

HISTORY 220: SOUTHEAST ASIA

Instructor: Taylor M. Easum
Location: CPS 317
Schedule: TuTh 11:00am-12:15pm

Office: CCC 459
Office Hours: MT 1:00-2:00pm
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Overview of Course:

Southeast Asia is a region containing an incredible diversity of states, cultures, beliefs, societies, and peoples. Rather than isolation from the great empires to the west (India, the Middle East, and Europe) and to the north (Japan, China, etc.), Southeast Asia has long been a crossroads of cultural exchange, regional and global trade, and religious belief. This course will serve as an introduction to the long history of this diverse region, and the impact of that history in the present. Part I begins with a simple question: What is Southeast Asia? To answer this question, we look at the early history of the region, the social and trade patterns that developed, and the early states of the region. In Part II we examine the early contact between Southeast Asians and the West, and the tremendous rise in trade that gave rise to the Early Modern era in Southeast Asia. Part III examines the spread of both colonialism and the nationalist resistance it engendered. The final section of the course deals with Southeast Asia after WWII, the rise of the Cold War, and the impact of these conflicts in Southeast Asia today.

Required Readings:

The course is designed around sets of core readings, primary sources, and online materials. Our main textbook is available as a rental text at the UWSP bookstore:

- Ricklefs, M. C., Bruce Lockhart, Albert Lau, Portia Reyes, and Maitrii Aung-Thwin. *A New History of Southeast Asia*. New York: Palgrave, 2010.

There are additional readings available on the course website as PDF files or links. Note: I expect students to do all the readings—any optional readings are marked with an asterisk (*).

Recommended books (for additional research):

- Reid, Anthony. *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680*, Two Volumes. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988 & 1993.
- Victor Lieberman. *Strange Parallels: Volume 1, Integration on the Mainland: Southeast Asia in Global Context, c.800-1830*. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003).
- Nicholas Tarling, ed., *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia*. 2 Volumes. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).
- Andaya, Barbara Watson, and Leonard Y. Andaya. *A History of Early Modern Southeast Asia, 1400-1830*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- Glover, Ian, and Peter S Bellwood. *Southeast Asia: From Prehistory to History*. London; New York: RoutledgeCurzon, 2004.

Films:

Over the course of the semester, we will watch and discuss several films having to do with key moments in Southeast Asia's history. These films can be found in D2L under the 'eReserves' module in the content section.

- *Indochine* (1992)
- *The Legend of Suriyothai* (2001)
- *The Most Secret Place on Earth* (2008)
- *The Act of Killing* (2012)
- *The Look of Silence* (2014)
- *Enemies of the People* (2009)
- *The Missing Picture* (2014)

Links:

Over the course of the semester, I expect you to keep up with the news of one or more of the countries covered in this course. The following list of websites may help you to keep up with current events in the region:

- *The Jakarta Post*: www.thejakartapost.com
- *The Nation*: www.nationmultimedia.com
- *The Philippine Daily Inquirer*: www.inquirer.net
- *Vietnam News*: vietnamnews.vn
- *The Irrawaddy*: www.irrawaddy.org
- *The Phnom Penh Post*: www.phnompenhpost.com
- *The Straits Times*: www.straitstimes.com

UWSP Policies:

Please take a moment to review University policy on Academic Integrity: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/Academic%20Integrity%20Brochure.pdf>.

Please also note that UWSP is determined to provide equal access and accommodation to all students with disabilities. For more information, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (<http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx>).

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify and explain various components of two or more Southeast Asian cultures.
- Use primary sources to analyze historical change in Southeast Asia.
- Describe different interpretations of Southeast Asian peoples from the colonial period on.
- Analyze religious and cultural changes in two or more Southeast Asian societies.
- Analyze how cultural and racial differences have been negotiated between Southeast Asians and outsiders in the global context of empire and the Cold War.

