



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

**ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAMME
ASIA 201 CONTEMPORARY ASIAN SOCIETY
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator,
Lecturer and Tutor:** Dr Catherine Churchman
Office: vZ703
Phone: 463 6463
Email: catherine.churchman@vuw.ac.nz

Guest Lecturers:

Dr Alexander Bukh; Dr Emerald King; Dr Jason Young, and Dr LUO Hui whose email addresses are in the usual Victoria staff format (that is, firstname.lastname@vuw.ac.nz). There will also be guest lectures from Nova Mercier and George Darroch.

School Administrators: Nina Cuccurullo
Office: vZ610
Phone: 463 5293
Email: nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz

Ida Li
Office: vZ610
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School office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Contact Person for Māori and Pasifika Students: Dr Carolina Miranda
Office: vZ502
Phone: 463 5647
Email: carolina.miranda@vuw.ac.nz

Contact Person for Students with Disabilities: Dr Margaret Sutherland
Office: vZ615
Phone: 463 5975
Email: margaret.sutherland@vuw.ac.nz

School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Class times and locations

Lectures:

Monday	3.10pm – 4.00pm	MY (Murphy) LT101
Wednesday	3.10pm – 4.00pm	MY (Murphy) LT101

Tutorials:

Monday	4.10pm – 5.00pm	OK (Old Kirk) 301
Wednesday	1.10pm – 2.00pm	OK (Old Kirk) 301
Wednesday	2.10pm – 3.00pm	OK (Old Kirk) 301

Please note that tutorials start in the **second** week of the trimester.

Students must enrol for one tutorial using the myAllocator system: <https://student-sa.victoria.ac.nz>. Detailed instructions are available on Blackboard. Students must remain in their allotted groups for the whole course, unless a change has been authorised by the Course Coordinator.

Additionally, the class will make use of film to reinforce material covered, and one question on the final exam will be related to analysing film and/or literature content in relation to the themes of the course. These films will be available either online or via the Victoria Library or Language Learning Centre. Further information will be found on Blackboard.

Communication of additional information

Students should consult Blackboard regularly for power point files tied to class sessions and information on course and programme changes and suggestions of additional readings. All course material is available online and, insofar as possible, quick links will be provided for you in Blackboard.

We have also set up a special YouTube channel for Asian Studies at Victoria with an extensive playlist of material geared to ASIA 201. Please see: www.youtube.com/asianstudiesvuw. We hope that you will make regular use of the material available. Some clips will be required viewing, but we have included additional pieces that we think you will find enlightening and/or entertaining. If you come across a clip that you think is worth adding, do feel free to send the link to the course coordinator.

Prescription

An in-depth look at contemporary Asian societies with particular attention to economic, political and social change within the region and how these changes have been manifested in cultural productions.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

By the end of this course, students who pass should be able to:

1. analyse critically the nature of social, economic, political and cultural change in Asia a variety of contexts;
2. express a deepened understanding of how social issues are reflected in literary and artistic media, including film;
3. consider issues in Asian Studies from a variety of disciplinary perspectives in the humanities and social sciences (e.g. History, Politics, Economics, Film, Media Studies, Development Studies, Music).

Teaching format

The course will consist of two lectures and one tutorial hour per week, which will focus on discussion of assigned course material. There is no tutorial in either the first or last teaching week of the trimester. For a fuller schedule, see below.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory course requirements.

Works

The University Assessment Handbook has laid down guidelines concerning the number of hours per week that students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a one trimester 20-point course should expect to work on average 13 hours per week, to make up to a rough total of 200 hours including 20+ hours of lecture and 10 hours of tutorial over the trimester. Reading and review of course material (both general and exam-specific) should take approximately half of the remaining hours to equal roughly 80-85 hours over the semester; the remaining 80-85 will be devoted to individual assignments (see below). **Please note that these figures are only a very rough guideline.** Some students will find they need to do more, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

Assessment

Adequate advance preparation through reading, research, informed participation and presentation in discussions is **essential**. It is expected that all students will complete the assigned reading **before** each lecture and, especially, before each tutorial, and have given serious thought to any issues to be raised for discussion.

The breakdown of the assessment, which is designed to test how well you have understood the course learning objectives, is as below. Marking criteria for each assessment item will be placed on Blackboard.

Assessment items	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Essay Proposal (500 words)	10%	1, 2, 3	6 Aug
2 In class mid-trimester test (50 minutes)	15%	1, 2, 3	9 Sept
3 Regular Tutorial Contributions	5 x 1% (5%)	1, 2, 3	Weeks 2-11
4 Presentation on course essay (5 minutes)	10%	1, 2, 3	Weeks 9 and 10
5 Course Essay (2500 words)	30%	1, 2, 3	8 Oct
6 Final 2-hour Examination	30%	1, 2, 3	To be held during the examination period: 23 October to 14 November 2015. Date to be advised.

