

Course Description

<i>Study Course Title</i>	<i>The Emergence of Modern Asia</i>
<i>Study Course Code</i>	SDSK1217
<i>Branch of Science</i>	Cross-sectoral, History, Politology
<i>Credits</i>	2
<i>ECTS</i>	3
<i>Total Number of Contact Hours</i>	32
<i>Number of Lecture Hours</i>	16
<i>Number of Seminar and Practical Assignment Hours</i>	16
<i>Number of Hours for Laboratory Assignments</i>	0
<i>Independent Study Hours</i>	48
<i>Course Approval Date</i>	25.03.2022
<i>Responsible Unit</i>	Faculty of Humanities
<i>Prerequisite Knowledge</i>	
Prerequisite knowledge required for the acquisition of the course corresponds to the study programme admission requirements and the general knowledge, skills and competences obtained at the previous level of education.	
<i>Study Course Abstract</i>	
<p>The aim of the course is for students to gain an understanding of the activities and interests of Asian and Western countries in creating a geopolitical environment from the 18th century to the present day, focusing on Asian cultural, social, political, and international relations.</p> <p>The objectives of the course are to discuss issues such as: cultural anthropology of Asia, including languages, peoples and historical roots; types of organizations, agriculture, food and food production in Asia; demography and migrations; core areas of growth and diffusion in Asia; 19th-century European impact on East and Southeast Asia; China's and Japan's response to the West; the decline and fall of empires in East Asia and the national resurrection of Asian states; the Cold War in Asia and post-war nation-building; power, authority; new trends in Asia.</p> <p>The course is taught in English.</p>	
<i>Course Plan</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment and People in Asia (2L, 2S) 2. Population and Developing Asia (2L, 2S) 	

<p>3. Agriculture and Food in Asia (2L, 2S)</p> <p>4. Rising of Asian State and Society before 1800 (2L, 2S)</p> <p>5. Western Emergence and Asia's Response (2L, 2S)</p> <p>6. The Rise of Nationalism and Communism in Asia (2L, 2S)</p> <p>7. Re-modeling Asia (2L, 2S)</p> <p>8. Power, Authority and Economics in Modern Asia (2L, 2S)</p> <p>L-Lecture, S-Seminar</p>
<p><i>Characterization of students' independent work organization and tasks</i></p>
<p>1. The students should identify their areas of interest in Modern Asian Studies by reading and researching various sources of information.</p> <p>2. The students should prepare questions on interesting or unclear topics to ask them during the lectures.</p> <p>3. Students should perform research in the field of Modern Asian Studies. The results should be presented in the form of an essay.</p> <p>The research should be presented in the concluding seminar.</p>
<p><i>Learning Outcomes</i></p>
<p>Knowledge:</p> <p>1. Describes the origins, nature, demography, industries and agriculture of Asian people.</p> <p>2. Understands and situates major historical events in East and Southeast Asian history in their proper geographical, chronological and thematic context.</p> <p>3. Understands and explains the global role of East Asia.</p> <p>Skills:</p> <p>4. Evaluates and analyzes contemporary East Asian issues, connecting and integrating historical and socio-economic understandings.</p> <p>5. Discusses contemporary East Asian issues, discovering their political, economic, ethical and moral dimensions.</p> <p>Competence:</p> <p>6. Conducts and presents research on contemporary East Asian issues using primary and secondary sources to construct sophisticated, persuasive and logical interpretations of cultural, historical, social and political problems.</p>
<p><i>Requirements for Awarding Credits</i></p>
<p>Interim assessments:</p> <p>1. Group discussion and readings – 20%</p> <p>2. Research (essay) and presentation - 35%</p> <p>3. Mid-term quiz – 15%</p> <p>Final assessment:</p> <p>Exam (written) - 30 %</p>
<p><i>Criteria for Evaluating Learning Outcomes</i></p>

The mastery of the course content is assessed on a 10-point scale in accordance with the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia No. 141, No. 512, No. 240 and the decision No. 211 of the Senate of the University of Latvia on 29.06.2015, based on the following criteria: the amount and quality of acquired knowledge; acquired skills; acquired competence in accordance with the planned study results.