Evaluation:

Grades are based on the following elements:

- 1) Attendance and participation (10% of your total grade),
- 2) a map quiz, given at the start of lecture in Week 3 (10% of total grade),
- 3) a midterm examination at the end of Week 5 (25% of total grade),
- 4) three short writing assignments essays (2-3 pages each) submitted over the course of the semester (30% of total grade – see below), and
- 5) a final examination given at the end of the term at the appointed time (25% of total grade).

Writing Assignments

As described above, students will need to submit three short reports/essays over the course of the semester (no more than 3 pages each). One should be turned in by week 6, another by week 10, and a final one by week 14. We will talk about each of these options in class, and there will be more detailed instructions posted on the website by week 3.

Primary Source Analysis: For this assignment, students will write a brief essay explaining how at least three documents relate to the theme or topic of a given week in the syllabus. For example, for week 4, one might write about how the sources for that week help us understand social organization in Southeast Asia. You should include in your report a critical analysis of the source, i.e. its perspective, limitations, and most useful aspects.

Review Essay – Film: For this essay, you will write a critical review of one or two films having to do with a particular time and place in Southeast Asian history. To earn full credit, your essay will need to connect the film/films to the larger historical or cultural themes of the course. For example, if you choose to review the film “Suriyothai”, you might discuss the history of Ayutthaya and the other ‘classical’ states of mainland Southeast Asia. If you review “The Act of Killing”, you would probably need to discuss the cold war in general, and the anti-communist massacre in Indonesia specifically. When writing your essay, you may begin with the following prompt:

Think about the readings and lectures about the historical and cultural context surrounding these films. How does _____ (film title) _____ help (or hinder) our understanding of the history of _____ (historical and cultural context)?

Review Essay – Current Affairs: For this essay, you will choose a country in Southeast Asia and review the news over the course of the semester, starting by week 6 at the latest. Then, by the final week of the semester, you will submit an essay reviewing and summarizing the main stories or themes in the news you have followed, and to the extent possible, relate these current events to historical issues discussed in class or in the readings. For this essay, the following prompt might be useful:

What are the major news stories and trends in _____ (name of country or region), and how has the history and culture of the region contributed to, led to, or shaped these events?

Optional: Book Review: There is also an advanced option that students with a particular interest in Southeast Asia can choose. For this assignment, I expect you to summarize and explain the main argument(s) of one academic book on Southeast Asia. I have included a short list of possible books below (all of which the UWSP library has), but students may speak with me about reviewing another book, as long as it relates to Southeast Asian history or culture.

Possible books include (I have many more for you to choose from):

- *Siam Mapped*, by Thongchai Winichakul
- *Flavors of Empire: Food and the Making of Thai America*, by Mark Padoongpatt
- *Dreams of the Hmong Kingdom*, by Mai Na
- *Sex Trafficking in Southeast Asia: A History of Desire, Duty, and Debt*, by Trude Jacobsen
- *The Longest Journey: Southeast Asians and the Pilgrimage to Mecca*, by Eric Tagliacozzo
- *Southeast Asia in Ruins: Art and Empire in the Early 19th Century*, by Sarah Tiffin
- *The Killing Season: A History of the Indonesian Massacres, 1965-66*, by Geoffrey Robinson

COURSE OUTLINE:

PART I: EARLY SOUTHEAST ASIA

WEEK 1 (Sep 4-6): What is Southeast Asia?

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 1-17.

*Anthony Reid, “Introduction,” *Southeast Asia in an Age of Commerce, Vol. 1*, pp. 1-10.

WEEK 2 (Sep 11): Trade, Society, & Belief

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 18-35.

*Paul Lavy, “As in Heaven, so on Earth,” in *JSEAS* 34 (1) 2003, pp. 21-39.

*Charles Keyes, “Theravada Buddhism...” *The Golden Peninsula*, pp. 78-90.

Documents

“A Seventh-Century Visit to Sumatra,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 5-6.

