

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Monsoon Semester /Winter Semester (Have been offered in 3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> Semesters)**

<b>School:</b>	School of Undergraduate Studies		
<b>Programme with title:</b>	B. A. in History		
<b>Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)</b>	III semester		
<b>Course Title:</b>	Introduction to Society and Culture in East Asia		
<b>Credits:</b>	4 Credits		
<b>Course Code (new):</b>	SUS1HS432		
<b>Course Code (old):</b>	H09		
<b>Type of Course:</b>	Compulsory	No	Cohort
	Elective	Yes	Cohort

**For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):**

1. Foundation (Compulsory) X
2. Foundation (Elective) X
3. Discipline (Compulsory) X
4. Discipline (Elective)
5. Elective

**Course Coordinator and Team:** TBD

**Email of course coordinator:**

**Pre-requisites:** none

**Aim:** The objective of the course is to encourage students to develop multi- or inter-disciplinary perspective to the study of East Asia. It is designed more like a survey course to introduce students to the histories, societies and cultures of China, Japan and Korea covering a period from

19<sup>th</sup> century, when colonialism was at its peak, to the post World War II, and intends to provide a base for further studies on the region.

East Asia in recent history has emerged to become an important region, particularly since the World War II and there has been a growing interest among international communities to understand the region's traditions and cultures. The purpose of the course is to enable students to identify, compare and contrast key features of the physical and cultural geography of East Asian countries. The course will help understand the unifying characters of the region as a whole as well as the uniqueness of the individual societies and cultures.

**Brief description of modules/ Main modules:**

1. Introducing the region: Geographical history of East Asia
2. East Asian Civilization: The role of the Confucian philosophy as central ideology to the emergence of a common, unifying social and cultural order.
3. Society: The centrality of family and kinship system in traditional East Asian culture and relationships between individual, family and community/society, class divisions, etc.
4. Contact with the West: Social and cultural transformations in the region during the colonial period as a result of its contact with the West. Fall of China and rise of Japan
5. Advent of Christianity: As a new 'modern' religion, internal dissents among different classes in the three societies of China, Japan and Korea.
6. Education: How western education influenced and contributed towards the emergence of a modern ideology after the Meiji Restoration in 1868 in Japan, the concept of civilization and enlightenment, awakening, mass education with the establishment of national education system, education in China and Korea under the changing political scenario in early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
7. Popular Culture in East Asia: Traditional and modern, cross cultural influences as seen in China, Korea and Japan (Manga, anime, otaku, TV dramas, fashion, film, etc.)
8. East Asian cuisine: History of regional food

**Suggested Readings**

1. John Whitney Hall and James L. MacClain, 1991. *The Cambridge History of Japan: Early Modern Japan, Vol.4.* Cambridge University Press.
2. Marius B Jansen, 1989. *The Cambridge History of Japan: The Twentieth Century, Vol.5.* Cambridge University Press.
3. [Fairbank, J. K., Reischauer, E. O., & Craig, A. M.](#) 1989. *East Asia: The Modern Transformation*, Publisher: **Houghton Mifflin College Div.**
4. Patricia Ebrey, Anne Walthall, James Palais,(edts.) 2006. *Modern East Asia: A Cultural, Social and Political History.* NY: Houghton Mifflin.

5. Dorothy Ko, JaHyun Kim Haboush, and Joan R. Piggott, (eds.), 2003. *Women and Confucian Cultures in Premodern China, Korea and Japan*, University of California Press, Berkeley, CA.
6. Steven Tötösy de Zepetnek, Jennifer W. Jay, (eds), 1997. *East Asian cultural and historical perspectives: Histories and society--culture and literatures*, Research Institute for Comparative Literature and Cross-Cultural Studies, University of Alberta.
7. David Curtis Wright, *The History of China* (Second edition), Greenwood, 1960.

NOTE: Information about essential readings from the above list and other articles and readings specific to the topics and the number of hours of teaching for each topic will be provided in class.

**Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Date/period in which Assessment will take place</b>	<b>Weightage</b>
1	Take home assignment	End- September	20%
2	Mid Semester	Mid Oct.	20%
3	Presentation	Early Nov.	10%
4	End Semester Exam	As per AUD Academic Calendar	40%
	<b>Class Interaction</b>	<b>Through the semester</b>	<b>10%</b>