

Political Science 4700.002

The Politics of Authoritarianism: North Korea and other extremely repressive regimes

Dr. John Ishiyama

Office: 166 Wooten Hall

Office Hours: 10:30- 12:00 pm Wednesdays; 12:30 pm- 2:00 pm Thursdays and by appointment

Office Phone: 565-4326

There is a blackboard vista site for this course where all copies of documents will be placed (e.g. the syllabus). Powerpoint files will not be placed on this site until one week prior to the examination

I. Goals and Objectives of the Course: This course is an upper division elective course in political science, designed as a general overview of the politics of extremely authoritarian states, sometimes referred to as “Pariah” states or “rogue” regimes by the international community. This is because such states are often ostracized as extremely repressive regimes that stand outside human rights norms. This course is designed to expose the student to the politics of these little understood states by first providing a general overview of such regimes (particularly post communist states) and then focusing on the most extreme case- North Korea.

II. Texts: There are three required texts for this course:

Robert Rotberg 2007. Worst of the Worst: Dealing with Repressive and Rogue Nations Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press

Sung Chull Kim. 2007. North Korea under Kim Jong II: From Consolidation to Systemic Dissonance Albany: State University of New York Press.

Andrei Lankov 2007. North of the DMZ. Jefferson NC: McFarland and Co.

III. University of North Texas--Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism:

Academic Integrity. (See UNT Policy 18.1.16 at

http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume3/18_1_16.pdf)

Categories of Academic Dishonesty.

Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

- use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
- dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
- acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
- dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
- any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:

- the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
- the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Available Academic Penalties

The following academic penalties may be assessed at the instructor’s discretion upon determination that academic dishonesty has occurred. Admonitions and educational assignments are not appealable.

Admonition. The student may be issued a verbal or written warning.

Assignment of Educational Coursework. The student may be required to perform additional coursework not required of other students in the specific course.

Partial or no credit for an assignment or assessment. The instructor may award partial or no credit for the assignment or assessment on which the student engaged in academic dishonesty, to be calculated into the final course grade.

Department of Political Science POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf.

Violations of academic integrity in this course will be addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy."

IV. University of North Texas-Statement of ADA Compliance:

The Political Science Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request on or before the sixth class day (beginning of the second Day of classes).

V. Course Requirements:

a) There will be two examinations scheduled for this term

One in class midterm examination: (Thursday, March 10) = 100 points

A comprehensive major final examination (Tuesday May 10, 2011, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) = 125 points

b) Two unannounced quizzes @ 25 points each = 50 points

c) One Position Paper (approximately 8-10 pages- 100 points) related to one of the following three debate topics: 1) should the United States and its allies pursue a policy of regime change vis a vis North Korea, or a policy of constructive engagement? (2) Will the North Korean state persist after the passing of Kim Jong II? (3) Are the nuclear capabilities of the North Korean state a significant threat to the United States and its allies?

There will be a "pro" and "con" position for each paper topic. On the debates, students will be assigned to either a pro or con position (see below), but in the paper you are free to write on either a pro or con position. More specific details on this assignment will be provided later this term. It is expected you use appropriate citations **The paper is due on May 13, by 5:00 pm.**

d) Performance on one in class debate (50 points)

To promote active student participation in class discussion, during the course of the term there will be three panel/debate sessions. The three sessions (scheduled for **April 26, 28, May 3, 5**) will cover four different questions: (1) should the United States and its allies pursue a policy of regime change vis a vis North Korea, or a policy of constructive engagement? (2) Will the North Korean state persist after the passing of Kim Jong II? (3) Are the nuclear capabilities of the North Korean state really a significant threat to the United States and its allies? (4) What are the prospects for war on the Korean Peninsula in the next year?

Each panel will coordinate their activities. Each student will then be arranged in panels on the presentation day, and the audience and I will pose a number of questions to each member of the panels. Individual student performance on the panels will be both assessed by the instructor and peer assessed by students in the course.

The total number of points for this class = 425

IV. Policy on attendance: I do not take regular attendance-- however I will take "spot attendance". Thus, if you are not in class consistently I will know and this will affect my evaluation of your performance. I will take attendance in the first few weeks.

VI. Schedule of lecture topics and readings:

January 18-20: Introduction—systems theory and political development
Sung Chull Kim, Chp 1.

January 25-27: The common legacy— Marxism, Leninism, Stalinism and Totalitarianism
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels "The Communist Manifesto"

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/>

Vladimir Ilich Lenin “State and Revolution : chapter 1”

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1917/staterev/ch01.htm>

Erik P. Hoffmann (1984) “The Evolution of the Soviet Political System” Proceedings of the Academy of Political Science, 35(3): 1-13. on JSTOR and blackboard vista site

February 1-3: Rogue States from a Comparative Perspective 1

Rotberg, chps 1, 2, 3

February 8-15: Rogue States from a Comparative Perspective 2

Rotberg, chps 5,8,10 (chps on North Korea, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)

February 17-22: Sources of the North Korean Regime—Pre colonial and Colonial History

“A Country Study: North Korea”

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/kptoc.html#kp0022> (Read chapter 1 by Bruce Cummings)

NO CLASS MARCH 1

February 24- March 8: The evolution of the North Korean system under Kim Il Sung

Chong-Sik Lee (1967) “Kim Il-Song of North Korea” Asian Survey 7 (6): 374-382 (JSTOR)

Soyoung Kwon (2003) “State building in North Korea: From a Self Reliant to a Military First State”

Asian Affairs on [Academic Search Complete \(EBSCOHost\)](#)

Lankov, Part 1: pp. 7-32

Lankov, Part 4: pp. 66-76

March 10: Midterm Examination

SPRING BREAK (no class March 15-17)

March 22-24: The Rise of Kim Jong-Il

Sung Chull Kim, chps 2, 3, 6

Andrew Scobell “Kim Jong Il and North Korea: The Leader and the System”

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/pub644.pdf>

Jei Guk Jeon “North Korean Leadership: Kim Jong Il’s Intergenerational Balancing Act”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3993617>

NO CLASS MARCH 31

March 29-April 5: Economic Collapse and the Great Famine

Scott Snyder (2000) “North Korea's Challenge of Regime Survival: Internal Problems and Implications for the Future” [Pacific Affairs](#) 73: 517-533 (JSTOR)

Daniel Goodkind; Loraine West (2001) “The North Korean Famine and Its Demographic Impact”

Population and Development Review 27: 219-238 (JSTOR)

Lankov, Part 11: 190-211

April 7-14: The Transformation of the North Korean Polity since 1994: Party and Military Relations

Sung Chull Kim, chps 3, 4,

Lankov, Part 2: pp 33-48

Kenneth Gause “North Korean Civil-Military Trends: Military First Politics to a Point”

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/pub728.pdf>

April 19-21: The Transformation of the North Korean Polity since 1994: Ideology, socio economics and external relations

Sung Chull Kim, chps 5,7, 8

Lankov, Part 13, 14, 15, 18

April 26,28, May 3,5: Debates

Final Examination: Tuesday May 10, 2011, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.