“Theravada Kingship in Pagan,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 34-37.

Links

The 'Other' Silk Road: China Peers into Maritime Past:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=128113397>

[NOTE: NO CLASS Sept 13]

WEEK 3 (Sep 18-20): The Classical States

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 36-68.

“Angkor was a city ahead of its time.” *The Los Angeles Times*, August 14, 2007.

(<http://articles.latimes.com/2007/aug/14/science/sci-angkor14>)

*David K Wyatt, *Thailand: A Short History*, 2nd ed. (New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press, 2004), pp. 17-49.

Documents

“Oath of Allegiance to a Khmer Sovereign,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 33-34.

Zhou Daguan, “A Chinese Visitor to Angkor,” pp. TBD.

Films

Jungle Atlantis, episodes 1 and 2.



PART II: EARLY MODERN SOUTHEAST ASIA to c. 1800

WEEK 4 (Sep 25-27): Social Organization & Religion

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 69-91.

Barbara Watson Andaya, “From Temporary Wife to Prostitute,” pp. 11-28.

Carolyn Brewer, “From Animist ‘Priestess’ to Catholic Priest: The Re/gendering of Religious Roles in the Philippines, 1521-1685,” pp. 69-86.

Anthony Reid, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, Vol. 1*, pp. 120-172.



Documents

Miguel de Loarca, *Relation of the Filipinas Islands*, pp. 115-119.

J.S. Stavorinus, *Voyages to the East Indies*, pp. 312-323.

Ibn Battuta, *Travels in Asia and Africa, 1325-1354*, Chapter X, pp. 272-281.

“Magellan the Missionary,” in J.M. Gullick, pp. 10-16.

WEEK 5 (Oct 2-4): The Age of Commerce

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 92-115; 116-133.

*M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 134-164.

*Anthony Reid, *Charting the Shape of Early Modern Southeast Asia*, pp. 1-14.

*Pasuk and Baker, *A History of Thailand*, pp. 10-32.

Documents

“The Suma Oriental of Tome Pires,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 18-23.

“The First Dutch Voyage to the Indies,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, 80-84.

J.S. Stavorinus, *Voyages to the East Indies*, pp. 307-311.

Christophoro Borri, *Cochin-China, (1633)* Chapter VIII (5 pgs.)

“Louis XIV and the King of Tonkin,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 84-87.

Guy Tachard, *Voyage to Siam* (1685), pp. 1-6 and 165-71.



Film

The Legend of Suriyothai (2001)

PART III: COLONIALISM, NATIONALISM, & RESISTANCE, c. 1800 to c. 1940

WEEK 6 (Oct 9-11): Southeast Asia and European Colonialism from c. 1800

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 165-227, 238-255, 262-291.

*James C. Scott, *The Moral Economy of the Peasant*, pp. 1-12.

Documents

Map of Indo-China (1886): http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/indo_china_1886.jpg

V. I. Lenin, “Preliminary Draft of Theses on the National and Colonial Questions,” and Ho Chi Minh, “The Path Which Led me to Leninism,” in Christie, pp. 70-76.

WEEK 7 (Oct 16-18): The ‘Civilizing Mission’ and Its Opponents in Indochine

William J. Duiker, *Vietnam: Revolution in Transition* (2nd edition), pp. 15-43.

Ho Tai, *Radicalism and the Origins of the Vietnamese Revolution*, in Christie, pp. 27-37.

David Halberstam, *Ho*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf (1987), Chapter 3 & 4.

Documents

Emperor Ham Nghi, “Royal Edict on Resistance,” in Gettleman, p. 18.

Ho Chi Minh, “First Appeal to the United States (June 1919),” in Gettleman, pp. 19-20.

“In Defense of the *Mission Civilisatrice* in Indochina,” in Gettleman, pp. 137-141.

Links

Historical images, maps, and texts from colonial Indochina (in French): belleindochine.free.fr.

