





The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

5.00 credits	15.0 h	Q1
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Language :	English
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	This course examines major geostrategic and security issues facing selected countries in the Pacific Basin, by emphasising both the challenges to regional peace and stability, and opportunities for cooperation. The Asia-Pacific region, as defined for the purposes of this course, is one of the most dynamic regions in the world. In the post-Cold War era, the region has been undergoing a major shift in the balance of power, while struggling with the legacies of the Cold War. With a rising China, a 'rebalancing' US, a more assertive Japan, a nuclear-armed North Korea and two divided nations - Korea and China, as well as several territorial disputes and newly emerging powers in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific is increasingly important in global military and strategic terms, in addition to its significance in economic ones.
Learning outcomes	
Evaluation methods	Oral exam (closed book). The exam is in-person.
Teaching methods	The course emphasises active learning . The teaching method consists of lectures, short assignments and small group discussions. The course is taught in an in-person format and cannot be followed online.
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to the course and review of the course outline - Conceptualisation of Asia and the Indo-Pacific region, geostrategic importance for Europe, key theoretical perspectives - Alliances, major power (the US-Japan-India-China) relations and strategic competition in the Indo-Pacific region - Geostrategic issues of the Taiwan Strait and the Korean Peninsula - Strategy and security in Southeast Asia - Maritime security and territorial disputes in the China Seas - Indo-Pacific minilateralism, ASEAN-led multilateralism and institution-building; the EU and the Indo-Pacific
Inline resources	Lecture slides (PPT) and some of the readings are uploaded on Moodle.

<p>Bibliography</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elena ATANASSOVA-CORNELIS (2018). "Reconceptualising the Asia-Pacific order: Japan's response to strategic uncertainties in the era of Trump", <u>Interdisciplinary Political Studies, Special Issue: Trump and the Post-American World Order</u>, 4(1): 153-83. • Elena ATANASSOVA-CORNELIS (2020). "Alignment Cooperation and Regional Security Architecture in the Indo-Pacific", <u>The International Spectator</u>, 55(1): 18-33. • Elena ATANASSOVA-CORNELIS and Yoichiro SATO (2019). "The US-Japan alliance dilemma in the Asia-Pacific: Changing rationales and scope", <u>The International Spectator</u>, 54(4): 78-93. • Elena ATANASSOVA-CORNELIS and Bhubhindar SINGH (2021). "Japan-EU security relations", In: T. Christiansen, E. J. Kirchner and S. S. Tan, eds., <u>The European Union's Security Relations with Asian Partners</u>, Palgrave Macmillan, Series: The European Union in International Affairs, pp. 369-389. • Elena ATANASSOVA-CORNELIS, Yoichiro SATO and Tom SAUER, Eds. (2024). <u>Alliances in Asia and Europe: The Evolving Indo-Pacific Strategic Context and Inter-Regional Alignments</u>. Routledge, 1st edition. • S. F. BURGESS and J. BEILSTEIN (2018). "Multilateral Defense Cooperation in the Indo-Asia-Pacific Region: Tentative Steps toward a Regional NATO?", <u>Contemporary Security Policy</u>, 39 (2): 258–79. • Ja Ian CHONG & Todd H. HALL (2017). "One thing leads to another: Making sense of East Asia's repeated tensions", <u>Asian Security</u>, 13(1): 20-40. • M.K.CONNORS, R.DAVISON and J.DOSCH, Eds. (2018). <u>The New Global Politics of the Asia-Pacific</u>, Routledge, 3rd edition. • S. GANGULY, A. SCOBELL and J.C. LIOW, Eds. (2018). <u>The Routledge Handbook of Asian Security Studies</u>. Routledge, 2nd edition. • Tiang Boon HOO, Ed. (2017). <u>Chinese Foreign Policy Under Xi</u>. Routledge. • Y.R. KASSIM (ed.) (2017). <u>South China Sea Disputes: Flashpoints, Turning Points and Trajectories</u>. World Scientific. • B. KRATIUK, J. VAN den BOSCH, A. JASKOLSKA and Y. SATO, Eds. (2023). <u>Handbook of Indo-Pacific Studies</u>, Routledge, 1st edition. • A. LANKOV (2009). "Why the US will have to accept a nuclear North Korea", <u>Korean Journal of Defence Analysis</u>, 21(3): 251-264. • T. F. LIAO, K. HARA and K. WIEGAND, Eds. (2016). <u>The China-Japan Border Dispute: Islands of Contention in Multidisciplinary Perspective</u>, Routledge. • E. S. MEDEIROS (2019). "The changing fundamentals of US-China relations", <u>The Washington Quarterly</u>, 42 (3): 93-119. • T. V. PAUL (2022). "Realism, liberalism and regional order in East Asia: toward a hybrid approach", <u>The Pacific Review</u>, 35(6): 1028-1048. • Robert S. ROSS, Øystein Tunsjø and Dong WANG, Eds. (2020). <u>US-China Foreign Relations: Power Transition and its Implications for Europe and Asia</u>. Routledge. • Ash ROSSITER and Brendon J. CANNON, Eds. (2020). <u>Conflict and Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific: New Geopolitical Realities</u>. Routledge. • Gilbert ROZMAN and Brad GLOSSERMAN, Eds. (2024). <u>Japan's Rise as a Regional and Global Power, 2013-2023: A Momentous Decade</u>. Routledge. • David SHAMBAUGH, Ed. (2022). <u>International Relations of Asia</u>, Rowman & Littlefield, 3rd edition. • Weiqing SONG & Jianwei WANG, Eds. (2019). <u>The European Union in the Asia Pacific: Rethinking Europe's Strategies and Policies</u>. Manchester University Press. • Christian WIRTH & Nicole JENNE (2022). "Filling the void: The Asia-Pacific problem of order and emerging Indo-Pacific regional multilateralism", <u>Contemporary Security Policy</u>, 43(2): 213-242. • Suisheng ZHAO (2021). "From affirmative to assertive patriots: Nationalism in Xi Jinping's China", <u>The Washington Quarterly</u>, 44(4): 141-161.
<p>Other infos</p>	<p>No previous knowledge of the Indo-Pacific region is required.</p>
<p>Faculty or entity in charge</p>	<p>PSAD</p>

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Political Sciences: International Relations	SPRI2M	5		
Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI2M	5		
Master [120] in European Studies	EURO2M	5		
Master [60] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M1	5		
Master [120] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M	5		