

Course Outline

Course number	RBE333			
Course title	Asia Policy Studies (Part II)			
Credit points	3 ECTS (2 LV)			
Total hours	80			
Lecture hours	16			
Seminar and other hours	16			
Course level	Bachelor's			
Prerequisites	Successful completion Y1 Law & Diplomacy			
Category	Mandatory		Restricted elective	x Free elective

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Tjaco Theo van den Hout	LL.M (Leiden)	Visiting lecturer

COURSE TEACHER

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Tjaco Theo van den Hout	LL.M (Leiden)	Visiting lecturer

COURSE ABSTRACT

This course is the second of a set of two courses covering Asia. Its geographical focus is on India, Japan, the Korean Peninsula and, to Pakistan and Afghanistan. With regard to the latter it will include a discussion of the geopolitical implications of the US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. The course will, in large part, rely on publications, mostly scholarly articles, that have recently appeared in prestigious journals. Students will cover a multi-disciplinary plane: moving from the geo-political field to foreign and domestic policy, economics and demographics.

The course trains analytical skills and critical thinking. Teaching is based on the modern (American law school) version of the "Socratic method" — blurring the distinction between lectures and seminars. As a consequence it is highly interactive with ample opportunity for classroom discussion and stimulating critical thinking.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

With regard to the knowledge, skills and competencies students will acquire from this course, the following are the main objectives:

Knowledge:

1. Knowledge of the place and role of India in the region and the world at large
2. Knowledge of the (nature of the) geopolitical and geo-economic competition of India with China and Pakistan.
3. Knowledge of the decreased role of the West and increased influence of Russia in Central Asia since the American and NATO troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.
4. Knowledge of the influence in the region of North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

Skills:

5. Ability to grasp the geopolitical, geo-economic and security issues unfolding in these countries.

Competencies:

6. By combining the knowledge and skills listed above, students will have acquired a deeper understanding of the factors that have led to a shift in attention to the East and be able to discuss them intelligently.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Due to the nature of this course class attendance is, in principle, mandatory. Class preparation is assured by continuously monitoring online submissions of homework assignments in preparation for the next lecture. Class participation is measured by calling on individual students in class to discuss a particular issue covered in the reading material or previously covered in class. Whether in class or online, the approach is the same.

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

<i>Main subjects</i>	<i>Planned hours</i>
India	8
Japan	8
Korean Peninsula	8
Pakistan and Afghanistan	4

GRADING CRITERIA

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Home assignments	20%
Class participation	20%
Final exam	60%