Film

Indochine (1992)

WEEK 8 (Oct 23-25): Dutch Rule and the Roots of Indonesian Nationalism

Robert Cribb and Colin Brown, *Modern Indonesia*, pp. 1-16.

Jean Gelman Taylor, *Indonesia: Peoples and Histories*, pp. 279-309.

Documents

E. Douwes Dekker, “Max Havelaar...” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 124-128.

Raden Adjeng Kartini, *Letters of a Javanese Princess*, pp. 31-36.

Sukarno, “Indonesia Accuses,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 189-193.



Links

“Memory of the Netherlands” digital photo archive:

www.geheugenvannederland.nl/?/en/collecties/nederlands-indie_in_fotos_1860-1940.

WEEK 9 (Oct 30-Nov 1): Variations on a Theme: the Philippines

P. N. Abinales and Donna J Amoroso, *State and Society in the Philippines*, chapter 5 and 6.

“In Century-Old Misadventure, A Caution for U.S.” *LA Times*, July 20, 2003:

<http://articles.latimes.com/2003/jul/20/opinion/op-gibney20>.

Documents

Historic film footage of the Philippine Revolution:

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/sawhtml/sawsp5.html>

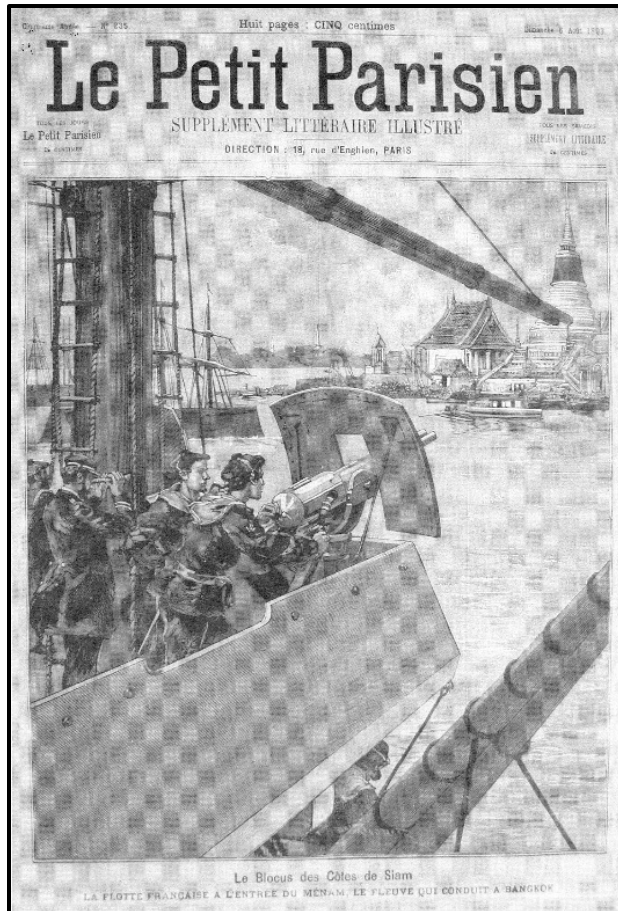
(Read the brief historical text and view these short films of U.S. military action in the Philippines, made between 1898 and 1901.)



Links

“The United States and Its Territories, 1870-1925: The Age of Imperialism” – A searchable database of texts and photographs, from the University of Michigan:

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/p/philamer/>.



WEEK 10 (Nov 6-8): Variations on a Theme: Siam

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 227-237; 255-262.

Pasuk and Baker, *A History of Thailand*, Chapters 3-5

Thongchai Winichakul, *Siam Mapped*, pp. 128-139

*B. J. Terweil, *Thailand's Political History*, pp. 199-229

Links

Southeast Asian Images and Texts – A Searchable database of photographs, covering primarily Laos, the Philippines, from the University of Wisconsin, Madison:

<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/SEAI/T/>.

