



COURSE OUTLINE
GEOGRAPHY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

Tue, Wed 2:30 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

COR B143

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the geography of Southeast Asia, with a particular emphasis placed on development in the region. The intention of the course is to build awareness for and understanding of the multiple issues and challenging problems that people, organizations, and governments are facing within the region. Southeast Asia is characterized by a great deal of diversity, where sites of significant capital accumulation stand in stark contrast to other locations wherein poverty is embedded within the landscape. Historically, Canadians have significantly misunderstood Southeast Asia. Knowledge of the region comes primarily through Hollywood representations of the Vietnam War, and to a lesser extent via the economic shock waves that followed the Asian crisis of 1990s. More recently media attention has focused on recent political upheaval in Thailand and Indonesia, as well as terrorist activities in the Philippines. This course seeks to bring a more encompassing view of the region, where we will learn about the colonial legacies and geopolitical complexity that continues to shape public concern in Southeast Asia. A broad geographical survey of agrarian transformation, changing gender relations, urbanization, economic reform, Cold War intervention, nationalism and ongoing political struggle, industrialization, and regional cooperation and conflict will be complemented by a detailed case study of Cambodia's genocide and subsequent neoliberalization. The course will foster a deeper geographical comprehension through building student's critical appreciation for the processes of change that are occurring across Southeast Asia.

KEY THEMES: agrarian change; authoritarianism; Cambodia; democracy; development; neoliberalism; public space; social justice; Southeast Asia; urbanization

REQUIRED TEXTS

McGregor, A. 2008. *Southeast Asian Development*. New York, Routledge. (Available online at UVic Library).

Springer, S. 2010. *Cambodia's Neoliberal Order: Violence, Authoritarianism and the Contestation of Public Space*. New York, Routledge. (Available online at UVic Library).

RECOMMENDED TEXT

Rigg, J. 2003. *Southeast Asia: The Human Landscape of Modernization and Development*. New York, Routledge.

EVALUATION

Class Participation	10%
Midterm Exam	30%
Film Reflection	25%
Group Presentation & Peer Evaluation	35%

PREREQUISITE: Second Year Standing

**OFFICE HOURS
& LOCATION**

Tuesday 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
David Turpin Building B310
Telephone: 250-721-7340
Email: springer@uvic.ca

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: <http://geography.uvic.ca>
- Undergraduate Advisor: Dr. Phil Wakefield - philw@geog.uvic.ca
- Graduate Advisor: Dennis Jelinski - jelinski@office.geog.uvic.ca

COURSESPACES

I will post the course syllabus, outlines of slide presentations, and any additional relevant materials on the course's CourseSpaces website.

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

- Assignments submitted **ON TIME** will receive my full attention & useful feedback.
- Please speak with me well in advance if you anticipate a delay in submitting your work, particularly when dealing with illness or family conflicts.
- 5% per day penalty for late assignments including weekend days. For example, 5% will be deducted from the assignment (due in class) *if the assignment is submitted later in the day*. If the assignment is submitted the next day, 10% will be deducted from the assigned grade, and so forth.
- **Assignments submitted more than one week late will NOT be graded.**
- You may submit assignments electronically to meet a deadline but a hard copy **MUST** be submitted as soon as possible afterwards for marking. If a hard copy is not submitted, your assignment will **NOT** be marked.

** All assignments must be done exclusively for this course.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism in writing term papers will not be tolerated. Plagiarism detection software will be used in case of doubt. Plagiarism means representing someone else's work as your own. It is a serious offence, punishable by academic sanctions. When you incorporate the words, ideas, graphics, or other products from someone else's work into your projects, you must give credit by providing a citation and reference to the source work.

It is your responsibility to:

- understand what plagiarism is,
- be familiar with and understand the information on plagiarism outlined in UVic Libraries' plagiarism policy at <http://library.uvic.ca/instruction/cite/plagiarism.html>
- be familiar with UVic's policies on student responsibilities, conduct, discipline, and academic offences, as described in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Students are reminded that submitting for credit any academic work that has been submitted (or where credit has already been obtained) in another course is listed among academic offences.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

Please notify me immediately once you know that any date proposed for assignments or papers conflict with dates of special significance in your religion. We will arrange alternative dates to accommodate individual needs.

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) as soon as possible. The RCSD staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <http://rcsd.uvic.ca/>. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Discriminatory language is not welcome or tolerated in lectures, seminars, tutorials, or written work. This includes but is not limited to sexist, racist, ethnocentric, or homophobic language.

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ B B-	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ C	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

ASSESSMENT & ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

CLASS PARTICIPATION - (10%)

DUE DATE: ONGOING THROUGHOUT TERM

- This includes engaging in discussion, asking questions, offering answers, and active listening, where none is prioritized over the others. If you regularly attend classes, show up to class prepared, and remain committed to and engaged with the course materials throughout the term, this is an easy 10% to achieve!
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MIDTERM EXAM - (30%)

DATE: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16th

- Throughout the course you are encouraged to think critically about the theoretical and empirical relevance of the issues we will explore, as this will both increase your enjoyment of the course and prepare you for the midterm exam. If you attend lectures and keep up with your readings the midterm exam will be a breeze. The exam will be formatted to enable you to demonstrate your knowledge of the concepts that we will have explored in lectures and through the readings. For the exam I will offer students a list of 6 or 7 questions, where you will be asked to write a short essay response to 3 questions of your choice worth 10% each. Please do not stress about the exam, but instead think of it as your chance to show me how well you have understood the course material to date!
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FILM REFLECTION (ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE) - (25%)

DUE DATE: Tuesday March 1st

LENGTH: 3 PAGES (approximately 750 words)

