



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2022

6,310: Asia-Pacific Security

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (60%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[6.310.1.00 Asia-Pacific Security](#) -- Englisch -- [Hänggi Heinrich Stephan](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Students should be interested in security studies and the Asia-Pacific region. A basic understanding of theoretical approaches in the field of International Relations (IR) is desirable.

Learning objectives

By the end of this course students will have:

- acquired a comprehensive and structured understanding of the Asia-Pacific security environment;
- demonstrated an ability to properly apply their gained conceptual and theoretical knowledge to a specific security challenge in the Asia-Pacific region.

Course content

The Asia-Pacific has emerged as the world's economic and geopolitical centre of gravity. This region has become the central theatre in the competition between the United States and China to shape the course of the 21st century. The region is also home to security flashpoints that could have global ramifications, including the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan Strait, and the South China Sea. Furthermore, the Asia-Pacific countries are increasingly confronted with new security challenges emerging from a host of transnational threats such as climate change and health pandemics, alongside instances of domestic political turbulence with cross-border effects. At the same time, economic interdependence among regional states remains high, and there are multiple efforts to build regional institutions aimed at mitigating conflicts and increasing the benefits of inter-state cooperation.

Drawing on International Relations (IR) theory, this course provides an introduction to the security environment of the Asia-Pacific in the early twenty-first century, with an emphasis on East Asia (Northeast and Southeast Asia), covering both traditional and non-traditional dimensions of security, and examining both the areas of conflict and the differing approaches to regional cooperation. The central thematic question is whether the Asia-Pacific region is heading towards greater cooperation, or conflict.

By exploring diverse security issues (such as the implications of the rise of China, the United States' rebalancing to the region, territorial and maritime boundary disputes, the nuclear threat posed by North Korea, the economic-security nexus, transnational security threats, and competing visions for the regional security order, among others), and reading and hearing from security experts from the region, students gain a broad overview of the Asia-Pacific security context and an in-depth understanding of a specific regional security challenge.



Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course consists of two main parts comprising of three classes each:

- The first part focuses on the conceptual underpinnings and key issues of Asia-Pacific security: introduction to Asia-Pacific security (session 1), patterns of conflict (session 2), and patterns of cooperation (session 3).
- Following the written examination on the essential contents of the first three sessions (session 4), the second part of the course delves into a number of specific security challenges in the Asia-Pacific region, drawing on the brief term papers prepared by the students (Sessions 5 and 6).

The first part of the course takes place in the lecture format, to which the professor provides textbook knowledge and external experts share their perspectives on certain topics in guest lectures. Active participation of the students is required for the second part of the course, including (but not limited to) the presentation and discussion of a brief term paper in class (in groups of two or, exceptionally, three students).

Course literature

Required reading and a selection of recommended texts will be made available on StudyNet at the beginning of the semester.

Although there is no compulsory textbook for this course, students may wish to use the following books as preparatory reading:

- Peou, Sorpong (2021), *Peace and Security in Indo-Pacific Asia. IR Perspectives in Context*, London: Routledge (in particular the Introduction and chapters of parts I and II).
- Wallis, Joanne, and Andrew Carr, eds. (2016), *Asia-Pacific Security. An Introduction*, Georgetown: Georgetown University Press (in particular the Introduction and chapters 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 11).

Additional course information

This course is held on the university campus.

Sessions are simultaneously made accessible online via Zoom for those unable to be present in the classroom. Presentations in class will be recorded; recordings will be available for 30 days.

In the event that this course is disrupted due to the coronavirus pandemic, classes will continue online via Zoom. The lecturer informs participants via StudyNet concerning any changes in the implementation modalities of the course. All examination formats will remain the same (see below).

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (60%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

Remark

For further guidance see StudyNet.

Examination-aid rule

Open Book

Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- All the pocket calculators that are not of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series are explicitly inadmissible.



- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

none

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

For further guidance see Studynet.

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

Supplementary aids

none

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

For further guidance see StudyNet.

Examination-aid rule

Presentations



In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

Supplementary aids

none

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

The written examination assesses the degree to which the participant has acquired a comprehensive and structured understanding of key security challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. The exam questions cover the essential contents of the first part of the course: introduction to Asia-Pacific security (session 1), patterns of conflict (session 2), and patterns of cooperation (session 3). For relevant topics see outlines of each session on StudyNet (as of 01.05.2022).

The brief term paper and its presentation in class assess the degree to which students have demonstrated an ability to properly apply their gained conceptual and theoretical knowledge to a specific security challenge in the Asia-Pacific region. Topics for papers will be assigned to groups of students at the first session. Paper outlines have to be submitted 48 hours prior to the presentation in class; the final versions of the papers are due by 01.06.2022. For further information see StudyNet (as of 20.04.2022).

Examination relevant literature

1. Presentation slides of all lectures given in sessions 1-3 (see StudyNet / as of 01.05.2022); for all participants.
2. Required readings of sessions 1-3 (see StudyNet / as of 01.05.2022); for all participants.
3. Required readings for term papers (see StudyNet / as of 20.04.2022); only for the authors of the relevant papers.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 27 January 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 11 April 2022).