

Tárgytematika / Course Description

Asian Studies

KGNB_NETA033

Tárgyfelelős neve /

Teacher's name: dr. Lukács Eszter

Félév / Semester: 2022/23/2

Beszámolási forma /

Assesment: Vizsga

Tárgy heti óraszám /

Teaching hours(week): 2/0/0

Tárgy féléves óraszám /

Teaching hours(sem.): 0/0/0

OKTATÁS CÉLJA / AIM OF THE COURSE

Description of the course:

The aim of this course is to provide in-depth information of Asian political, cultural, and economic development. This lecture series is an interdisciplinary endeavor building on the fundamentals of International Relations – combining international economics, international politics, international law etc. As we have been witnessing an ongoing transformation of the global order along with the shift of the center of gravity of the world economy towards Asia, this course explores the factors behind these processes. We put an emphasis on the Indo-Pacific too, which seems to be the most important region witnessing the most intense great power competition. This course will highlight the major economies of Asia including China, Japan, India, South Korea as well as it will pay attention to particular subregions too – e.g. Central Asia's role in the new geopolitical debates. Each lecture starts with an introduction of the topic and followed by in class discussion.

TANTÁRGY TARTALMA / DESCRIPTION

Weekly schedule

What is Asia? Different concepts on Asia (Euroasia, Afroeuroasia, Indo-Pacific). The Debate over Asianism and Asian values. Global powers and Asia.
China and the recent political and economic developments (Belt and Road Initiative) I.;
China and the recent political and economic developments (Belt and Road Initiative) II.;
The Korean Peninsula, North Korea and South Korea – potentials for unification?
Japan and its economic development;
India – the policy of multialignment as a new global player? I.
India – the policy of multialignment as a new global player? II.
Russia's role in Asia – forming a new global order? The consequence of the Russian-Ukraine war for the Asian regional order
US, EU as extraregional actors – Indo-Pacific Strategy;
The geopolitics of Central Asia;
The geopolitics of the Persian Gulf;
South-East Asia;
Regionalism and international cooperation in Asia – ASEAN, SCO, BRICS, RCEP, Eurasian Economic Community etc.
Summary

SZÁMONKÉRÉSI ÉS ÉRTÉKELÉSI RENDSZERE / ASSESSMENT'S METHOD

Evaluation, assessment:

Assessment: At the end of the course students will take an oral exam based on the course materials and the readings (weight 50 %).

Home assignment:

Students should prepare and submit an academic essay at the end of the semester (deadline: last lecture) on a topic discussed with the course leader. The weight of the essay in the overall grade is 50 %. Students should use at least 10 academic sources and references in their work. The required length is between 15.000-20.000 character. The deadline to submit a short one-page draft is due on the 1st March 2023 (please use the Moodle to upload).

The available topics are the following (you can propose any other topics, which is relevant for the course):

- 1., Chinese development and the debt trap issue – select one case study for discussion;
- 2., Aging societies in Asia (select one country)
- 3., The Taiwan issue: Washington, Beijing and Taipei triangle – recent tensions
- 4., Food security in Asia – the consequence of the Russian-Ukraine war (please select a country or region);
- 5., Migration in Asia (select one country or conflict, e.g. Afghanistan and the Taliban takeover);
- 6., Climate change in Asia (select one country or subregion and prepare an assey about climatic shocks or climate policy...)
- 7., Energy security (please select one country and analyse its energy mix)
- 8., Maritime routes and its geopolitics (please select one issue: Bab al-Mandeb, Suez Canal, Strait of Hormuz, Strait of Malacca)
- 9., Radicalism in Asia (hindu nationalism, Jihadism etc.)
- 10., Conflicts in Asia (please analyze one chosen conflict: Taiwan, South-China Sea, Myanmar, North Korea, Iran, Kashmir etc.)
- 11., Soft power in Asia (please select one country and analyze; e.g. (India and the role of Indian culture)
- 12., Bilateral relations with global players (please select one; e.g. U.S.-India relations);
- 13., Macroeconomic trends (select one country and describe its recent economic policy);
- 14., Regionalism in Asia (select one organization and analyze it)

KÖTELEZŐ IRODALOM / OBLIGATORY MATERIAL

Compulsory Reading:

Kishore Mahbubani: *The Asian 21st Century*. Springer, 2022. Open Access:
<https://library.oapen.org/handle/20.500.12657/52409>