

Human Rights and Democracy in East Asia.

Mon/Wed 2.30 – 4.00 pm
Fall 2001

Government 231
Asian Studies 231

Henry Laurence

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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs. 2.00 - 4.00 (or by appointment)

Examines human rights and democracy in East Asia, with particular focus on Japan, China and North and South Korea. Explores the relationships between socio-economic development, regime type and the status of rights with particular reference to rights for the economically marginalized and women. Asks which human rights are universal, under what circumstances, and how conceptions of rights vary from country to country and region to region. Examines the role of non-Asian countries, especially the US, in promoting and abusing rights in Asia, and explores the problems of cultural relativism and the

Readings

The following are available for purchase at the Bowdoin Textbook store. All readings are also available on reserve at the Hawthorne-Longfellow Library.

Required:

Course Packet

Joanne Bauer and Daniel Bell (eds) The East Asian Challenge for Human Rights (Cambridge University Press, 1999)

George Hicks The Comfort Women (WW Norton 1994)

Melvin Goldstein The Snow Lioni

Honor Code, and check with me if you are in doubt. Deliberate attempts to pass off someone else's work as your own for credit will result in failure in the course and referral to the Judicial Board. Note that submitting the same work for credit in two (or more) different courses without permission also constitutes academic dishonesty and a breach of the honor code. BUT I will usually be happy to grant permission for dual submissions,

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Lecture Timetable Fall 2001

Truth, Memory and Narrative

Sept. 3 (M) Introduction

Sept. 5 (W) Truth: Rashomon

Akutagawa: In a Grove

Hein and Selden "Commemoration and Silence"

Yui "Between Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima/Nagasaki"

George Roeder "Making things visible"

Western Values in Theory and Practice

Sept 10 (M) Thinking Morally: Vietnam

Nathan The Place of Values in Cross-Cultural Studies

Confucianism and Human Rights

Sept 24 (M) Confucianism and Human Rights

DeB and TW: Intro, 3 (Ching) 6 (Chang), Epilogues

Sept 26 (W) Other Asian Perspectives on Rights

*Dali Lama Human Rights and Universal Responsibility
Inada A Buddhist Response to Rights*

Human Rights and Democracy in Korea

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Oct 1 (M) The Battle for Democracy in Korea (Video)

* *Cummings Ch 7 pp.337-394*

Oct 3 (W) Democracy in Korea; the Kwangju Massacre and after...

* *Kwangju Uprising: Chs 1-4 + Foreword
Kim "Men's Talk"*

Oct 8 (M) *Fall Vaction – no class*

Oct 10 (W) Famine in North Korea

* *Cummings Ch 8 394-434*

Oct 15 (M) KEI visit: NO CLASS at scheduled time. MANDATORY attendance at KEI presentation 4-6 pm and dinner 6.30-

Oct 17 (W) *Midterm*

Nov 21 (W) Thanksgiving: NO CLASS

“How Should the Past be Judged?”

Nov 26 (M) The Comfort Wom