Course Description:

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the extraordinary diversity of Southeast Asian peoples, cultures, and political economy. Broadly focused on the nation-states that have emerged since the end of World War II (Brunei, Burma [Myanmar], Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam), the course explores the benefits and limits to a regional perspective. Crossing both national and disciplinary boundaries, the course will introduce students to key elements of Southeast Asian geography, history, language and literature, belief systems, marriage and family, music, art and architecture, agriculture, industrialization and urbanization, politics and government, ecological challenges, and economic change. In addition to providing a broad and comparative survey of “traditional” Southeast Asia, the course will place special emphasis on the intellectual and practical challenges associated with modernization and development, highlighting the ways different Southeast Asian nations contend with the forces of globalization.

The principle readings will include key works from a multidisciplinary range of fields covering anthropology, art and architecture, economics, geography, history, literature, music, and political science. No prior knowledge of Southeast Asia is expected.
Grading and Course Work:

Grades will be based primarily on the written assignments (including drafts and final essays, and in-class writing assignments). The total course grade will be calculated as a percentage of accumulated points. (A = 93-100; A- = 90-92; B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82; etc.).

• Major assignments are indicated in the chart below, and include one short essay concerning a Southeast Asian news event chosen by the student, and one independent research paper on a topic chosen by the student. A map quiz will be worth 50 points. Students will also contribute five short responses on select course readings, worth 10 points each. Students will select which five responses they would like to write about after week three.

• Attendance and classroom participation are essential to success in the course, and students who fail to attend all class meetings, or who consistently arrive late or fail to participate, will see their final course grade affected.

Major assignments and their due dates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Weight of Paper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Periodic (5 per semester)</td>
<td>Reading Responses / MapAnnotations</td>
<td>10 X 5 = 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 22nd</td>
<td>Map Quiz</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9th</td>
<td>Ripped from the Headlines</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10th</td>
<td>Final Research Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Policies:

• Students must attend all of the scheduled classes, unless excused in advance by the instructor. Students anticipating the need to miss class for religious holidays or for approved participation in University athletics should inform the instructor during the first two weeks of class.

• Students must hand in papers on time at the beginning of class on the date indicated on this syllabus. Unless otherwise indicated, papers should be double-spaced, using standard 12 point font, with 1 inch margins. Unexcused late papers will not receive anything higher than a “B”. Students anticipating the need for an extension must forewarn the instructor at least one week in advance. On occasion, I will ask you to submit papers online using the “yaleclassesv2” course website or via email. Papers or assignments submitted electronically should always be saved as Microsoft Word documents with standardized filenames according to the following format:
• Unless otherwise noted, the readings indicated for a particular week should be completed by the first class meeting of the week. (Note: Readings marked with a hollow bullet point, “○”, are optional).

• Don’t plagiarize! Students should be familiar with Yale’s policy on academic honesty:
  http://www.yale.edu/yalecollege/freshmen/academics/introduction/honesty.html
And students should visit the following useful guide to citing sources at:
  http://library.duke.edu/research/guides/citing/
If you have questions about citing sources or remain unclear about plagiarism, please feel free to ask me, a reference librarian in any of the Yale libraries, or staff members at the Yale College Writing Center. If you plagiarize you will fail the class.

Course Materials:

• The following required texts are available for purchase at Labyrinth Books on York Street:

• All other course readings indicated in the course schedule are available as electronic text reserves accessible online via yaleclassesv*2.

• On an experimental basis, I will be periodically uploading map-based lecture notes and study guides. In order to access these, students should download the free version of Google Earth, available at:
  o http://earth.google.com/
COURSE SCHEDULE:

INTRODUCTION:

Week 1: Course Introduction: Encountering Southeast Asia
Thursday, September 3rd: Introduction to the class.

PART ONE: Geographical, Social-Cultural, and Political Diversity

Week 2: Geography and the Human Landscape
Tuesday, September 8th: Rainy Season / Dry Season, Land / Water, Islands / Mainlands

Thursday, September 10th: Upland / Lowland, Rural / Urban

Week 3: Ethno-Linguistic Diversity
Tuesday, September 15th: Linguistic Diversity and Socio-Linguistic Relationships

Thursday, September 17th: The Politics of Ethnic Diversity
Week 4: Kinship, Family, and Gender

Tuesday, September 22nd: Kinship and the Family


**Assignment 1: In-class Map Quiz**

Thursday, September 24th: Gender


Film: Clips from *Maximo Oliveros, Iron Ladies, etc.*

Week 5: Religion and Cosmology

Tuesday, September 29th: Islam, Hinduism, Christianity


Thursday, October 1st: Buddhism, Confucianism, and the World of the Spirits


Film: on Latah, Len Dong, Cao Dai
Week 6: Political Systems

Tuesday, October 6th: Political Developments in Post-Colonial and Post-War SEA

- Selections from Southeast Asian Constitutions

Thursday, October 8th: “Freedom,” ASEAN-style

- ASEAN Charter

Assignment 2: Ripped from the Headlines, due on course website by 5pm, Friday Oct. 9th.

PART TWO: Political Economy and Conflicting Experiences of Modernity

Week 7: Modern Dreams and the Dark Side of Modernity

Tuesday, October 13th: Modernity's Double Edge


Thursday, October 15th: The Cambodian Genocide and Other Modern Nightmares


Film: Film on Cambodia or Burma

Before the end of Week Eight please post a brief, one paragraph proposal for your final paper to the course website. Proposals should include a brief description of the topic, and a preliminary bibliography. As the semester progresses, we will schedule individual meetings to discuss your final paper proposals.
Week 8: Agricultural Economies, Social Change, and Resistance

For this week, please read:


Tuesday, October 20th: Southeast Asian Agricultural Diversity and Agricultural capitalism

Thursday, October 22nd: What Counts as Resistance

**Final Paper Proposal Due**

Week 9: Migration and Mobility

For this week, please read:


Tuesday, October 27th: Internal Migration and Mobility

Thursday, October 29th: Cross-Border Migration and Mobility

Film: B.A.T.A.M.

Week 10: Development and its Limits: Urbanization and Ecological Crisis

Tuesday, November 3rd: The Challenges of Urbanization and Industrialization


Thursday, November 5th: Ecological and Social Crises of Development

PART THREE: The Arts of Change

Week 11: Literature and Social Change

For this week, please read:


Tuesday, November 10th: Is there a Southeast Asian Literature?

Thursday, November 12th: In-class peer review of Final Paper Outlines / Annotated Bibliography

**Annotated Bibliography and Final Paper Outlines Due in Class**

Week 12: Art and Music

For this week, please read:


Tuesday, November 17th: Musical Interlude

Thursday, November 19th: Artistic Excursion
**Draft of Final Paper Due Before Fall Break**

Week 13: No Class -- Fall Break Nov. 21-30

Week 14: Course Conclusion

For this week, please read:

- Your peer-review partners’ essay drafts.
- Comments on your essay from your peer review partners

Tuesday, December 1\textsuperscript{st}: Peer Review of Final Essays

Thursday, December 3\textsuperscript{rd}: Course Conclusion

**Final Paper due, Thursday Dec. 10th**