

Course Title: International Politics of South East Asia

Course Code: POL 320

Course Instructor: Dr. Chung Chien-peng

Recommended Study Year: 2 and 3

No. of credits per Term: 3

Mode of Tuition: Lecture-Tutorial

Class Contact Hours: 3 Hours per week

Category in Major Programme: Elective

Discipline: Politics

Pre-requisite(s): None

Co-requisite(s): None

Exclusion(s): None

Exemption Requirement(s): None

Brief Course Description:

This course focuses on relations among the states of post-World War II Southeast Asia, and between Southeast Asia and the United States, India, Russia, Europe, Australia, Japan and China; traditional and non-traditional security issues on post-Cold war Southeast Asia; Southeast Asian regionalism and economic cooperation; and the impact of the events of September 11, 2001 on the region.

Aims:

To facilitate students' cumulative understanding of key features of Southeast Asia's international politics and to apply such concepts in a written context.

To make students analytically cognizant of the major areas of actual or potential conflict in Southeast Asia, such as interstate tensions among the states in the region, separatism, religiously motivated terrorism and the challenge of China's emergence as a regional great power.

To encourage students to develop original perspectives on major power interaction with Southeast Asia in ways designed to enrich the student's assimilation of the course material.

Teaching Method:

Lectures, tutorial discussions, student presentations, term papers and examination

Learning Outcomes:

This course examines the major issues and themes in Southeast Asian international politics. In this course, students will analyze the structure of international relations in the post-war period and focus on assessing great power interaction with the region, with a view to understanding the impact of the region as a conduit between the world's major powers. The evolving relationship with Russia and Europe, the three emerging Great Powers of Asia (viz China, Japan and India) and the one remaining global superpower, the US, will be examined. The class will also scrutinize the role of regional institutions and the problematic nature of inter-state relations between the ASEAN states.

Finally, the course will encourage students to briefly look at the post-Cold War emergence of "non-traditional security" issues which require a transnational approach, such as globalization and security, population growth, poverty, identity and ethnic conflict, environmental security, and transnational crime

and terrorism. Understanding the salient features of Southeast Asia's international politics, and the directions in which it is evolving, will facilitate our capacity here in Hong Kong and China to define and pursue our national interests as a major player both in the region and in the wider Asia-Pacific.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Learning outcomes are measured on the basis of students' performance during tutorial discussions and presentations (for enthusiastic participation in class and clear grasp of a chosen topic), on the term paper (in which analysis of an approved topic is demonstrated in a lucid, logical, detailed and well-organized manner), and on the examination (to assess students' overall knowledge of and ability to evaluate key concepts and core factual information relating to the course).

Assessment:

Tutorial Discussions / Presentation (20%): In the course of the academic term, each student must make one oral presentation in class. Students can choose from any one of the presentation topics listed below.

Term Paper (30%): Students are required to submit a short essay of approximately 2,000 words (including endnotes) based on a topic approved by the instructor. The essay is due by Thursday, 3 December 2009, 3.30pm. Essays must be typed and must conform to the guidelines Chicago Manual of Style Guide.

Quiz (10%): There will be a short in-class quiz to be held around the middle of the course.

Examination (40%): There will be an end-of-term examination.

Note:

Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations.

Assignments handed in late are graded down on a progressive scale.

Indicative Content:

Presentation /Term Paper Topics

Postwar Southeast Asia

- Why are the founders of ASEAN so insistent on the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of member states?
- Are alliance systems catalysts or impediments for regional stability and development in Southeast Asia?

ASEAN and the ARF: Traditional Security in Post-Cold War Southeast Asia

- Assess the successes and failures of ASEAN from its inception in 1967 to the end of the Cold War.
- What are the problems and prospects for ASEAN?

- Assess the achievements and limitations of the ARF. What are its future prospects?

Southeast Asia and the Post-9/11 World

- What is a non-traditional security issue, and why is it so defined?
- Assess the significance of the threat of terrorism in Southeast Asia and what can be done about it.

The US and Southeast Asia

- Assess the “balancer” role of the US in the region - has it been positive or negative?
- Does Southeast Asia need the US?
- Does the US need Southeast Asia?

India, Russia, Europe and Australia: Relations with Southeast Asia

- What are the problems and prospects for India’s relations with the region?
- Assess Russia’s role in Southeast Asia since the end of the Cold War.
- What are the problems and prospects for Europe-ASEAN relations?
- What are the problems and prospects for Australia’s relations with the region?

