Twenty percent of the contact hours for each course is provided by field work. Students will be asked to keep an **International Power Journal** recording and reflecting on observations of international power at work in every port we visit. Each observation should be at least one paragraph in length, not a simple list. There is no specific list of field trips for this core class activity because of the number of students involved and the fact that students should be able to observe international power at work almost everywhere they go.

Students should write-up at least one observation for each port from Brazil to Japan (eight ports), and a total of at least 20.

The observations should include a balanced mix of cases showing evidence of international power in the **past** (e.g. colonial architecture; language spoken because of past colonial rule; religious practices; patterns of poverty and wealth) and the **present** (e.g. billboard featuring Tiger Woods; nationality of tourists or businesses; prices posted in foreign currency). There should also be at least one example each of **military, resource, trade, financial, and cultural power**.

Observation write-ups will be evaluated for originality and quality of reflections. Was the evidence of power unexpectedly substantial or ephemeral? What does the evidence tell you about the relative power of specific great powers in the past and present in the places we visit? How do your observations relate to readings we have done for this class or points made during lectures? Do you see power being used primarily in a way that is competitive (e.g. U.S. versus China zero-sum competition for influence) or cooperative?

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Midterm – 40 percent

Final – 40 percent

International Power Journal – 20 percent

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: David Kang
TITLE: China Rising: Peace, Power, and Order in East Asia
PUBLISHER: Columbia University Press
ISBN #: 978-0-231-14188-8
DATE/EDITION: 2007
COST: \$16.47 (on Amazon.com)

AUTHOR: Bill Emmott
TITLE: Rivals: How the Power Struggle Between China, India, and Japan Will Shape
Our Next Decade
PUBLISHER: Harcourt
ISBN #: 978-0151015030
DATE/EDITION: May 2008
COST: \$17.16 (on Amazon.com)