A potential breakdown of time spent for each assignment might be as follows:

- 1) Essay Proposal: 10-20 hours (determining topic, preliminary research, deciding upon initial sources; writing of prospectus)
- 2) Mid-Trimester Test: 30-40 hours (first reading of course material and subsequent review)
- 3) Regular Tutorial Contributions: 10 hours of tutorial attendance (reading of the course material included in test and exam preparation)
- 4) Essay Presentation: 10-20 hours (continuation of research and writing; selection of material for presentation; rehearsing);
- 5) Final Examination: 30-40 hours (additional reading of course material with further review, portion and writing up of take-home sections)
- 6) Course Essay: 40-60 hours (research, writing and revising; note that the more effort and care you put into your prospectus and presentation the less additional time you will need here).

1. Essay Proposal: due 4 p.m. Thursday, August 6 (400-500 words), 10%.

In order to help assist you in planning your essay, you are required to produce a proposal of 400-500 words, which will allow us to help guide you in your work and to encourage you to get an early start. Although there is no fixed set template that you have to follow, we are looking for the following elements to be included: 1) a concise indication of what issues you will write about; along with 2) a tentative outline of arguments you may be making (or perhaps better put, hypotheses you will be testing, as your thoughts will likely grow and change as your research deepens). We also want to see: 3) a thoughtful preliminary reference list, so we can make sure you've gotten started and are on the right track. This will not be included in the word count. A strong proposal will have references in the appropriate form, show that you've searched for recent journal articles, and have an appropriate balance of library and Internet sources. You are welcome to incorporate sections from your proposal in your final essay version, but part of that grade will depend on how well you incorporate any feedback you are given on your proposal.

2. Mid-trimester test in class, Wednesday, September 9, 15%.

The mid-trimester test will consist of short answer questions and identifications from your readings, lectures and tutorials in Weeks One to Six and is designed to see that you have kept up with the course material and are assimilating key concepts.

3. Regular tutorial participation, 5%.

Adequate advance preparation through reading, research, and informed participation in discussions is essential. All students are expected to complete the assigned reading before each tutorial, and to develop talking points in relation to the discussion questions; one component of your assessment will be based on the extent and thoughtfulness of your contribution to class discussions. For each tutorial you attend and contribute remarks that indicates you have done the assigned reading and have prepared the discussion questions you will receive 1%, up to a maximum of 5%.

4. Five-minute presentation on course essay, Weeks 9 and 10 tutorials, 10%.

You will be asked to prepare a five-minute presentation on your essay topic, explaining to your fellow students your argument, and the evidence that you are using to support it. If you have encountered particularly thorny issues in working through your topic, don't hesitate to raise them. One of the objectives of this exercise is to give you practice in making a clear and concise oral presentation and to allow you an opportunity for further feedback from your peers and tutor. **Time yourself and rehearse!** I will cut you off after five minutes.

5. Course Essay: due 4 p.m. Thursday, October 8 (2500 words), 30%.

For the course essay, you are expected to come up with a topic of your own relevant to the themes of the course. Our goal is to allow you to work on what interests you most, as long as it treats contemporary Asian society. Areas that you might research include (but are certainly not limited to) economic development; political structure; gender roles; sociolinguistics; popular culture; or communication technologies in any single country within Asia. You may also choose to analyse one particular literary, film or artistic text or set of texts and relate it/them to issues relevant to the course (You may not choose any of the literary texts otherwise assigned for the course, however). For the purposes of this essay, you may broaden your consideration of countries to South and Southeast Asia, but you must consult with the course coordinator if you do. This essay is particularly designed to assess how well you have learned to analyse critically one aspect of social, economic, political or cultural change in Asia. The essay length is 2500 words (excluding bibliography and notes; please include a word count; essays that fall outside of a 10% limit on either side, 2250-2750 words, can expect to lose marks in proportion to the severity of the shortfall or excess). **Please include the word count** and be sure to type it **double-spaced** to allow room for comment. For additional information on the essay, please see the end of the Course Outline.

6. Final Examination (30%) - 2 HOURS

The final examination will consist of four sections. In the first (10 marks) you will need to identify briefly ten terms that have occurred in course lectures or in readings. In the second (30 marks) you will be asked to write an essay that relates specifically to one of the countries studied in the course. In the third (30 marks) you will need to write on a more general theme of importance to contemporary Asian society (e.g. popular culture, information technology, migration, international marriage). These sections are designed to test how well you have assimilated the themes and issues covered in lectures and the reading and your ability to synthesize material. The final question (30 marks), which assesses your understanding of how social issues are reflected in literary and artistic media, will ask you to analyse one of the pieces of literature that have been assigned or one of the films suggested for the course. Examples of past exams and the sorts of questions you are likely to be asked will be made available on Blackboard in the latter stages of the course.

Submission and return of work

Coursework assignments must be submitted by the deadline in both of the following ways:

- You must **submit your essay to Turnitin** via Blackboard in addition to handing in your hard copy.
- Hand in a hard copy with signed coversheet to the Asian Studies assignment slot on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz.

