

University of Cologne
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
Cologne Center for Comparative Politics
Chair of International Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology
(Liaison Chair at Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies)

Seminar Course
Summer Semester 2025

Chip oder Geld?
Political Economy of Development, Growth, and East Asia

Course Details

Module: SM Vertiefung Politikwissenschaft (6 ECTS)

Course number: 14335.0408

First Session: 09.04.2025

Time: Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30

Location: Room 3.40 in IBW Building (Herbert-Lewin-Str. 2)

Teaching Language: English

Contact Details

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

This is an introductory course to understand the political economy of development, growth, and East Asia, which consists of three parts: (1) Development Theories, (2) Political Economy of East Asia, and (3) Mini-Conference. In the first part, this course engages with various perspectives in understanding and explaining development and growth, particularly from the disciplines of political economy, development studies, and globalization studies. These perspectives may include modernization theory, developmental state, global chains and networks, and geoeconomics. In the second part, this course focuses on the region of East Asia, including Japan, Four Asian Tigers (Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan), and China. In discussing the region of East Asia, this course pays attention to two aspects: production and finance, which is captured by the question in the course title “Chip oder Geld?”. In the third part, students are expected to participate in a mini-conference, where students are given opportunities to present their exposé and to receive feedback from their fellow classmates.

Learning Objectives

- Learn and discuss theories and concepts in the disciplines of political economy, development studies, and globalization studies
- Learn and discuss the political economy of East Asian development and transformation

- Acquire the skills of reading and presenting academic literature, engaging in academic discussion, and writing academic paper

Prerequisites and Participation

- No prior knowledge of the research field of development studies or of the region of East Asia is expected. Students should however have some basic knowledge in social and political sciences and/or general interests in the region of East Asia.
- All assigned readings and class discussions are in the language of English. Students are therefore expected to be able to read and discuss in English. No perfection of English is needed. To create and facilitate an environment conducive to intellectual exchanges, students must show respect to each other.
- All mandatory and presentation readings will be uploaded onto ILIAS. All students are asked to read the mandatory article(s) **BEFORE** each session and engage in a lively discussion during the seminar. Perfect understanding of the text is not required and questions concerning the text are always welcome. To benefit the most from the seminar course, students are expected to attend every session, in particular the first introductory session and the final mini-conference, where information about assignments and gradings will be discussed. If the student is unable to attend one or more sessions, please inform the instructor via email in advance.

Assignment and Examination Composition

- Seminar Presentation (30%): in the first/second session, students need to choose one presentation article listed in the course content below. Then, students need to give a 10 to 15-minute presentation in the respective session where the presentation article is assigned. The presentation should consist of a brief summary of the article's key arguments and concepts as well as the student's own comment and critique.
- Term Paper (70%): students are required to write a 3500-word empirical term paper addressing any issue or topic related to the political economy of East Asia. To better prepare students for the term paper, students are given opportunities to present an exposé in the third part of this course. Please upload the exposé (**DEADLINE: 07.07.2025 08:00 a.m.**) and term paper (**DEADLINE: 31.08.2025 08:00 a.m.**) onto the respective ILIAS folders. If students would like to have feedback on their submitted term paper, please inform the instructor **BEFORE** the deadline of term paper submission. Students with late submission of the term paper will **NOT** receive any grade or feedback. Useful resources for writing term papers can be found on (<https://cccp.uni-koeln.de/de/teaching/information-for-students>).

Guidelines for the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Studying at university is not only about learning subject-specific skills, but also about developing general skills such as critical and structured thinking. The benefits and limitations of AI therefore need to be considered independently by each student. In general, AI can enhance the research process, but it cannot replace it.
- Whenever AI is used, the following points must be strictly adhered to:
 1. Students must undertake independent research, and it must be recognizable as their own work.
 2. Students must make the use of AI as transparent as possible and document its use. This includes identifying the content involved, the purpose of the use, the model used, the prompts and settings used, the date of retrieval, and the storage of generated content. If AI tools are used for text

processing that goes beyond spellchecking, this must be indicated in a footnote at the beginning of the paper, citing the model used.

3. AI models are not authors and AI-generated content is not a scholarly source and cannot be cited as such.
4. Students are solely responsible for the accuracy of the content. This means that they must correctly cite the sources of the information they use, avoid plagiarism and prevent the spread of false information (e.g. AI hallucinations).
5. According to the current Joint Examination Regulations of the Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Cologne (GPO), the declaration of independence must be worded as follows: “I hereby affirm that I have completed the present work independently and without the use of any aids other than those stated. All parts that have been taken literally or analogously from published and unpublished third-party sources, including content generated by AI tools, have been marked as such.” (§12(2b), GPO, November 24, 2024).

Course and Examination Registration

- Please pay attention to the registration deadlines for the course and the examination. Note that in the University of Cologne, course registration and examination registration are **TWO** steps in KLIPS. It is highly recommended that you should register for **BOTH** the course and the examination as soon as possible if you would like to take this seminar course. Also note that it is **NOT** possible to register after the deadlines.
- By registering for the course, you will get all the information of this seminar course in ILIAS.
- By registering for the examination, you will receive a final grade for this seminar course based on the quality and performance of your assignments as listed above.

