

ANTHROPOLOGY 3780 CULTURES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

Winter Semester 2005, TR 12:30 - 1:45 pm, Location: Middlebush 309

Instructor: Dr Reed Wadley, Office: 210 Swallow Hall

Office hours: TR 2:00-3:30 pm or by appt.

Email: WadleyR@missouri.edu

Course Description

This course will acquaint you with the peoples and cultures of Southeast Asia, a diverse and fascinating part of the world that is made up of the countries of Burma (Myanmar), Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, East Timor, and the Philippines.

We begin with the prehistory of the region, the development of complex state societies, and the impact of world religions (Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam) prior to European entry into the area, as well as the culture and everyday life of historical Southeast Asians during this period. With this background, we move on to address the great diversity in the region's peasant and tribal societies, with a focus on subsistence economies, social organization, and religious practices. We will also examine the impact of European colonialism, the Southeast Asian response to colonialism, and the formation of modern nation-states. Within this context, we will cover a number of important, contemporary social and economic issues in the region, including rapid economic development, land competition, agrarian transformation, urban poverty, and the changing status of women.

Familiarity with the geography of Southeast Asia is essential for this course, and a map of the region is among the required texts. Buy it, study it, know it as you will be tested on it. A good way to use the map is to find the places mentioned in the readings, lectures, and films. If you can't find a spot on the map, ask me.

Your instructor is an anthropologist with research and other experience in Malaysia (2 years), Indonesia (3+ years), the Netherlands (3 years), and the Philippines (1 month).

Required Texts

Osborne, *Southeast Asia*, 8th ed.

Lansing, *The Balinese*

Ireson-Doolittle & Moreno-Black, *The Lao*

Nelles Travel Map: Southeast Asia

Additional readings are available through the MU Ellis Library electronic reserve (<http://eres.missouri.edu/>; course password = seasia)

WebCT

There is a course WebCT page at <https://courses.missouri.edu/>, but this only has the syllabus running right now. More as the semester progresses . . .

Course Requirements

A. “One-Minute“Essays”. For each assigned chapter in the readings, you will answer two questions: (1) What is the most significant thing I learned from this reading? and (2) What question does the reading leave me with? The first part should be between two and four sentences, and the second, a sentence or two. They may either be type- or hand-written (but legible). These will provide us with fodder for discussion and are due on the day of the assigned reading. Late “essays” will receive only half-credit if turned in within one week of the due date; otherwise, they are subject to the same policy as exams (see below).

B. Examinations. There are two in-class exams and two take-home exams. The in-class exams cover Southeast Asian geography and involve identifying general and specific locations. The take-home exams consist of two to three questions drawn from readings and lectures. They will be due in class on the following week. Additional information about length and format will be given out with the exam questions.

Exam Policy. Early exams may be arranged if you have a legitimate reason for missing an exam AND if you schedule it with the instructor well in advance. Late exams may be given ONLY if you have a very good and verifiable reason for missing one (such as a sudden death in the family, jury duty, serious illness with a doctor’s letter, etc.). No exceptions will be made. Missed exams that are not excused will be treating as failing.

Grades

Your course grade will be based on “one-minute essays” (25%), two geographical exams (15% each), two take-home exams (20% each), and class participation (5%).



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Students who have special conditions as addressed by the ADA and who need any test or course materials furnished in an alternative format should notify the instructor immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate any such needs. Students who request formal accommodation must register with the Access Office, A048 Brady Commons (882-4696) or look at <http://ada.missouri.edu>.

Academic Honesty

You are expected to observe the University’s standards for academic behavior. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism on writing assignments or cheating on exams, will be reported to the Provost’s office. Refer to the *Collected Rules and Regulations*, Section 200.010, Standard of Conduct, and Section 200.020, Rules of Procedures in Student Conduct Matters for more specific details:

<http://www.system.missouri.edu/uminfo/rules/programs/200010.htm>

<http://www.system.missouri.edu/uminfo/rules/programs/200020.htm>

Verbal Proficiency

If you have a concern regarding the instructor’s verbal communication proficiency, please contact the Undergraduate Studies Director of the Anthropology Department (107 Swallow Hall).

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Lecture and Reading Schedule (*ER* = electronic reserve item at <http://eres.missouri.edu/>; course password = seasia)

Jan	18	Introduction
	20	Osborne, Ch. 1 + <i>ER</i> (Higham & Thosarat 1994)
	25	Osborne, Ch. 2 + <i>ER</i> (Ciochon 1990)
	27	Osborne, Ch. 3
Feb	1	Osborne, Ch. 4
	3	Osborne, Ch. 5
	8	Osborne, Ch. 6
	10	Osborne, Ch. 7 + <i>ER</i> (Osseweijer IIASN 20)
	15	Osborne, Ch. 8
	17	Osborne, Ch. 9 // 1st Geography exam
	22	Osborne, Ch. 10
	24	Osborne, Ch. 11
Mar	1	Osborne, Ch. 12 + <i>ER</i> (Blumenthal 1989)
	3	Osborne, Ch. 13
	8	<i>ER</i> (Jonsson, Paredes, Colombijn, Ballard IIASN 24)
	10	Osborne, Ch. 14 & 15 // 1st Take-home exam out
	15	<i>ER</i> (Keeler 1987, Nguyen 1996, Dizon 1993, Moey 1990, Soethama 1990, Pramoedya 1968)
	17	Lansing, Ch. 1 // 1st Take-home exam due
	22	<i>Spring Break</i>
	24	<i>Spring Break</i>
	29	Lansing, Ch. 2
	31	Lansing, Ch. 3
Apr	5	Lansing, Ch. 4
	7	Lansing, Ch. 5 + <i>ER</i> (Bras, De Jonge IIASN 19)
	12	Ireson-Doolittle, Intro + <i>ER</i> (Ciochon & James 1995, Aubertin IIASN 24)
	14	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 1
	19	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 2 // 2nd Geography exam
	21	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 3
	26	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 4
	28	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 5
May	3	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 6 // 2nd Take-home exam out
	5	Ireson-Doolittle, Ch. 7
	11	2nd Take-home exam due, by 12:30 pm

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My Scale for Evaluating All Writing Assignments:

- A**
- Exceptional
 - Interesting or unusual; demonstrates sophistication of thought
 - Clear, complex, and well-developed main argument and supporting points
 - Clear, logical organization and structure
 - Critically examined sources
 - Free of grammatical and spelling errors

- B**
- Solid and fulfills the assignment
 - Clear argument but with minor lapses in development
 - Touches on argument's complexity; shows careful reading of sources
 - Logical progression of ideas, but not all evidence considered
 - A few grammatical problems but does not hamper reading

- C**
- Adequate but less effective in meeting the assignment
 - Central idea in general terms; basic comprehension of sources
 - Difficult to find logical structure
 - Over-reliance on generalizations or unrelated examples
 - Awkward or confusing sentences, difficult reading

- D**
- No clear argument or does not meet the assignment
 - Too vague or obvious argument; little complexity in ideas
 - Difficult-to-follow structure
 - Insufficient evidence

- F**
- Does not meet the assignment
 - No central argument
 - Does not use sources
 - Little apparent organization
 - No or irrelevant supporting evidence

(Adapted from Curzan and Damour [2000] First Day to Final Grade. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.)