

**EAJ 389 / HIS 389**  
**Japan-Korea Relations: 1592 to the Present**  
Course # 30826

Instructor: Dr. David Eason  
Class Meetings: MWF 10:25-11:20am, Social Sciences Room #133  
Office Hours: MWF 11:30-12:30pm and by appointment  
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**Overview**

The history of interaction between people inhabiting the Japanese archipelago and those living in the Korean peninsula – whether in terms of migration, trade, diplomacy, or warfare – is long and complex. In this course we will study this history from the late sixteenth century to the present, with a particular emphasis placed on both formal and informal instances of cultural exchange. A good deal of our readings and classroom discussions will therefore focus on diplomatic policies and the conditions before, during, and after colonial rule. But more than emphasize these large, impersonal forces to the exclusion of all other considerations, in this class we will also examine the recorded experiences of people who traveled, worked, and lived in both Japan and Korea together with their changing views concerning the interconnected issues of racial identity, nationalism, and empire.

In order to carry out such a sweeping task we will look at a variety of specific materials, including some of the numerous maps, letters, diaries, short stories, artwork and recorded interviews produced during this extended period. As a result, we will be regularly and repeatedly exposed to many of the diverse positions and perspectives commonly embraced among the populace in Japan and Korea at various points in history.

Furthermore, we will also come to recognize that many of the tensions evident between Japan and Korea today can be traced to specific incidents that have taken place throughout the recent, recorded past and are not, as it is sometimes mistakenly assumed, the result of an unfathomable and mutually held hatred that dates back to time immemorial.

**Required Texts** (Available for Purchase at the Campus Bookstore)

Duus, Peter. *The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea, 1895-1910*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1998.

Ryang, Sonia, ed. *Koreans in Japan: Critical Voices from the Margin*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2005.

Toby, Ronald P. *State and Diplomacy in Early Modern Japan: Asia in the Development of the Tokugawa Bakufu*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1991.

- Please note that all other required readings will be made available via the library's Electronic Reserve.

**Course Requirements**

Class Participation (Including 5% for a Final Discussion)	–	20%
Reading Responses (7)	–	20%
Take-Home Midterm (4-5 pages)	–	20%
– Due 10/26/2009 –		
Research Paper – Annotated Bibliography	–	5%
Research Paper – Thesis and Outline	–	5%
Research Paper (10 pages)	–	30%
– Due 12/7/2009 –		

- Note that attendance is mandatory and will be taken on a regular basis. Please be aware that participation credit cannot be made up in the case of an unexcused absence.

## **Grading Policies and Guidelines**

1) Letter grades are assigned in accordance with the following scale:

93-100=A; 92-90=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 80-82=B-; 77-79=C+; 73-76=C;  
70-72=C-; 67-69=D+; 63-66=D; 60-62=D-; 0-59=E.

Work not turned in will be counted as a zero (0).

2) Late papers will be marked down a grade for each day late (ie. an “A” paper turned in two days late will become a “B+”).

3) There is no extra credit offered for this course. Do not ask for any.

4) “Incompletes” will only be given in the case of an emergency (sudden death in the family, serious illness) and require thorough documentation.

5) Plagiarism is a serious offense. Students who use the words and ideas of others in their written work without providing citations to the original source (s) will be given a zero (0) for the assignment along with a copy of an official “Violation of Academic Integrity Report” to be sent to the Chair of the Department of East Asian Studies, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Vice-Provost for Undergraduate Affairs. If you have any doubts concerning what constitutes plagiarism you are to consult with me BEFORE submitting an assignment. For more information concerning the University’s policies in regards to plagiarism and academic dishonesty in general, see the University at Albany Undergraduate Academic Regulations located on the web at – [http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate\\_bulletin/regulations.html](http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate_bulletin/regulations.html) for further details.

## **Weekly Readings and Reading Response Assignments**

Seven reading responses are due over the course of the semester. These responses, which must be submitted to me via email no later than 8am on the due date in order to receive full credit, are to consist of the following:

Two paragraphs, the first of which provides an overview of the main argument(s) made in the reading under consideration, followed by two or three sentences that discuss the evidence used by the author to support his or her conclusions.

The second paragraph should be devoted to a detailed analysis of the reading. Here you should explain whether you found the author effective in stating and proving his or her case. You might also include within this paragraph any questions, doubts, or problems you encountered during the reading. Finally, you should devote at least two or three sentences to discussing how the present reading relates to some of the larger themes covered in class or already touched upon in previously assigned readings.

