ECON 056 Fall 2012

Freshman Seminar: Asia and the West Professor Rosefielde

TR930-1045 a.m. GA 106

**REQUIREMENTS**

**Goal:** This seminar has two goals.

 The first goal is to define fundamental cultural, systemic and political economic factors that distinguish contemporary Asian and Western societies. The mission is eclectic, not comprehensive stressing various hot topics.

  The seminar's second goal is research training. Every student is required to prepare a research paper on ASEAN in EU Perspective.

**Seminar Format:** Issues will be explored through lectures and a series of student debates based on assigned readings. Each student is expected to make two class presentations in the roles of advocate and opponent. These presentations will be followed by open class discussion.

**Research Paper:** ASEAN in EU Perspective

Assignment: Evaluate whether ASEAN should emulate the EU in its degree of microeconomic integration, and enter into a monetary union based on a variety of factors including special features of Asian cultures. Students are required to survey the literature, review contending claims, cogently addressing the issues enumerated below.

In performing this task

          1. Define ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and describe its goals.

          2. Define the EU (European Union) and describe its goals.

          3. Describe how the EU experience diverges from its leaders' theory normed predictions.

          4. Assess whether ASEAN is suitable for forging a sustainable supranational union.

          5. Assess whether ASEAN is more likely to succeed than the EU, and weigh the dangers.

          6. Assess whether supranationality is likely to advance the cause of democracy.

         7. Assess whether ASEAN has devised an effective exit strategy.

          8. Which groups and ASEAN nations are likely to win? Who bears the risk?

Standard of Assessment: Students must not suppose that because they favor various authors’ ethics that authors’ analytic claims are valid. You are required to assess the merit of various arguments purely on a positive scientific basis.

Cutting and Pasting: Cutting and pasting alternative positions from the literature is insufficient. You must substantiate your assessment by objectively weighing theory and evidence.

Length: Papers should be approximately 20 pages.

Deadline: Papers are due Tuesday December 4, that is, on the last day of class. You can email your paper to me.

Assistance: Huan Zhou is available to provide research guidance. Her email address is: [huanzhou818@gmail.com](https://outlook.unc.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=n1Do3DVHlkOkftirfsLXxts_gO01T88ITy5FvbS8ri0fKks575Y0eTLDvt9ZStntnikLBu88E0c.&URL=mailto%3ahuanzhou818%40gmail.com)

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. *Class presentation and paper:*

Students are required to present assigned articles in class serving both as advocate and opponent. Two students will be assigned to present and debate each article in class; one as advocate, the other as opponent. Students are not graded for their in class presentations, but will be penalized if they fail to fulfill their assignments.

The research paper counts for 50% of the course grade.

It is due Tuesday, December 4.

*2. Exams:*

Midterm: None

Final: Tuesday, December 15, 8am, GA307, Counts 50% of course grade.

*3. Attendance:* Is compulsory and a record is kept. Students who miss more than 20 percent of the class days sampled without written permission will be penalized a half letter grade for the course. Those missing more than 30 percent will be penalized a full letter grade. Those missing more than 40 percent will **FAIL.**

**RULES:** Exams

1. Use blue books. Do not sign your exams with your name. Pledge the honor code with your student ID#.

2. Use a pen and write legibly. Undecipherable passages will incur the “cost” of the “doubt.” Illegible exam will have to be typed.

**SCHEDULE:**

1. First Day of Class: Tuesday, August 21.

2. Fall Break Begins Wednesday, October 17, 5pm

3. Thanksgiving Thursday, November 22

5. Classes End: Tuesday, December 4

6. Final Exam: Thursday, December 11, 8am

**OFFICE:** Gardner 300-D **OFFICE HOURS:** TR 10:45 – 11:45AM