PART IV: WAR AND INDEPENDENCE, c. 1940 TO THE PRESENT



WEEK 11 (Nov 13-15): The Pacific War and the Japanese Occupation

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 292-317.

Wang Gungwu, "Memories of War: World War II in Asia," in Lim and Wong, pp. 11-22

Hayashi Hirofumi, "Japanese comfort women in Southeast Asia," *Japan Forum*, 10:2, 1998, pp. 211-19.

Documents

"Maria Rosa Henson, 69, Dies; Victim of Japanese Brothels," *NY Times*, August 27, 1997:

<http://www.nytimes.com/1997/08/27/world/asia/asia-69-dies-victim-of-japanese-brothels.html>.

"The Japanese Blueprint for Southeast Asia," in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 219-223

Links

Digital Museum: The Comfort Women Issue and the Asian Woman's Fund:

<http://www.awf.or.jp/e-preface.htm>

"Interview: Healing Southeast Asia's 'comfort women'," *Asia Times*:

<http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Japan/NB02Dh01.html>

WEEK 12 (Nov 20): Vietnam: Three Decades of War

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 318-362.

Pao Vue, “The Vietnam War and Its Impacts on the Hmong,” pp. 749-752.

Documents

“The Declaration of Independence of . . . Vietnam,” in *World of Southeast Asia*, pp. 270-273.

George Black, “The Lethal Legacy of the Vietnam War,” *The Nation*, Feb 25, 2015.
<https://www.thenation.com/article/lethal-legacy-vietnam-war/>.

Films

The Most Secret Place on Earth (2008)

[NOTE: NO CLASS Nov 22 – Happy Thanksgiving!]



Films

The Act of Killing (2012)

The Look of Silence (2014)



WEEK 13 (Nov 27-29): Indonesia & the Legacies of Genocide

U.S. Government documents about the 1965 coup and massacre:

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB52/> (Read main article, “CIA Stalling State Department Histories,” and “[Exhibit 2a.](#)”)

Documents

PBS website on Indonesia, with a special focus on the 1965 coup and massacre:

<http://www.thirteen.org/shadowplay/>

BBC News briefing on Aceh, and other “flashpoints” in Indonesia, December 29, 2005: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/3809079.stm>

WEEK 14 (Dec 4-6): Cambodia & the Khmer Rouge

Documents

R. Nixon, “Rationale for the Invasion of Cambodia (1970),” in Gettleman, pp. 447-451

Molyda Szymusiak, *The Stones Cry Out*, pp. 3-10.

“A Tale of a Cambodian Woman,” *NY Times*, January 21, 1999.



Links

Cambodian Genocide Program. Database of documents and photos:

<http://www.yale.edu/cgp/>

Digital Archive of Cambodian Holocaust Survivors. Photos and testimonies:

<http://www.cybercambodia.com/dachs/>

The Legacy Project. Artistic works related to the Khmer Rouge Genocide:

<http://www.legacy-project.org/events/display.html?ID=7>

Films

Enemies of the People (2009)

The Missing Picture (2014)



WEEK 15 (Dec 11-13): Thailand – A tale of Red, Yellow, and Green

Pasuk and Baker, *A History of Thailand*, Chapters 6, 7, and 9.

Kevin Hewison and Kengkij Kiririanglarp, “‘Thai-Style’ Democracy,” in *Saying the Unsayable*, pp. 179-202.

Thongchai Winichakul, “hok Tula: Breaking the Silence on a Country’s Traumatic Past.” *Communiqué*, November-December 1996, pp. 7-8.

Links

Jonathan Head, “The mystery of the missing brass plaque,” BBC News:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-39650310>

WEEK 16: Final Exam Week – Legacies of the Southeast Asian Past

M. C. Ricklefs, et. al., *A New History of Southeast Asia*, pp. 425-471.

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 from 2:45PM to 4:45PM (CPS 317)

Good Luck!