- Students are asked to provide a short commentary on the film "Enemies of the People", which we will screen during class time on February 18th. This assignment is not meant to be a simple summary of the film. Instead, your task is to provide a thoughtful analysis and critique, which draws on course readings and lectures. You will need to discuss how the film exemplifies and engages the course's thematic concerns, and also how the film helped you to interpret the concepts that we have been exploring in lectures and readings. One of the major challenges for you will be to keep your reflection concise and to the point. Prior to the screening, I will hand out a description of the film, which will include an overview of the plot as well as offering some specific points for you to consider that will help you to view the film with your 'thinking cap' on. This will better prepare you as you write your critical reflections.
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GROUP PRESENTATION - (25% Presentation + 10% Peer evaluation = 35%)

DUE DATE: MARCH 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd

LENGTH: 20 to 25 MINUTES

- Students are asked to collaborate in preparing a presentation on a theme relevant to Southeast Asia of your choosing. Rather than having you write individual research papers, your role is to research and reflect thoroughly on your chosen topic, offer some critical reflections, and engage the class with some questions of importance that you have drawn from your research. I will

circulate a list of potential topics as the semester gets underway, but you are by no means limited to choosing from the list, and may engage a topic of your own collective choosing. I want you to be imaginative with your presentation and bring some additional value to your reflections on the concepts under consideration. Thus, how you choose to present to the class is entirely up to you, but I encourage you to be as creative as possible. You might have us watch a film and then ask us questions that help us to think about the topic or concept. You might want to read poetry (possibly even your own!), or do a short play that helps us think about the idea. You can make a poster presentation, or present a piece of art or music you have created in response to the concept, or that someone else has created that helps you (and hopefully us) to think about and understand the topic at hand. You can bring a video game that you enjoy (or maybe not enjoy), have us play it in class and discuss how it might exemplify a concept. You can bring personal photographs of your travels, home videos, scrapbooks, stamp collections, and use them to explain and demonstrate the idea under consideration. Maybe you have found a website, a newspaper article, or a map that you want us to consider. Perhaps you have made up a board game that you'd like us all to play. If you opt for the conventional approach, and simply want to give us a Power Point presentation, that's fine too. Your options are limited only by your own imagination! Wherever your interest and talent lies, I'm all for it! The only fixed criterion is that you have approximately 20 minutes to share your creativity, reflections, and ideas about the topic with us.

- You are free to form your own groups and/or I will assist with this process, but please note that if you do form your own groups you may be asked to allow additional members into your group depending on the final class size. Groups should be finalized relatively early in the semester. Please bear in mind that there may be some rescheduling and reassigning of groups should individuals join or withdraw from the class. Also note that peer evaluation will form a component of your grade, which ensures that you live up to your end of the bargaining in terms of group work.

IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT NOTES:

Assignment: For all assignments use 12 pt. Font, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, number pages, and a list of references. **DO NOT include a title page** (save paper!), but **DO** include your title, your name, my name, the course number, and the date at the top of the first page. Staple your paper in the top left corner (**NO FANCY BINDERS!!!**). Please follow the word length requirement.

Referencing: Students are required to follow a standard referencing style, using in text citations and bibliography (usually AUTHOR-DATE in human geography). Exact formatting can be of your own choice, but please examine and follow a geography journal such as Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, or Progress in Human Geography for examples of proper citation styles.

(Subject to revision as the course proceeds)

WEEK	DATE	SEMINAR TOPICS
1	JANUARY 5 & 6	Introduction to Southeast Asia
2	JANUARY 12 & 13	Colonial Legacies in Southeast Asia
3	JANUARY 19 & 20	Economic Development in Southeast Asia
4	JANUARY 26 & 27	Southeast Asian Politics
5	FEBRUARY 2 & 3	Social Issues in Southeast Asia
READING BREAK	FEBRUARY 9 & 10	NO CLASSES
6	FEBRUARY 16 & 17	Midterm Exam on 18th - Film Screening – <i>Enemies of the People</i> on 19 th
7	FEBRUARY 23 & 24	Cambodia Case Study: Genocide, Transition, Neoliberalism and Violence
8	MARCH 1 & 2	Rural Life in Southeast Asia
9	MARCH 8 & 9	Urban Experiences in Southeast Asia
10	MARCH 15 & 16	Group Presentations
11	MARCH 22 & 23	Group Presentations
12	March 29 & 30	NO CLASSES

REQUIRED WEEKLY READINGS

(Subject to revision as the course proceeds)

JANUARY 5 & 6	Introduction to Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Introducing Southeast Asian development, 1-19.
JANUARY 12 & 13	Colonial Legacies in Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Setting the scene for development: pre-colonial and colonial Southeast Asia, 20-43.
JANUARY 19 & 20	Economic Development in Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Economic development, 44-72.
JANUARY 26 & 27	Southeast Asian Politics McGregor, A. Political development, 73-103.
FEBRUARY 2 & 3	Social Issues in Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Social development, 104-128.
FEBRUARY 9 & 10	NO CLASS – READING BREAK
FEBRUARY 16 & 17	MIDTERM EXAM and Film Screening
FEBRUARY 23 & 24	Cambodia Case Study Springer, S. From genocide to elections to coup d'état, 54-90. Springer, S. Cambodia's battle for public space, 91-151.
MARCH 1 & 2	Rural Life in Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Transforming rural spaces, 156-180.
MARCH 8 & 9	Urban Experiences in Southeast Asia McGregor, A. Transforming urban spaces, 129-155.
MARCH 15 & 16	GROUP PRESENTATIONS
MARCH 22 & 23	GROUP PRESENTATIONS
MARCH 29 & 30	NO CLASS – READING BREAK
