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INFO-ALERT: OUTREACH PUBLICATION AUGUST 2013

INFO-ALERT brings to your attention a selection of abstracts of current articles and new materials from American publications on current political, economic, social issues and trends in the United States. These materials are available upon request from the Information Resource Center.

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POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. **ASIA IN 2012: THE BEST OF A BAD YEAR?**

Lowell Dittmer

Asian Survey, January/February 2013, 11 pages

Lowell Dittmer, Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley, discusses politics, government, economic development and policies in Asia in 2012, including the declines in gross domestic product and demand deflation, multilateral free trade agreements, and presidential elections in Northeast Asia.

2. **STRUCTURES, SHOCKS AND NORM CHANGE: EXPLAINING THE LATE RISE OF ASIA'S DEFENSE DIPLOMACY**

David Capie

Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International & Strategic Affairs, April 2013, 26 pages

The author examines Asia's defense and military diplomacy and why it has been a relative laggard when compared to other forms of institutionalized security dialogue. The future prospects and influence of regional multilateral defense diplomacy is also discussed.

3. **SOUTHEAST ASIA: SOURCES OF REGIME SUPPORT**

Alex Chang, et al.

Journal of Democracy, April 2013, 15 pages

The authors examine levels of regime support and the underlying factors that explain regime legitimacy in seven Southeast Asian countries. He uses the latest wave of the Asian Barometer Survey to identify the sources of regime support in the region within a comprehensive framework that takes into account ongoing theoretical debates, as well as the regional context.

4. **THE UNITED STATES AND ASIA IN 2012: DOMESTIC POLITICS TAKES CHARGE**

Douglas Paal

Asian Survey, January/February 2013, 10 pages

Douglas Paal, vice president for studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, explores domestic politics in key Asian-Pacific countries in 2012, and the U.S. position in the region during the past year.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

5. **A TALE OF TWO TRADE DEALS**

Clyde Prestowitz

Washington Monthly, March/April 2013, 5 pages

Clyde Prestowitz, founder and President of the Economic Strategy Institute, discusses the economical and geopolitical implications of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA), for the United States; and how the two trade deals would fit into the U.S. grand strategy.

SOCIAL ISSUES & VALUES, EDUCATION & THE ARTS

6. **DIGITAL LEARNING FOR ALL, NOW**

Jonathan P. Costa Sr.

Education Digest, April 2013, 6 pages

Jonathan Costa, director of school and program services for Education Connection, discusses how to increase digital learning in schools with the bring-your-own-device policy, focusing on its challenges and how to overcome the financial and technical barriers.

7. **VIDEO TRANSFORMS TEACHING TACTICS**

Ian Quillen

Education Week, May 22, 2013, 2 pages

The author examines the impact of digital videos on teaching methods and discusses how initiatives to increase the availability of Internet bandwidth at U.S. schools will increase the role of educational videos and lead to more flipped classroom models.

8. **TEACHING STUDENTS THE SKILLS TO BE SAVVY RESEARCHERS**

Leslie Harris O'Hanlon

Education Week, May 22, 2013, 3 pages

The author discusses the important of digital-literacy skills and the need to prioritize Internet research skills in a digital world full of misinformation, particularly how to evaluate a website's credibility, how to use precise keywords, and how to better mine search engines and databases.

9. **TEACHING 'BY HAND' IN A DIGITAL AGE**

Joseph Harris

The Chronicle of Higher Education, March 29, 2013 Chronicle Review, 2 pages

Joseph Harris, a teacher on digital writing and creative nonfiction, Duke University, discusses digital versus face-to-face learning, focusing on the importance of a college professor's personal attention which cannot be duplicated in an online course environment.

10. **WHY DO GRANDMOTHERS EXIST?**

Judith Shulevitz

The New Republic, February 11, 2013, 4 pages.

The proportion of U.S. population over age 65 is markedly increased in recent years. Judith Shulevitz, a chief science writer of The New Republic, examines the evolutionary and biological utility of post-menopausal women, and how society can benefit from the education and experience of retirees.

11. **IN THE DIGITAL ERA, OUR DICTIONARIES READ US**

Jennifer Howard

The Chronicle of Higher Education, March 15, 2013 Chronicle Review, 7 pages

The author discusses the impact of digital technologies on the relation between dictionaries and society, the use of audio in online dictionaries, the use of crowd sourcing as a technique in lexicography, and cultural aspects of the transition from print to digital dictionaries.

12. **BROKEN ENGLISH**

Thomas Frank

Harper's Magazine, April 2013, 3 pages

The author discusses the language used by news commentators, as well as political pundits. Although often grammatically incorrect, and sometimes meaningless, the language usually conveys the intended underlying messages and delivers desired effects, be it from streetwise toughness to objectivity and journalistic distance from the subject.

13. LIMELIGHT ON MOBILE LEARNING

Agnes Kukulska-Hulme

Harvard International Review, Spring 2013, 5 pages

The author discusses the impacts of mobile learning expansion on traditional models of teaching. She focuses on how mobile devices provide an essential alternative means of sustaining education and soon-to-be capable of supporting learners intelligently across study locations and contexts of use, breaking down barriers between formal and informal learning.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

14. THE NEW AGE OF MEDICAL MONITORING

Maryn McKenna

Scientific American, March 2013, 2 pages

The author, a journalist and blogger, explores the use of mobile technologies in data-monitoring and analyzing health trends, particularly the remote monitoring of patients and the collection of surveillance data from untraditional sources.

15. THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING AD

Derek Thompson

The Atlantic, March 2013, 3 pages

How do advertisers build a thriving business selling ads on a mobile phone -- and what happens if you can't? The author discusses mobile-ad revolution and the challenges of advertising on a four-inch screen.

16. ADVERTISING ANALYTICS 2.0

Wes Nichols

Harvard Business Review, March 2013, 9 pages

Wes Nichols, co-founder and CEO of MarketShare, explores advertising analytics 2.0 which quantify cross-media and cross-channel effects of marketing, as well as direct and indirect effects of all business drivers.

17. THE TOUCH-SCREEN GENERATION

Hanna Rosin

The Atlantic, April 2013, 8 pages

Young children—even toddlers—are spending more and more time with digital technology. Thousands of apps appealing to kids just out of diapers are now released every year. Should parents recoil or rejoice? The author examines what tablets and smartphones are doing to young children's brains.

18. THE WHY'S AND HOW'S OF INTEGRATING DOWNLOADABLE ACADEMIC EBOOKS

Matthew J. Buckley and Melissa Maria Johnson

Computers in Libraries, January/February 2013, 4 pages

Does it make sense to offer full, downloadable academic ebooks for students who may only need to view a chapter or two? Will the downloadable ebooks get much use by academic patrons? How do we handle the various digital rights management issues? The authors discuss the advantages of promotion of downloadable academic ebooks in academic libraries.

19. USING APPS TO EXTEND THE LIBRARY'S BRAND

Terence K. Huwe

Computers in Libraries, March 2013, 3 pages

The author discusses how applications give libraries an opportunity to brand their services, citing several applications that pertain to reading, borrowing and searching for books.