Assignment cover sheets can be found outside the SLC office or on Blackboard. The assignment slot is located to the left of the office. You must keep a copy of your assignment. No responsibility will be taken for essays placed in staff mailboxes, pushed under doors, etc. You should never destroy notes or delete your draft until your marked essay is returned to you. Marked work will either be returned in class or be made available for collection from the SLC office between the hours of 10am-2pm each day. Please bring your student ID card with you when you come to collect your work.

Extensions and penalties

Assignments must be handed in at the deadlines specified to avoid penalties. **5% per day (counting an individual piece of work as 100%) will be deducted from work submitted after the assigned date** without prior permission or without a necessary and demonstrable reason such as illness. (Weekends count as only one day.) While extensions will usually be granted on request, work that comes in after the original deadline will as a rule receive less feedback. Please keep to the word counts; assignments that fall below or go over the given limits by more than 10% can expect to lose marks in proportion to the severity of the excess or shortfall.

Set texts

Course readings will both be available via Blackboard and compiled in a Course Reader (Student Notes). We **STRONGLY** recommend that you purchase the Course Reader. Even if you do not, please print out any material that will be discussed in detail in tutorials. For copyright reasons, we cannot include material that is publicly available on the Internet in the Course Reader. Quick links to Internet readings will also be provided in the Course Materials section of Blackboard.

The Course Reader can be purchased from Vic Books, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. It can also be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz. Orders and enquiries can be emailed to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz. Students may wish to write the Class Rep's name and details below:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

I have thoroughly reviewed last year's student feedback and in response to this have increased the range of countries covered in this year's course. Any other changes that have been made to the course, as well as opportunities for improvement, will be discussed with students in the first lecture.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Course programme

To be provided.

Notes on essay writing

In writing your essay, develop an argument, and be sure to use carefully chosen examples to back up your points. You will need to refer to secondary sources, but do not rely upon them to make your argument for you. We are interested in how you have worked through a particular research question and what you have concluded on the basis of the research you have done. When you do refer to secondary sources in support of your argument, provide accurate quotations as well as a bibliography for the books cited; the bibliography does not count towards the word total. Do not pad your bibliography; it should contain references only for those books you actually cite in your essay. You may use any standard referencing system as long as you are consistent in your format. For more information, see:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/guides/referencing.html> or

<http://www.cite.auckland.ac.nz/>. Whatever system you use, however, be sure to include the page numbers of material you are citing, unless the specific reference refers to an entire work as a whole.

Your essays should be polished. Get an early start and leave ample time for revisions. **PROOFREAD CAREFULLY AND USE A SPELLING AND GRAMMAR CHECK!** We strongly urge you to talk with your lecturers or your tutor about these essays at any stage of the writing process. If you have further questions, please see one of us.

Assignments are to be handed in to the Asian Studies assignment box on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz and an electronic copy is also to be submitted to the Course Coordinator (stephen.epstein@vuw.ac.nz). Paper

copies must include a cover sheet available from the Course Documents section of Blackboard or from the School of Languages and Cultures (SLC) Office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz. The assignment slot is located to the left of the Office. No responsibility will be taken for essays placed in staff mailboxes, pushed under doors, etc. You should never destroy notes or delete your draft until your marked essay is returned to you.

A special note on use of the internet in essays: although the internet can be an excellent source of information, it is also problematic, in that you will come across much more untrustworthy material there than in traditional print media, where writing is more likely to go through a process of refereeing before publication. In particular, **DO NOT cite Wikipedia and similar wiki-created sites as sources** in your essays. While Wikipedia can be undeniably useful for general background as you research a topic, any information that you acquire there will need to be confirmed by another source.

Although it is crucial to learn how to critically evaluate material from the net as it comes to occupy an increasingly central position in our lives, it is perhaps even more essential to continue to use more traditional media (i.e. books and journals), as the internet can foster a temptation to laziness; your essays must cite an appropriate balance of sources from more traditional media. Journals and electronic books to which you have access via the University Library do count as traditional sources, as these are works that have gone through a peer-review process and then been made available online. Students whose essays primarily cite non-refereed Internet material as secondary sources, however, can expect to be marked down. If you are uncertain what constitutes a refereed source and what does not, please see the course coordinator or your tutor.

One generally reliable source of scholarly material on-line is **Google Scholar**, a resource you should use instead of the main Google main page for web-based research, <http://scholar.google.co.nz/>. When you do cite an Internet source it is not enough to cite only the URL address as in: www.asia.com. You should also include the author and title of the piece, the chapter or page number of the section to which you are referring (where relevant) and the date on which the site was accessed.

Finally, one very, very important **WARNING:** the internet has made plagiarism easier than ever before, and the temptation to cut and paste material without proper citation or download papers from special sites has become an increasingly serious problem. Be aware too that the Internet and Turnitin have also made catching plagiarism much, much easier than ever before, even with articles that originally may have appeared in a foreign language. Students who take material from the Internet without proper citation can expect to fail their essay. Depending on the severity of the case, they may be given a mark as low as 0%, and be subject to disciplinary action.

It should also be noted that assignments that consist mainly of direct quotations are not acceptable, even if sources are acknowledged. If you have any questions whether what you are doing is acceptable, check with your tutor or Stephen.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy

- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz