

# Enquire Teaching Timetable

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## Course Outcome

### ANTH 2450 - Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia

#### Learning Outcome

Students will be acquainted with the prehistory, history, geography and the forces of colonialism and post-colonialism in Southeast Asia, all of which will help them understand the current situation in the region.

Students will be made to reflect on how social, cultural and political institutions provide lenses for understanding Southeast Asian society.

Students will be introduced to current crises confronting the region such as ecological/environmental disasters and religio-political conflicts including terrorism, which have implications for the world at large.

Upon completing the course, students will be able to use the analytical tools they have acquired to understand their own societies. In this sense, the course fulfils the anthropological condition of studying the other in order to better understand the self.

#### Course Syllabus

The course aims to provide the students with an anthropological understanding of Southeast Asia, a region of the world famed for its numerous cultures, languages, religions and civilizations.

Part One of the course will focus on the prehistory, archeology and peopling of the region. Students will be introduced to the origins of agriculture, the development of complex state societies and the influence of world religions on the region.

Part Two will focus on more contemporary history by looking at the complex interactions between traditional cultural systems and modernizing forces such as European colonialism in Southeast Asia. One aspect we will examine is how European colonialism influenced modern nation-building processes in countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Myanmar/Burma. In this respect, we will focus on how traditional features of social organization such as ethnicity, religion, politics and economics have been transformed and deployed to govern the modern states of Southeast Asia.

Part Three of the course will examine social institutions such as gender and sexuality and foodways in Southeast Asian societies as well as the various challenges that modern day Southeast Asia faces, including environmental degradations, climatic catastrophes such as the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004 as well as the recent Cyclone Nargis that hit Myanmar in May 2008, and ethnic/religious conflicts and human rights concerns in the region.

Participation: 15%

Map Quiz: 15%

Term Paper: 30%

Final Test: 40%

Most updated syllabus and assessment will be announced in class.

#### Assessment Type

	Assessment Type	Current Percent
1	Essays	30
2	Essay test or exam	40
3	Participation	15
4	Short answer test or exam	15

#### Feedback for Evaluation

Course Evaluation Questionnaire

#### Required Readings

The readings will be taken from a wide range of sources in journals and books, but the following are useful general readings:

Ellens, Roy, ed. 2007 *Modern Crises and Traditional Strategies: Local Ecological Knowledge in Island Southeast Asia*. New York, Berghahn Books.

Evans, Grant, Christopher Hutton, and Kuah Khun Eng, eds. 2000 *Where China Meets Southeast Asia: Social and Cultural Change in the Border Regions*. Bangkok, White Lotus.

Glover, Ian and Peter Bellwood, eds. 2004 *Southeast Asia: From Prehistory to History*. London, RoutledgeCurzon.

Hitcock, Michael and Victor T. King, eds. 2009 *Tourism in Southeast Asia: Challenges and new Directions*. Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press.

Horstmann, Alexander and Reed L. Wadley, eds. 2006 *Centering the Margin: Agency and Narrative in Southeast Asia Borderlands*. New York, Berghahn Books.

Kerlogue, Fiona, ed. 2004 *Performing Objects: Museums, material Culture and Performance in Southeast Asia*. London, Homiman Museum.

Keyes, Charles F. 1977 *The Golden Peninsula: Culture and Adaptation in Mainland Southeast Asia*. New York, Mamillan Publishing Co., Inc.

King, Victor T. and William D. Wilder, eds. 2003 *The Modern Anthropology of Southeast Asia*. London, RoutledgeCurzon.

Wazir, Jahan Karim, ed. 1995 "Male" and "Female" in developing Southeast Asia. Oxford, Berg Publishers.

Recommended Readings

Detailed reading will be given during the first class.