SUGGESTED COURSES:

- Economics
- History - East Asia
- International Relations

KEY CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS:

- Developmental state
- Iron triangle
- Crony capitalism
- Special Economic Zones
- Reform and Opening up
- Yoshida Doctrine
- The 1955 System
- Chaebol and Keiretsu
- SCAP
- ECFA
- Four Little Dragons

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What are the major features of the "developmental state?"
2. What roles did the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers (SCAP) play in Japan's post-WWII economic recovery?
3. How did the "Reform and Opening up" initiated by Deng Xiaoping transform China?
4. How have economies across the Taiwan Strait interacted despite political tensions?
5. What is Abenomics? How did it help Japanese economic recovery during the 2010s?
6. What is Byungjin? How is it different from previous policies of North Korea?
7. What are the major similarities and differences among East Asian economies?
8. What explains East Asia's economic "miracles?"
9. What are the major challenges facing East Asian economies today?

EXTERNAL LINKS & RESOURCES:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

2. JAPAN AND THE “DEVELOPMENTAL STATE” MODEL

3. SOUTH KOREA: FROM A COLONY TO AN ECONOMIC POWER

4. THE PRC AND TAIWAN: THE STORY OF A “DRAGON” AND A “TIGER”

5. COMPARING EAST ASIAN ECONOMIES

6. TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF EAST ASIA’S ECONOMIC MIRACLES

“Concise yet comprehensive, Zhiqun Zhu’s booklet is the perfect introduction to the political economy of East Asia for undergraduate and advanced high school classes. Zhu’s analysis of the economic ‘miracles’ of Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan takes into account both domestic factors and the international environment, and is sensitive to the similarities as well as differences between the developmental experiences of these nations. Zhu raises important related issues such as the connections between economic development and democratization, the relative economic contributions of the state and the market, and the portability of the East Asian developmental model. A glossary of abbreviations, timeline, and extensive bibliography add to the pedagogical values of this booklet.”

— ROBERT Y. ENG, University of Redlands

“In this succinct and elegant book, Zhiqun Zhu shows how East Asian economies have taken different paths to economic success despite some shared features. East Asia’s diverse but dynamic experience is valuable precisely because it demonstrates that developing nations need not follow a single approach to prosperity. An excellent book to assign for courses on Asia.”

— MING WAN, George Mason University

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