

<b>COURSE</b>	LAW 370 Law and Society in Southeast Asia
<b>UNIT VALUE</b>	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Victor V. Ramraj
<b>TERM OFFERED</b>	Fall 2023
<b>CLASS TIMES</b>	See Schedule
<b>PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES</b>	None

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course will introduce the laws and legal traditions of Southeast Asia in historical, comparative, and socio-legal perspective, focusing on issues of contemporary importance in the region. The course will cover many of the countries in Southeast Asia, with special attention to Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Thailand. Specific topics will likely include constitutional law, law and religion/customary law, transnational regulation, military rule and emergency powers. In 2023-2024, special consideration will be given to the region's response to climate change and sustainability, through the lens of both legal pluralism and law and complexity.

### **OBJECTIVES**

This will provide students with a working knowledge of law and legal systems in Southeast Asia. It aims to provide an understanding of the historical, political and cultural context of law, the region's many legal traditions, and legal issues of contemporary importance. It will introduce students to innovative approaches to legal problems drawing on the multiple legal norms and the variety of legal orders in the region. Students will be given the opportunity to study at least one jurisdiction in depth.

### **METHODOLOGY**

This is a seminar course. Students will be expected to participate in class discussion. The course will include a scaffolded research assignment in which students submit and receive feedback on a research proposal and evaluation of research sources, culminating in the submission of a 4000-word research paper.

### **EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY**

Details of evaluation arrangements remain subject to change. However, it is expected that the evaluation will be by a combination of: an individual or group presentation (depending on enrolment numbers) on one jurisdiction in Southeast Asia (20%); a scaffolded research assignment, culminating in a 4000-word research paper (20% + 50%); and participation in the seminar generally (10%).

*June 2023*

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<sup>1</sup> The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, Law Student Services ([law.studentservices@uvic.ca](mailto:law.studentservices@uvic.ca)).