

SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS IN PERSPECTIVE 2 credits
(Spring)

日中関係概論 2単位(春学期)

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Course Description/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome:

China and Japan are both major players far beyond Asia, respectively the second and third economies in the world. The relations between these two powers however remain tense in spite of increasing economic integration. Moreover, tensions between the two are on a rising trend in recent years with an increasingly territorial and military dimension.

The objective of this course will be to offer keys for a better understanding of these tensions and their potential evolution, beyond commonly accepted stereotypes (rising China versus declining Japan). It will focus on the factors (history, ideology, competing models) of the tensions between Japan and China and their consequences on strategic balances both at the regional and global level.

The course will develop from an historical perspective towards contemporary challenges and the establishment of a new bipolarity in Asia built around the rivalry between China and Japan. It will conclude with a focus on the potential evolution of this unstable strategic dyad.

Course Plan:

- 1 Presentation of the course and organizational matters
- 2 Sino-Japanese relations in perspective: a brief historical introduction (to Edo)
- 3 Asymmetry reversed : Sino-Japanese relations from Meiji to 1945
- 4 Establishment of new ties: Sino-Japanese relations during the last phase of the cold war (1970s-1980s)
- 5 A change of paradigm: reform and opening up, the reemergence of China and growing economic integration between Japan and China
- 6 The CCP survival strategy: ideological control from the raise of Chinese nationalism to the "China dream" and the "Japan factor"
- 7 Raising tensions: territorial issues and historical issues and a comparison with the situation in Europe
- 8 China's military power and Japan's new security strategy
- 9 Consequences for the regional order : competing models of regionalization and strategy in Asia (Korean Peninsula, South-East Asia, Central Asia, India)
- 10 Consequences for the global order 1 : the US-Japan-China triangle
- 11 Consequences for the global order 2 : The Russia-Japan-China triangle
- 12 China and Japan as global actors (United nations, role in Africa and Latin America)
- 13 "Cool Japan" versus "Confucius Institute" : Two competing models of soft power

Other Perspectives for the future

Presentation of the papers

Method of Evaluation:

Participation in class: 60 %

Final exam: 40 %

Textbooks:

There is no textbooks. Students are required to regularly go online to consult the following websites :

www.japantimes.co.jp, www.asiatimes.com, www.bbcworld.com,
www.globaltimes.cn, www.en.people.cn, www.isdp.eu (On Sino-Japanese relations)

Reference Books:

Daniel Cohen, *Retracing the Triangle : China's Perception of Japan in the Post Cold War Era*, Baltimore, University of Maryland Press, 2005

Joshua Fogel, *The Cultural Dimension of Sino-Japanese Relations*, New York, M.E. Sharp, 1995

Valérie Niquet, *Chine-Japon, l'affrontement*, Perrin, 2006

Daniel Shambaugh, Michael Yahuda, *The International Relations of Asia*, Lanham, Rowan and Littlefield, 2014

Niklas Swanström, Kokubun Ryosei ed., *"Sino-Japan relations : Rivals and Partners in regional Cooperation*, Singapore, Hackensack, 2013

Ashley Tellis et al eds, *Strategic Asia 2014-2015*, NBR, 2014

Yang Daqing ed., *"Towards a History Beyond Borders : Contemptuous Issues in Sino-Japanese relations"*, Cambridge Mass., Harvard University Asia Center, 2012

Lecturer's Comments to Students:

Students must attend all classes unless they have a valid excuse. Students are required to be actively interested in the course and prepare for questions and debate in class.

Questions/Comments:

While the course is online, PPT with my comments will be sent to the students.

There will be one final exam under the form of sending me a short essay on one subject decided by the student in coordination with the professor.