ANTH2450/GEN2332 Peoples and Cultures in Southeast Asia
Monday, 3.30-5.15
Venue: MMW 703

Instructor: Dr. FAMING, Manynooch
Contact: nychma@cuhk.edu.hk
Office Hour: By appointment
TA: Sam, Lai Sui-hei (samshlai@link.cuhk.edu.hk)
Tutorial Time: Monday 5.30-6.15

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the social and cultural complexity of Southeast Asia (SEA) region. This can be mapped as a part on mainland Southeast Asia includes the countries of Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Singapore, and Malaysia. Island Southeast Asia includes Indonesia, The Philippines, Brunei, and Timor-Leste. The course is taught as a seminar and discussions will organized around assigned readings and guest speakers from individual countries. The seminar will begin with historical background of the region, readings on the history of anthropology in the region, before moving onto strictly ethnographic accounts of individual countries. These cover belief systems, marriage and family, industrialization and urbanization, politics and government, and economic change. In addition to providing a broad and comparative survey of “traditional” Southeast Asia, the course will place special emphasis on the intellectual and practical challenges associated with modernization and development, highlighting the ways different Southeast Asian nations contend with the forces of globalization.

The principle readings are drawn from a multidisciplinary range of fields covering anthropology, art, economics, geography, history, literature, and political science. No prior knowledge of Southeast Asia is expected.

Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
1. Gain better understandings on Southeast Asia through the individual country case
2. Develop comparative skills in studying peoples and cultures of each country in SEA
3. Apply socio-cultural anthropology perspective to understand a specific group(s) of peoples and cultures in SEA

Course Requirements
a. Participation 15%
b. Tutorial discussions 15%
c. Two critical reflections 30% (15% x 2)
d. Final project 40%
Assessment Details

A. Class Participation 15%
   - **Attendance**
     - Come to class on time
     - Without distracting others (including with phones or laptops)
     - Be respectful to our guest speakers
   - **Readings**
     - Having done the readings and brought them to class
     - Bring your reading notes
   - **Discussion**
     - Share your thoughts and questions in class and our guest speakers
     - Volunteer answers to others’ questions

B. Tutorial Participation (15%)
There are 9 tutorial sessions. Students will sign up for the topic you are interested in at the **1st tutorial (Week 3)**. You will lead and facilitate the discussion on your chosen topic. Prompt attendance at each tutorial meeting, informed participation, and completion of all assigned readings. Every student is expected to be an active member in class and in contributing to a meaningful learning experience. Listening carefully to others, raising relevant questions, posing alternative interpretations, bringing in outside material to enrich class discussion via conference or other means are just some of the way to do so. How ready and conscientious you are in class will directly affect how much the whole class could gain from the course. Students will prepare at least two questions submitting to your tutor(s) prior to the tutorial meeting. Make sure that your questions have the capacity to generate the group discussion and must be drown from your own understanding of the assigned readings.

C. Two Reflections (30%)
Write your experience(s) from your vacation to a country in SEA or what you have observed during your interactions with people from SEA in Hong Kong --. If you really do not have ANY experiences, do approach me and our TA, we will help to connect you with our guest speakers. Use the readings in the course to help you analyze your impressions and thoughts.
**Date of Submission: Week 7 and 11.**

D. Final Essay 40%
Students will write a 10-13 page final paper (or about between 2,500-3,500 words) that draws on careful reading of and conversation with class themes and texts to critically analyze and advance discussions on an issue on a people(s) and culture(s) of a country(ies) in SEA.
   - **Note 1:** The paper is due on **April 18, 2017**.
   - **Note 2:** Submit a soft copy (with the signed VeriGuide receipt) to Blackboard.
   - **Note 3:** Save your final paper in Word format, and scan your signed VeriGuide receipt into PDF format. The final paper and the VeriGuide receipt should be uploaded as two separate files.
   - **Note 4:** Please name your final paper file **ANTH2450/GEN2332 Final Paper Last name First name**, and your VeriGuide receipt file **ANTH2450/GEN2332 VeriGuide Last name First name**.
## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>9 Jan.</td>
<td>Introduction: Course Overview</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>16 Jan.</td>
<td>Brief History of SEA as Region: Introduction to the region within the context of global and local dynamics.</td>
<td>Evans, Grant. 2002. “Between the global and the local there are regions, cultural areas, and national states: A review article,” <em>Journal of Southeast Asian Studies</em>, 33:1, pp: 147-162, February 2002. (No Tutorial this week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>30 Jan.</td>
<td>Chinese New Year (No Class, No Tutorial this week)</td>
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2. Ch. 36: Laos since 1975, and  
*Student sharing*: Growing in the Busy Ho Chi Minh City by *Ki Un Chun* (Tutorial 2) |

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*Note: The readings for Week 2, Week 3, and Week 5 include texts and sources that are not listed here due to space constraints. Additional details and readings can be found in the course materials provided.*
| Week 6 | 13 Feb. | **Thailand: The Ordinary Family**  
Readings:  

**Thai students sharing:** The Love for Thai Greatest King by *Ploy Prachaseree and Kris Jiraraungkiat*  
(Tutorial 3) |
|---|---|---|
| Week 7 | 20 Feb. | **Myanmar/Burma: Through Colonialism to the Struggles of Ethnic Minorities**  
Readings:  

**Myanmar student sharing:** Life in a Thai Refugee Camp by *Kheang Thae Oo, Crystal*  
(Tutorial 4) |
| Week 8 | 27 Feb. | **University Holiday (No Class, No Tutorial this week)** |
| Week 9 | 6 Mar. | **Indonesia: Islamic State in Reality**  
Readings:  

**Indonesian student sharing:** Non Islamic Life in Indonesia by *Grisella Luivindy (Medan) and Tomi Alexander Tombokan (Jakarta)*  
(Tutorial 5) |
| Week 10 | 13 Mar. | Malaysia: Islam state vs Modern Governance  
Readings:  

Malaysian student sharing: Political life in Sarawak by *Elina, Jia Wen Chin* 
(Tutorial 6) |
| Week 11 | 20 Mar. | Brunei and Timor-Leste: Small and Beautiful  
Readings:  
1. “Prologue: Brunei Versus Borneo” (pp: 1-3) and “Tradition as an Instrument for Managing Society” (pp: 258-260), in *Brunei: From the age of commerce to the 21st century* by Marie-Sybille de Vienne (2015); translated by Emilia Lanier. Singapore: NUS Press in Associate with IRASEC.  

(Tutorial 7) |
| Week 12 | 27 Mar. | The Philippines: Socio-economic bread whiner  
Readings:  

(Tutorial 8) |
| Week 13 | 3 Apr. | Singapore: Globalizing the National Integration  
Readings:  
(Tutorial 9) |
| Week 14 | 10 Apr. | Project Presentation |
| Week 15 | 17 Apr. | Conclusion: ASEAN and SEA Contemporary Cultures and Societies |