Type of Assessment	Learning Outcomes					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Group discussion and readings	X	X	X	X	X	
2. Research (essay) and presentation	X	X	X	X	X	X
3. Mid-term quiz	X	X	X	X	X	
4. Final assessment: written exam	X	X	X	X	X	

Course content

1. Environment and People in Asia (2L, 2S)

- 1.1. Concept of «Asia». Major topographic and cultural features of Asia. Cultural and geographic division of Asia
- 1.2. Language systems in Asia
- 1.3. Natural resources
- 1.4. Main religious systems and cultural communities
- 1.5. Trade routes across Asia: history and transformations
- 1.6. Religious systems in Asia

2. Population and Developing Asia (2L, 2S)

- 2.1. People, demography and ethos in Asia
- 2.2. Migration and quality of life
- 2.3. Gender and family planning
- 2.4. Wealth, poverty and middle-class in Asia
- 2.6. Core areas of growth and diffusion
- 2.7. The role of overseas Asian communities
- 2.8. Health and healthcare in Asia
- 2.9. Development and urbanization in Asia
- 2.10. Villages in Asia
- 2.11. New economic and industrial development zones

3. Agriculture and Food in Asia (2L, 2S)

- 3.1. Agricultural foundation of Asia (shifting cultivations, rice cultivation, farming in the city)
- 3.2. Plantation economies
- 3.3. Fish farming

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- 3.4. Famine and changing Asian diets
 - 3.5. Food security and sustainability

 4. Rising of Asian State and Society before 1800 (2L, 2S)
 - 4.1. The Asian setting and rising of state and society before 1800
 - 4.2. Trade and connections across the Silk Road
 - 4.3. State and society in China before the 19th century
 - 4.4. Japanese and Korean states before the 19th century
 - 4.5. Southeast Asia: states and society

 5. Western Emergence and Asia's Response (2L, 2S)
 - 4.6. Early European influence to 1800. (19th-century European imperialism and the colonization of Southeast Asia, 19th-century commercial capitalism in Asia)
 - 4.7. China's response to the West.

 6. The Rise of Nationalism and Communism in Asia (2L, 2S)
 - 5.1. The rise of nationalism in Asia.
 - 5.2. Nationalism in colonial East and Southeast Asia.
 - 5.3. Models of nationalism in China: Chiang Kai-shek versus Mao.
 - 5.4. Ultra-nationalism in Japan: The 1930s
 - 5.5. Pacific war and its aftermath
 - 5.6. The Pacific and Cold War in Asia.

 7. Re-modeling Asia (2L, 2S)
 - 7.1. Postwar resurgence of Japan (fast growth decades, rethinking foreign policy)
 - 7.2. China's socialist reforms in the 1950-60s (Great Leap Forward, Cultural Revolution)
 - 7.3. Remodeling China in the 1990s and 2000s. Confucianism and economic growth
 - 7.4. The struggle for new models of development in Modern Asia

 8. Power, Authority and Economics in Modern Asia (2L, 2S)
 - 8.1. The "China Dream" and the Belt and Road Initiative
 - 8.2. Modern Korean and Japanese society and economics
 - 8.3. Southeast Asia: social advancement and searching for the new models
 - 8.4. International organizations in modern Asia
 - 8.5. Re-thinking modern Asia and global development

【Please copy this page for more than 1 course】

Studying Period: (DD) (MM) (YYYY) -- (DD) (MM) (YYYY), weeks			
We confirm that the following course is a credit course: X			
Course 1: title:	<i>The Emergence of Modern Asia</i>		
First time to open?	Yes		
Optional	Language(s) English	Number of students	Type of students (major)
unit of credits			
Online teaching platform (Zoom, university platform)			
Total Number of Contact Hours		32	
Number of Lecture Hours		16	
Number of Seminar and Practical Assignment Hours		16	
Number of Hours for Laboratory Assignments		0	
Independent Study Hours		48	

Course Introduction (content, curriculum, homework and evaluation, etc. Course syllabus and other materials can be attached.)

Other academic duties required, e.g. lectures, symposia, research projects, etc.