Japan and Southeast Asia

- What are Japan’s interests and objectives in Southeast Asia?
- Assess Japan’s postwar role in Southeast Asia - has it been positive or negative?
- What are the problems and prospects for Japan-Southeast Asia relations?

China and Southeast Asia

- What are China’s interests and objectives in Southeast Asia?
- Is China a threat to Southeast Asia?
- Will ASEAN be able to “socialize” China or will China subdue ASEAN?

Economic Cooperation and Regionalism

- What has been the impact of financial globalization on the political, economic and social order of regional countries?
- What is the shape of an East Asian Community and will ASEAN be in the driving seat?
- What the challenges and opportunities for Southeast Asian states in a China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement?

Required / Essential Readings:

Acharya, A., *Constructing a Security Community in Southeast Asia*, London: Routledge, 2000. Call: [RES DS526.7 .A26 2000](#)

Case, William, *Southeast Asia's Hybrid Regimes: When Do Voters Change Them?* *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 5(2), 215-237, 2005. [RES POL 320.1](#)

Dent, Christopher M., *Asia-Pacific Economic and Security Cooperation*, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003. [RES HC412 .A724178 2003](#)

Funston, N. John (ed.), *Government and Politics in Southeast Asia*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2001. Call: [RES DS526.7 .G675 2001](#)

Lim, Chong Yah, *Southeast Asia: The Long Road Ahead*, Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Company, 2004. Call: [RES HC441 .L552 2004](#)

Neher, Clark, *Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World*, Dekalb: Northern Illinois University, 2000. Call: [RES DS521 .N45 2000](#)

Rodan, Garry, Kevin Hewison and Richard Robison, *The Political Economy of Southeast Asia: Markets, Power and Contestation*, 3rd ed., 2006, South Melbourne, Vic.: Oxford University Press. [RES HC441 .P647 2006](#)

Sandhu, K.S. and Siddique S. (eds.), *The ASEAN Reader*, 2nd ed., 2003, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Call: [RES DS520 .A86 2003](#)

Solidum, Estrella D., *Politics of ASEAN – An Introduction to Southeast Asian regionalism*, Singapore: Eastern Universities Press, 2003. Call: [RES DS520 .S6 2003](#)

Severino, Rudolfo C., *Southeast Asia In search of an ASEAN Community*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2006. Call: [JZ5333.5.A9 S49 2006](#)

Tan, Gerald, *Asian Development: An Introduction to Economic, Social and Political Change in Asia*, Singapore: Eastern Universities Press, 2003. [RES HC412 .H3183 2000](#)

Recommended Readings:

Donald Emmerson, "Southeast Asia: What's in a Name?" *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, vol.15, no.1, March 1984, pp.1-21.

Tim Huxley, "Southeast Asia in the Study of International Relations: The Rise and Decline of a Region" *The Pacific Review*, vol.9, no.2, 1996, pp.199-228.

Milton Osborne, *Southeast Asia: An Introductory History* (7th edition) (St. Leonard's, NSW: Alien and Unwin, 1997), chapters 8-13.

Mak Joon Nam, "The Security Environment in Southeast Asia," in Desmond Ball (ed), *Maintaining the*

Strategic Edge (Canberra: Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University, 1999), pp. 99-126.

Anthony McGrew, "Restructuring Foreign and Defence Policy: The USA," in Anthony McGrew and Christopher Brook (eds), Asia-Pacific in the New World Order (London: Routledge, 1998), pp.158-188.

Michael Yahuda, International Politics of the Asia-Pacific (London: Routledge, 2004), chapter 4.

Chin Kin Wah, "ASEAN's Engagement with the U.S. in the 21st Century," in Sharon Siddique and Sree Kumar (eds.), The 2nd ASEAN Reader (Singapore: ISEAS), pp. 403-409.

William T Tow, Assessing US Bilateral Alliances in the Asia-Pacific's Southern Rim: Why the San Francisco System Endures (Stanford: Asia-Pacific Research Center, Institute of International Studies, Stanford University, 1999).

Satu P. Limaye, "India's Relations with Southeast Asia Takes a Wing," Southeast Asia Affairs 2003 (Singapore: ISEAS, 2003), pp. 39-51.

Vladimir Rakhmanin, "Soviet and Russian Policy towards Southeast Asia," in David Wurfel and Bruce Burton (eds), Southeast Asia in the New World Order: The Political Economy of a Dynamic Region (New York: St Martin's Press, 1996), pp.128-141.

