Course Description
This course provides an overview of the economy of East Asia, broadly defined, and the economic interdependencies that characterize the region. After facilitating an understanding of the factors that have made East Asia the most dynamic in the world economy, current opportunities and challenges of the region will be given particular attention. The course attempts to examine the joint experience of East Asia through the lens of economic theory, particularly models of international economics, rather than to offer a survey of the development experiences of individual economies.

Goals and Expectations
Upon completion of the course, the students are expected to:

- Be informed about recent economic development of the East Asian economy.
- Be familiar with basic economic theories used to analyze the global economy.
- Be able to use simple economic theories to analyze real-world events and policies.
- Be able to critique economic analysis on East Asia as well as in similar contexts.

Keys to Success: Listed here are a few tips for having an enjoyable and fruitful semester with this course:

- Do the readings! Complete the assigned readings and related assignments in time.
- Speak out. Ask questions and engage in discussions.
- Contribute to a positive classroom environment. You are welcome to bring your own expertise and perspectives, but please also respect other participants.
- Use the resources available to you. Seek help from the professor and your peers.
- Manage your time wisely. Plan ahead for assignments.
- Be willing to build the course together. You will be active contributor throughout the course. Comments and suggestion are always welcome.

Grading: Participation 15%  Current events presentation 5%
Pre-class assignment 10%  Class facilitation 25%
Learning journal 10%  Problem sets 10%
Final Exam 25%

Participation: Students are expected to contribute positively to the course in a variety of ways, including but not limited to:

- regularly attending classes;
- asking and answering questions in class;
- engaging in discussion and other classroom activities;
- bringing in relevant materials, such as new articles, to class discussion;
- offering comments and suggestions to improve the course.
Current events presentation. Students are encouraged to keep up to date with current developments in the East Asian economy. You may look for the relevant sections of *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, and/or *The Economist* magazine. Each week one or two students will be responsible for a briefing on the key economic events in the region and lead a short discussion in connection to the course material.

Pre-class assignment. Weekly readings consisting of various papers and reports will be assigned. Everyone must read the required readings plus one additional piece assigned to the individual. After completing the readings each week, each student must submit two sets of questions. The first set will be three key research questions that you believe the papers address. The second set will be three questions that you would like to ask to facilitate your understanding of the readings. These can be something that you feel particularly interesting and would like to discuss more; or certain aspects of the paper that is difficult to understand and you would like some clarification. The questions must be submitted on Moodle by 7pm Sunday.

Class facilitation. Each week, a student (or two students working in pairs, depending on enrollment) will be designated an assistant instructor(s) and will work closely with the professor to facilitate the week’s class activities. The responsibility includes:

- read all readings of the week and prepare a presentation summarizing the key points;
- review the questions submitted by students and compile a suitable list for discussion;
- design an appropriate agenda for the class;
- present the summary and facilitate classroom discussion;
- take note of any unresolved questions in the discussion, research further and report back the next week;
- design a problem set for the week;
- review the answers submitted by students and compile a suggested answer key;
- write a short paper reflecting on your experience as an assistant instructor.

Problem sets. Weekly problem sets will be designed by the assistant instructor(s) in consultation with the professor. A week’s problem set will be posted by Wednesday and due before next week’s class.

Learning journal. Students will keep a weekly learning journal. After each week’s class, each student should submit a short paper reflecting on her/his learning experience.

Final Exam. An open-book take-home final exam will take place during the finals period.

Peer grading will be an integral component of the course. The assistant instructors will evaluate the pre-class questions and the problem sets submitted by their classmates. In turn, their performance on facilitating the class will be evaluated by others. Please take these responsibilities seriously and try to grade throughout the semester in a consistent way.

A passing grade for the course cannot be achieved without satisfactory and timely completion of all course requirements.
Grading complaints: If you believe any of your assignments is not graded appropriately, please submit a written request to me within one week of the grade posted on Moodle.

Special Lectures: The department invites distinguished outside speakers to give lectures. Occasionally, the topic is related to international economics. You are encouraged to attend. Questions on lecture contents may appear in exams.

Academic Integrity: As a faculty member, I am strongly committed to upholding the college’s academic policies, including those on academic misconduct.

Accommodation: If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Leslie Hempling in the Office of Student Disability Services (Parrish 113) or email lhempli1@swarthmore.edu to arrange an appointment to discuss your needs.

Tentative Course Outline
W 1: economic growth in East Asia I – the East Asian miracle;
W 2: economic growth in East Asia II – the rise of China and the East Asian renaissance;
W 3: trade and economic growth;
W 4: the East Asian trade-production network;
W 5: regional integration and free trade agreements;
W 6: East Asia’s role in global imbalances;
W 7: the Asian financial crisis;
W 8: financial cooperation in East Asia;
W 9: monetary cooperation in East Asia;
W 10: East Asia’s role in global economic governance;
W 11: inequality in East Asia;
W 12: demographic challenges of East Asian countries;
W 13: additional topic or catch-up.

This syllabus is subject to changes. For the latest version, please visit the course’s Moodle webpage.