



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2025

8,398: Asia Compact: Rising China in Developing Asia

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Presentation, Analog, Group work group grade (50%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Written work, Digital, Group work group grade (50%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,398,1.00 Asia Compact: Rising China in Developing Asia](#) -- English -- [Huang Chin-Hao](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Students should be broadly interested in understanding and explaining China's rise as a political phenomenon and must be well versed in the major theoretical paradigms in international relations (IR).

Learning objectives

This course familiarizes students with an in-depth knowledge of China's contemporary foreign policy and its implications for security and stability in Asia and the world. Students will evaluate how existing theories of international relations apply to China to gain a deeper appreciation of the factors that undergird conflict and cooperation in Chinese foreign policy. Specifically, we will engage and synthesize some of the key intellectual debates on the political, diplomatic, military, and economic issues China faces, examine how and why the leadership responds to and manages these challenges and opportunities, and the broader implications for regional stability and future order in Asia and the world.

In this course, students will:

- Identify and analyze the main argument in a reading based on the logic and empirical evidence presented;
- Recognize and discuss major books, articles, and ideas frequently cited for their impact on advancing our understanding on China's contemporary international relations;
- Cultivate thorough conceptual and empirical understandings of Chinese foreign policy and the implications of China's rise for order and security in Asia;
- Develop original research questions with logically consistent empirical arguments;
- Articulate and present one's argument that critiques and synthesizes key theoretical and empirical arguments learned in class.

Course content

This course covers such topics as:

- Nationalism and identity politics in Chinese foreign policy;
- China's foreign economic engagement;
- China's grand strategy and foreign policy decision-making;
- Balance of power politics in Asia;
- US-China Relations and Asia's security.



Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

We will meet over CW14 under the Asia Compact format. The course structure includes:

- faculty-led discussion and lectures;
- student-led discussion and critique of the assigned readings;
- small group discussions and plenary discussions in class;
- group-based project on final policy brief exercise;
- guest lectures/presentations on topical, contemporary issues related to China's rise in Asia.

Course literature

Required readings will be made available closer to date on Canvas/StudyNet. On average, there will be two to three article-length or book chapter-length readings per day that students need to read prior to coming to class.

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Presentation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	50%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

policy brief presentation

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Written work
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written work
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	50%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English
Answer language: English

Remark

written policy brief

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Examination content

The examination for the course will be in two parts, each weighted at 50%. It includes:

- (1) a written policy brief submitted by the group (no more than three students per group); and
- (2) a group-based presentation synthesising the readings.

The same grade is awarded to all students in the group for both components of the examination. Additional guidelines on the structure and substantive content for the final examination will be provided in the first class.

Examination relevant literature

- Content from class lectures;
- Discussion from the presentations and critiques on the required readings;
- Assigned class readings (all assigned readings will be made available via Canvas/StudyNet before the end of the term at the latest).



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 13 (Monday, 25 March 2025) 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, 23 January 2025);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 17 March 2025);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 14 (Monday, 31 March 2025);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before ending with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 07 April 2025).