Brian Bridges, "Western Europe and Southeast Asia," in David Wurfel and Bruce Burton (eds), Southeast Asia in the New World Order: The Political Economy of a Dynamic Region (New York: St Martin's Press, 1996), pp.204-218.

James Cotton, "The Rhetoric of Australia's Regional Policy," in Sharon Siddique and Sree Kumar (eds.), The 2nd ASEAN Reader (Singapore: ISEAS), pp. 443-449.

Takashi Shiraishi, "Japan and Southeast Asia," in Peter Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraishi (eds.), Network Power: Japan and Asia (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997), pp. 169-94.

Kenneth Pyle, "Restructuring Foreign and Defence Policy: Japan," in Anthony McGrew and Christopher Brook (eds), Asia-Pacific in the New World Order (London: Routledge, 1998), pp.121-136.

Dennis Tachiki, "Between Foreign Direct Investment and Regionalism: The Role of Japanese Production Networks," in T. J. Pempel (ed.), Remapping East Asia (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005), pp. 149-169.

Michael Leifer, "China in Southeast Asia: Interdependence and Accommodation," in David S G Goodman and Gerald Segal (eds), China Rising: Nationalism and Interdependence (London: Routledge, 1997), chapter 9.

Niklas Swanstrom, Foreign Devils, Dictatorship, or Institutional Control: China's Foreign Policy Towards Southeast Asia (Uppsala University Press), pp. 85-104, 118-51.

Alice Ba, "China and ASEAN," Asian Survey 43: 2 (2003), pp. 622-47.

Michael Leifer, ASEAN and the Security of Southeast Asia (London: Routledge, 1989), Chapter 3.6, pp. 52-88 and 150-159.

Shaun Narine, "ASEAN into the Twenty-First Century: Problems and Prospects" in Pacific Review, vol. 12, no. 3, 1999, pp.357-380.

Ralf Emmers, Cooperative Security and the Balance of Power in ASEAN and the ARF (London: RoutledgeCurzon), Chapter 5, pp. 110-27.

Alastair Ian Johnston, "Socialization in International Institutions: The ASEAN Way and International Relations Theory," in G. John Ikenberry and Michael Mastanduno (eds.) International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003), 107 - 203.

Andrew Tan and Ken Boutin (eds.), Non-Traditional Security Issues in Southeast Asia (Singapore: Select / Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, 2001), introduction.

Andrew T. H. Tan, "Southeast Asia as the 'Second Front' in the War Against Terrorism: Evaluating the Threat and Responses," Terrorism and Political Violence 15:2, 2003, pp. 112-138.

Andrew T H Tan, Security Perspectives of the Malay Archipelago (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2004).

Andrew T H Tan (ed), A Handbook of Terrorism and Insurgency in Southeast Asia (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2005)

Alan Dupont, East Asia Imperiled: Transnational Challenges to Security (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), Chapter 8, 10, pp. 153-169, 194-211.

Lorraine Elliott, "ASEAN and environment cooperation: norms, interests and identity," Pacific Review 16:1, 2003, pp. 29-52.

Stephan Haggard, Political Economy of the Asian Financial Crisis (Washington D.C.: Institute for International Economics, 2000), pp. 1-14.

Peter Katzenstein, "Introduction: Asian Regionalism in Comparative Perspective," in Peter Katzenstein and Takashi Shiraiishi (eds.), Network Power: Japan and Asia (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997), pp. 1-44.

Richard Stubbs, "ASEAN Plus Three: Emerging East Asia Regionalism," Asian Survey 42:3, 2001, pp. 440-55.

East Asia Vision Group (EAVG), "Towards an East Asian Community: Region of Peace, Prosperity and Progress," EAVG Report 2001, pp. 2-5.

John Wong and Sara Chan, "China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement," Asian Survey 43:3, 2003, pp. 507-26.

Zachary Abuza, Militant Islam in Southeast Asia (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2003), Chapter 5 – 6, pp. 189-260.

David Capie, "Between a hegemon and a hard place: the 'war on terror' and Southeast Asian-US relations," Pacific Affairs 17:2 (June 2004), 223-48.

Jonathan Chow, "ASEAN Counterterrorism Cooperation Since 9/11," Asian Survey 45:2, 2005, pp. 302-21.

David Martin Jones and M.L.R. Smith, ASEAN and East Asian International Relations: Regional Delusion (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2006), Chapter 7, pp. 196-224.