

**SUBJECT:** China and the International Relations of East Asia (31418)

**Teacher:** Caterina García

**Office:** 40.1E10

### General competences

Instrumental	Interpersonal	Systemic
GC 2	GC 6	GC 10
GC 3	GC 7	GC 12
GC 4	GC 8	
GC 5		

### Specific competences of the degree

SC 1 / SC 2 / SC 4 / SC 6 / SC 10 / SC 13

### Specific competences of the subject

- Ability to acquire and critically analyse knowledge about ideas, authors and theoretical schools in the study of the international relations of East Asia.
- Ability to understand the evolution and transformation of the foreign policies of the East Asian countries, as well as their current challenges.
- Ability to comparatively analyse the similarities and differences between the foreign policies of the countries of East Asia.
- Ability to recognize the social and communicative codes which mark interpersonal interaction.
- Ability to work in an interdisciplinary team.
- Ability to interpret and analyse political and social data related with Asia.
- Ability to manage and advise international organizations and international cooperation programmes.

### Results of learning

- To identify and describe the general characteristics of the geopolitics and geo-economics of East Asia.
- To identify and describe the concepts and basic tools to study international relations in East Asia.
- To identify and describe the distribution of power and wealth in the regional system of East Asia.
- To analyse the main actors, factors and dynamics that take part in the international relations of East Asia.

- To identify and describe the process of insertion and consolidation of the countries of East Asia in the contemporary international order.
- To identify and describe security in its conventional and non-conventional dimensions.
- To identify and describe the interaction between the process of globalization and the international relations of East Asia.
- To identify and describe the concepts and basic tools for the study of the foreign policies of the countries of East Asia.
- To identify and describe the actors and processes that take part in and affect the foreign policies of the countries of East Asia.
- To identify and describe the main axes and stages of the foreign policies of the countries of East Asia, paying special attention to China and Japan.

## **Syllabus**

**Unit 1.** Approach to the study of International Relations. International Relations as an academic discipline. Actors, structure and dynamics of international relations. Traditions of thoughts and paradigms of International Relations. Order and anarchy in international society. Power and security. The notion of system and subsystems.

**Unit 2.** China and the regional subsystem of East Asia. Regional characteristics. The legacy of the colonial past. The "Asiatic values": cultural heterogeneity. Communism and capitalism in East Asia. Democracies and dictatorships in East Asia.

**Unit 3.** China, the decolonization and the beginning of the Cold War in East Asia. The insertion of East Asia to the world system: postcolonial alignments. The influence of superpowers in regional relations. The Bandung Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement.

**Unit 4.** China and the difficulties of regional leadership during the Cold War. China at the end of the Second World War. The triumph of the communist revolution. The Sino-soviet split and the Sino-north approach of the USA. The Chinese regional ambitions. The rivalry with Japan.

**Unit 5.** China, interdependence and the Cold War in East Asia. The economic impact of the Cold War. The growth pattern of the flight of the geese: the "Japanese post-war economic miracle" and the New Industrialised Economies (NIE). The role of ASEAN in regional stability.

**Unit 6.** China and the armed conflicts in East Asia. The bipolar dimension of the Korean War. The Vietnam war: the domino theory and the impact of US foreign policy in the region. The civil war of Cambodia and the later evolution of the conflict. The conflict with Taiwan.

**Unit 7.** China, regional conflictivity and inner instabilities in East Asia. Economic growth, energy resources and regional conflicts. The multilateral disputes on Spratly and Paracel Islands. The bilateral dispute of the Diaoyu. The inner instabilities in the region: China and its international fight against terrorism.

**Unit 8.** China, the end of the Cold War in East Asia and the impact of globalization. The impact of Chinese economic growth and its insertion in the world economy: the role of the BRIC in the world economy. The role of China in regional economic dynamism. Chinese economic power and its new role in international relations.

**Unit 9.** China and the fragile balance of security in East Asia's post Cold War. The uncertainty of the future of Taiwan. The unresolved reunification of the Korean Peninsula and the escalation of nuclear threats of North Korea. China's participation in the regional initiatives of the first and second track.

**Unit 10.** China and the process of regionalisation in East Asia in post-Cold War. China and the regional initiatives: ASEAN, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), East Asia Summit. China and the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA). The discussion surrounding the rise of China and the future of the regional order.

### **Training activities**

Face-to-face

Group classes: 1 ECTS

Seminars: 2 ECTS

Face-to-face tutorials: 0.5 ECTS

Virtual

Reading and analysis of sources and academic articles: 1 ECTS

Virtual tutorials: 0.5 ECTS

### **Methodology**

- Group classes with presentations and visual electronic support (PowerPoint...).
- A study of cases and problems, reading, commentary and analytical discussion of texts or critical articles.

The subject is structured around 10 sessions of 3 hours each for which the students will have to previously prepare the compulsory reading indicated in the syllabus. During the first part of the session the teacher will present the basic contents of the corresponding unit. The second part will be dedicated to disseminating and debating the contents of the reading and, exceptionally, to do

a practical exercise to further study the topic (analyse a legal text, see a documentary, etc.).

### **Information Technologies (IT)**

- Use of moodle
- E-mail
- Audiovisual resources from the library

### **Evaluating the acquisition of competences**

The teacher will opt for several of the following systems of assessment that will be balanced and continuous in all the subjects of the degree:

- Active participation and personal contribution to the in-class training activities: debates, discussions, analysis, text commentaries...
- Knowledge tests about the contents and the competences of the subject.
- Individual writing of a project (working paper: text commentary, monograph, analysis of primary or secondary sources...).
- In-class oral presentations.
- Group project.

The final mark of the subject will be the result of the sum of the two qualifications: that of the reading sheets and other activities done throughout the course (50%) and a final project about a topic related to the four last lessons of the programme (50%: 30% written project and 20% oral presentation). The subject of the project will be decided at the beginning of the course with the teacher. It will be 15 pages long (Times New Roman 12, 1.5 line spacing, footnotes: Times New Roman). A summary of the project will be presented in class.

### **Bibliography**

BUSTELO, P. and DELAGE, F. (Coords.). *El nou ordre internacional a Àsia-Pacífic*. Madrid: Pirámide, 2002.

DOSCH, J. and MOLS, M. *International Relations in the Asia-Pacific: New Patterns of Power, Interest, and Cooperation*. New York: St Martin's Press, 2000.

IKENBERRY, G. J. "The Rise of China and the Future of the West. Can the Liberal System Survive?", *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 87, No. 1, January/February 2008, pp. 23-37.

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ODGAARD, L. *The Balance of Power in Asia-Pacific Security: US-China Policies on Regional Order*. London: Routledge, 2009.

Master's degree in Chinese Studies

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PEKKANEN, S. and KELLEE, T. (Eds.). *Japan and China in the World Political Economy*. London: Routledge, 2009.

SODERBERG, M. *Chinese-Japanese Relations in the 21st Century: complementarity and Conflict*. London: Routledge, 2002.

YAHUD, Michael. *The International Politics of Asia-Pacific, 1945-1995*. London: Routledge, 1996.

ZHAO, Quansheng. *Future Trends in East Asian International Relations*. London: Routledge, 2002.

ZHU, Z. *US-China Relations in the 21st Century. Power, Transition and Peace*. London: Routledge, 2009.