Course Schedule and Content

Part I: Introduction – Development Theories

Session 1 (09.04.2025): Introduction

No Mandatory Reading(s)

Optional Reading(s)

- Rostow, W. W. 1959. “The Stages of Economic Growth.” *The Economic History Review* 12 (1): 1–16.
- Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. [Introduction]
- Acemoglu, Daron, and James Alan Robinson. 2012. *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. New York: Crown/Archetype. [Chapter 15]

Session 2 (16.04.2025): Developmental State – State Theory and Industrial Policy

Mandatory Reading(s)

- Haggard, Stephan. 2018. *Developmental States*. Cambridge University Press. [Chapter 1–3]

Presentation Reading(s)

- Evans, Peter B. 1995. *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [Chapter 3]
- Wade, Robert. 2004. *Governing the Market: Economic Theory and the Role of Government in East Asian Industrialization*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. [Chapter 1]

Session 3 (23.04.2025): Global Chains – Commodity and Value

Mandatory Reading(s)

- Gereffi, Gary. 1994. “The Organization of Buyer-Driven Global Commodity Chains; How U.S. Retailers Shape Overseas Production Networks.” In *Commodity Chains and Global Capitalism*, edited by Gary Gereffi and Miguel Korzeniewicz, 95–122. Praeger Publishers.

Presentation Reading(s)

- Gereffi, Gary. 1999. “International Trade and Industrial Upgrading in the Apparel Commodity Chain.” *Journal of International Economics* 48 (1): 37–70.
- Gereffi, Gary, John Humphrey, and Timothy Sturgeon. 2005. “The Governance of Global Value Chains.” *Review of International Political Economy* 12 (1): 78–104.

Session 4 (30.04.2025): Global Networks – Production and Finance

Mandatory Reading(s):

- Henderson, Jeffrey, Peter Dicken, Martin Hess, Neil Coe, and Henry Wai-Chung Yeung. 2002. “Global Production Networks and the Analysis of Economic Development.” *Review of International Political Economy* 9 (3): 436–64.

Presentation Reading(s):

- Yeung, Henry Wai-chung. 2021. “Regional Worlds: From Related Variety in Regional Diversification to Strategic Coupling in Global Production Networks.” *Regional Studies* 55 (6): 989–1010.
- Coe, Neil M., Karen P. Y. Lai, and Dariusz Wójcik. 2014. “Integrating Finance into Global Production Networks.” *Regional Studies* 48 (5): 761–77.

Part II: Political Economy of East Asia

Session 5 (07.05.2025): Japan

Mandatory and Presentation Reading(s):

- Hatch, Walter. 2010. *Asia’s Flying Geese: How Regionalization Shapes Japan*. Cornell Studies in Political Economy. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. [Some Chapters]

Session 6 (14.05.2025): South Korea and Taiwan

Mandatory and Presentation Reading(s):

- Yeung, Henry Wai-chung. 2016. *Strategic Coupling: East Asian Industrial Transformation in the New Global Economy*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. [Some Chapters]

Session 7 (21.05.2025): Hong Kong and Singapore

Mandatory and Presentation Reading(s):

- Cheang, Bryan. 2023. *Economic Liberalism and the Developmental State: Hong Kong and Singapore’s Post-War Development*. Cham: Springer International Publishing. [Some Chapters]

Session 8 (28.05.2025): China

Mandatory and Presentation Reading(s):

- Ang, Yuen Yuen. 2022. *How China Escaped the Poverty Trap*. Ithaca London: Cornell University Press. [Some Chapters]

Session 9 (04.06.2025): Conclusion – Geoeconomics and Twin Transition

Mandatory Reading(s):

- McNamara, Kathleen R. 2024. “Transforming Europe? The EU’s Industrial Policy and Geopolitical Turn.” *Journal of European Public Policy* 31 (9): 2371–96.

Presentation Reading(s):

- Bradford, Anu. 2023. *Digital Empires: The Global Battle to Regulate Technology*. 1st ed. New York: Oxford University Press. [Chapter 1]
- Allan, Bentley B., and Jonas Nahm. 2025. “Strategies of Green Industrial Policy: How States Position Firms in Global Supply Chains.” *American Political Science Review* 119 (1): 420–34.

NOTE: NO SESSIONS ON 11.06.2025 AND 18.06.2025

Part III: Exposé Consultation and Mini-Conference

Session 10 (25.06.2025): Exposé Consultation

- Individual consultation timeslots in office
- More details to be announced in class

NOTE: NO SESSIONS ON 02.07.2025 AND 09.07.2025

Session 11-14 (14.07.2025): Mini-Conference

- **DIFFERENT TIME:** Monday 10:00 – 17:30
- Same location: Room 3.40 in IBW Building (Herbert-Lewin-Str. 2)
- What is expected:
 - Submit a 3-page exposé (**DEADLINE: 07.07.2025 08:00 a.m.**)
 - Give a 15-minute presentation of the exposé
 - Give a 5-minute feedback to the exposé and the presentation of another student
- More details to be announced in class