Political Science 639  
Politics of Southeast Asia  
Dr. Eunsook Jung  
Spring 2012

Class Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00—2:15pm  
Classroom: Sterling 3425  
Office Hours: Friday 9:30-11:30 am or by appointment  
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Office: Room 407 North Hall

This course offers a comparative examination of Southeast Asian countries on thematic issues. The first session of the course will focus on colonial era as well as post-colonial era state formation. Thereafter, we will focus on specific issues on the region. These include authoritarian regime and democratization, political parties and elections, civil society and social movements, religion and politics, and political economy.

This course will enable students to (1) gain an empirical and analytical understanding of the political dynamics of the region; (2) think comparatively within the regime and across the developing world more generally; and (3) address and debate theoretical questions in political science through Southeast Asian materials.

Course Requirements

a. Weekly Comments
Students are required to prepare five (5) short weekly comments on the readings that can serve as springboards for discussion. The comments (preferably one page, and no more than two pages) may summarize key points, but should also raise questions that you would pose to the author should s/he be present, critique major points, or suggest additional avenues of research. **These weekly comments should be submitted before the class begins.** Students are not required to prepare comments for those sessions in which they are making a class presentation.

b. Class Presentations
Each student is responsible for preparing two class presentations to open up discussion for a particular seminar. These 10-15 minute presentations should critique review major issues and arguments found in the readings, and raise important questions for discussion.

c. Research Paper
There will be one 10-15 page final research paper on a topic of the students’ choice. Students may write about any topic in Southeast Asian Politics, regardless of whether it has been discussed in the course (for graduate students the final paper is 8000-10,000 words). All students are strongly encouraged to speak with me about the topic. **The due date is by 4pm on May 13th.**

Grading Criteria (for undergraduate students only)
● Class attendance and participation (10%)
● Map Quiz (5%)
● Class Presentations (10%)
● Five Response Papers (25%)
● Midterm (20%)
● Term Paper (30%)

**Attendance and Participation Policy**

Students are required to attend class regularly and participate actively in class discussions and debates. Unexcused absences will negatively impact a student’s grade. I expect you to do the readings and to be ready to engage in discussion. If you are sick, will miss class for a religious observance, or there is a family emergency, please let me know as soon as possible. In case of sickness, you will have to show a doctor’s note.

**Late Paper Policy**

Papers handed in late will be graded down at the rate of ½ grade (or 3 points) per day. Late papers will only be allowed in the event of (a) genuine family emergency, (b) travel away from Madison on a University-related obligations, or (c) illness or injury. In these excused cases, the instructor should be informed prior to the deadline. Otherwise, any late papers without pre-approval will be graded down. It is your responsibility to make sure that the instructor receives paper on time.

**Required Readings**

Erik Kuhonta, Dan Slater, and Tuong Vu, eds. *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region and Qualitative Analysis* (2008)

Course Reader: All the readings are electronically reserved through the College Library.

This syllabus is a general plan for the course, and may be altered during the semester. It is your responsibility to read and understand the syllabus.
Schedule of Readings and Discussions

**January 24: Introductions and overview of course topics and expectations**

**January 26: What is Southeast Asia?**

**Readings:**


**January 31: Evolution of States and Societies**

**Readings:**


Optional Readings:


**February 2: Colonial State Formation: Indonesia**

**Readings:**


************ Map Quiz on February 2 ************

Week 3
February 7: Colonial State Formation: Thailand
Readings:


February 9: Colonial State Formation in Philippines
Readings:


Optional Reading:

February 14: The Post-Colonial Indonesian State
Readings:


February 16: The Thai State Since 1932
Readings:


February 21: The Post-Colonial Philippine State
Readings:


February 23: Mid-term exam

February 28: Islam and Nationalism
Readings


Optional Reading:
March 1: Democracy and Authoritarian Regime
Readings:


March 6: Democracy and Authoritarian Regime
Readings


March 8: Political Parties and Elections
Readings:


Kuhonta Erik and Allen Hicken. “Shadows of the Past: Party System Institutionalization in Asia.” Comparative Political Studies 44, 7 (July)

Week 8
March 13: Political Parties and Elections in Indonesia
Readings:


**March 15: Political Parties and Elections in Thailand**

Readings:


**March 20: Political Parties and Elections in Philippines**

Readings:


**March 22: State Capacity**

Readings:


**March 27: Civil Society**

Readings:

Jones, David Martin. “Democratization, Civil Society, and Illiberal Middle Class Culture in Pacific Asia” Comparative Politics, 30, 2, pp. 147-169.

Optional Reading:

March 29: Civil Society in Southeast Asia
Readings:


Week 11
Spring Break: March 31-April 7

Week 12
April 10: Civil Society in Indonesia
Readings:
Hefner, Robert. Civil Islam: Muslims and Democratization in Indonesia. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 2000. Read Preface (pp. xi-xx), Chapter One (pp.3-20), and Conclusion (pp.214-221).


April 12: Class Cancelled. Instructor will be at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Meeting in Chicago.
April 17: Social Movements in Southeast Asia
Readings:


April 19: Religion and Politics in Southeast Asia
Readings:


April 24: Religion and Nation Building in Southeast Asia
Readings:


April 26: Islamic Parties and Islamic State
Readings:


Temby, Quinton. “Imagining an Islamic State in Indonesia: From Darul Islam to Jemaah Islamiyah” Indonesia, Number 89. April 2010, pp. 1-36.

May 1: Political Economy: Economic Growth
Readings:


May 3: Political Economy: The Financial Crisis
Readings:


Week 16
May 8: Research Paper Presentations
May 10: Research Paper Presentations