### Class Schedule

- All assigned readings are listed on the right-hand side of the schedule below.
- ©ER indicates material that is available through the library's Electronic Reserve
- Assigned readings displayed in bold font indicate that a **reading response** for this item is due in my email inbox no later than 8am on the day of class

Week #1	Themes	Readings
8/31 Mon.	Introductions	
9/2 Wed.	Early History	
9/4 Fri.	Piracy and Trade	©ER "Centering the King of Chosŏn," pp. 109-125
Week #2	Themes	Readings
9/7 Mon.	<b>No Class</b>	©ER "The Invasion of Korea," pp. 207-217
9/9 Wed.	The Imjin War	©ER "The Korean Campaign," pp. 567-574
9/11 Fri.	The Aftermath of Imjin	<b><i>State and Diplomacy, pp. 23-52</i></b>

Week #3	Themes	Readings
9/14 Mon.	Diplomatic Overtures	<i>State and Diplomacy</i> , pp. 53-109
9/16 Wed.	Confucianism in Common	
9/18 Fri.	Embassies and Images	ⓔ “ <b>Carnival of the Aliens,</b> <b>pp. 415-456</b> ”
Week #4	Themes	Readings
9/21 Mon.	Assimilation and Identity	ⓔ “ <i>Hyanghwain: Migration and Assimilation in Chosŏn Korea,</i> ” pp. 243-257
9/23 Wed.	Borders and Boundaries	ⓔ “ <b>A Descent into the Past,</b> <b>pp. 81-94</b> ”
9/25 Fri.	The Ka-i Model	<i>State and Diplomacy</i> , pp. 168-230
Week #5	Themes	Readings
9/28 Mon.	<b>No Class</b>	
9/30 Wed.	A New World Order	
10/2 Fri.	<i>Seikanron</i>	<i>The Abacus and the Sword,</i> pp. 29-65
Week #6	Themes	Readings
10/5 Mon.	“The Leader of Asia”	ⓔ “ <b>Japanese Images of Korea, 1868-1910,</b> <b>pp. 7-29</b> ”
10/7 Wed.	Paths of Progress	<i>The Abacus and the Sword,</i> pp. 134-168
10/9 Fri.	War and Empire	

Week #7	Themes	Readings
10/12 Mon.	The Protectorate	ⒺR <b>“Illegal Korea,” pp. 7-26</b>
10/14 Wed.	Korea as a Colony	<i>The Abacus and the Sword</i> , pp. 397-423
10/16 Fri.		
Week #8	Themes	Readings
10/19 Mon.	The Economics of Empire	ⒺR “From Korea to Chōsen,” pp. 30-48
10/21 Wed.	A Tale of Two Cities	
10/23 Fri.	Nationalism Circa 1919	ⒺR “Modern Korean Nationalism,” pp. 14-47
Week #9	Themes	Readings
10/26 Mon.	Exports and Imports <b>{Take-Home Midterm Due}</b>	
10/28 Wed.	Contingent Workers	ⒺR “Intermediary Exploitation,” pp. 67-93
10/30 Fri.	Social Tremors	ⒺR <b>“Myth and Reality: The Great Kantō Earthquake,” pp. 164-200</b>
Week #10	Themes	Readings
11/2 Mon.	Language and Education	
11/4 Wed.	Colonial Complexities	ⒺR “Standards of Living in Colonial Korea,” pp. 629-652
11/6 Fri.	Empire and Its Aftermath	

Week #11	Themes	Readings
11/9 Mon.	Decolonization	
11/11 Wed.	The Occupation	<i>Koreans in Japan</i> , pp. 140-156
11/13 Fri.	Postwar Japan	
<b>{Annotated Bibliography Due}</b>		
Week #12	Themes	Readings
11/16 Mon.	North and South	<i>Koreans in Japan</i> , pp. 32-54
11/18 Wed.	Citizenship in Question	
11/20 Fri.	National Education	<i>Koreans in Japan</i> , pp. 157-174
Week #13	Themes	Readings
11/23 Mon.	Closeted Koreans	ⓔ “ <b>Pop Multiethnicity,</b> ” pp. 53-82
11/25 Wed.	<b>No Class</b>	
11/27 Fri.	<b>No Class</b>	
Week #14	Themes	Readings
11/30 Mon.	Colonial Legacies	ⓔ “Division and Politics of National <b>{Thesis and Outline Due}</b> Representation,” pp. 151-165
12/2 Wed.	Popular Perceptions	<i>Koreans in Japan</i> , pp. 55-73
12/4 Fri.		
Week #15	Themes	Readings
12/7 Mon.	Race, Ethnicity, and Nation	ⓔ “Race,” pp. 79-109
<b>{Research Paper Due}</b>		

\*\* In place of a Final Exam, a **Final Discussion** will be held on Monday, December 14, 2009 from 10:30am to 12:30pm in our regular classroom.