Course description: PAAS 171 S01

In this course we examine the development of modern Southeast Asian cultures, paying particular attention to Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, The Philippines, and Malaysia/Singapore. The course delves into Southeast Asian media such as the press, popular music, theatre, film literature, architecture, television and internet. In addition, we will read several works of fiction that will give us a sense of the textures of everyday life, the processes of social and cultural change, and the problems confronting many Southeast Asians in adjusting to rapidly transforming environments. Thematically, we will examine the ways in which culture has changed as these Southeast Asian societies increasingly became integrated into a cash economy, urbanized, struggled for independence, (in most cases) and attempted to create modern cultures that remained true to local traditions.

The Grading Scheme, though subject to change, will be similar to this:
Attendance and Participation, 10%; Map Quiz 15%; Mid-term Quiz 30%; Film Commentary 20%; Final Paper 25%

Proposed reading list:
Umar Kayam  *Javanese Gentry*
Vu Trong Phung  *Dumb Luck*
Jessica Hagedorn  *Dogeaters*