

Politics of Southeast Asia:
Directed Reading Independent Study

Course #: POLI 199
Quarter: Fall 2020
Credits: 3.0

Instructor: Ryan Tans
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Location: Online

This directed reading offers intensive work in the study of Southeast Asian politics. A region of great diversity, Southeast Asia has experienced a multitude of important political outcomes during the postcolonial era, including democracy and authoritarianism, economic growth and crisis, religious conflict and tolerance, continuing conflict and peaceful resolutions of conflict. As a result of this study, the student will:

- Describe particular political outcomes, related to the student's interests, in modern Southeast Asia.
- Develop a research project that uses primary sources to document a political outcome in Southeast Asia.

Required reading: The student will read a major work of the student's own choosing related to the politics of Southeast Asia. The student may choose to read an equivalent set of articles with instructor permission. (See suggested reading list.)

Grading basis: The study will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Course requirements:

1. Book review (25%)

In a brief essay of approximately 500 words, you will review the major work that you have chosen to read. As with all book reviews, your review should both summarize the work and assess its strengths and weaknesses. Students who choose to read a set of articles should instead write an overview summing up points of agreement and disagreement across the articles.

2. Research proposal / list of sources (10%)

Before you begin your research paper, please submit a brief proposal of approximately 250 words describing the research question that you will address and (some of) the sources that you expect to draw on during the project.

3. Research paper (65%)

The research paper should use primary sources (e.g. newspaper articles, interviews, census data, administrative or political documents) to document an important political outcome in modern Southeast Asia. In 10-20 pages, the paper should 1) elaborate the actors, interests, and actions that produced the political outcome, and 2) explain why the political outcome is significant.

Course schedule
(subject to change)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
First meeting	October 16	10am
Research proposal due	October 23	11:59pm
Second meeting	October 28	9:30am
Third meeting	November 11	9:30am
Book review due	November 20	11:59pm
Fourth meeting	December 2	9:30am
Fifth meeting	December 9	9:30am
Research paper due	December 11	11:59pm

Suggested reading list

Politics and history of Singapore

- Barr, Michael D., and Zlatko Skrbiš. 2008. *Constructing Singapore: Elitism, Ethnicity and the Nation-Building Project*. NIAS Press.
- Chng Suan Tze, Low Yit Leng, and Teo Soh Lung, eds. 2017. *1987: Singapore's Marxist Conspiracy 30 Years On*. Function 8 Limited.
- Chua Beng Huat. 2017. *Liberalism Disavowed: Communitarianism and State Capitalism in Singapore*. NUS Press.
- [Fletcher, Nancy McHenry. 1969. *The Separation of Singapore from Malaysia*. Data Paper No. 73, Southeast Asia Program, Cornell University.](#)
- Hamilton-Hart, Natasha. 2002. *Asian States, Asian Bankers: Central Banking in Southeast Asia*. Cornell University Press.
- Lau, Albert. 1998. *A Moment of Anguish: Singapore in Malaysia and the Politics of Disengagement*. Marshall Cavendish Intl.
- Mackie, J.A.C. 1974. *Konfrontasi: The Indonesia-Malaysia Dispute, 1963-1966*. Oxford University Press.
- Rahim, Lily Zubaidah. 1998. *The Singapore Dilemma: The Political and Educational Marginality of the Malay Community*. Oxford University Press.
- Tan Tai Yong. 2008. *Creating "Greater Malaysia": Decolonization and the Politics of Merger*. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.
- Tremewan, Christopher. 1994. *The Political Economy of Social Control in Singapore*. Palgrave Macmillan UK.

Land reclamation in Southeast Asia
(choose 5 articles)

- Hong Kong: Ng Mee Kam. 2006. "World-city formation under an executive-led government: The politics of harbour reclamation in Hong Kong." *Town Planning Review* 77(3): 311-338.
- Bangkok: Morita, Atsuro. 2016. "Infrastructuring Amphibious Space: The interplay of aquatic and terrestrial infrastructures in the Chao Phraya delta in Thailand." *Science as Culture* 25(1): 117-140.
- Jakarta: Betteridge, Brittany, and Sophie Webber. 2019. "Everyday resilience, reworking, and resistance in North Jakarta's kampungs." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 2(4): 944-966.
- Bali: Tans, Ryan. 2020. "Coastal Reclamation and Balinese Identity." Working paper.
- Penang: Minal Pathak. 2017. "Whose Opinion Matters, Lessons from a Stakeholder Engagement Process for Penang, Malaysia," Malaysia Sustainable Cities Program Working Paper Series.
- Johor: Lai Jia Yen and Cheng Hsien-Hsin. 2019. "Understanding Adaptation: Lessons from Local Adaptive Measures to Coastal Risks and Hazards—A Case Study of Kukup Water Village, Malaysia." *Journal of Design and Built Environment* 19(1): 13-23.
- Manila: Valenzuela, Ven Paolo Bruno, Miguel Esteban, and Motoharu Onuki. 2020. "Perception of Disasters and Land Reclamation in an Informal Settlement on Reclaimed Land: Case of the BASECO Compound, Manila, the Philippines." *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science*, Online access.

OR

- Siriwardane-de Zoysa, Rapti. 2020. "Beyond the wall: Dyking as an object of everyday governance in the Bay of Manila, Philippines." *Marine Policy* 112, Online access.
- Cebu: Resil Mojares. 1986. *The Man Who Would be President: Sergio Osmena and Philippine Politics*. M. Cacao. (Chapter TBD)
- World: Sengupta, Dhritiraj, Ruishan Chen, and Michael E. Meadows. 2018. "Building beyond land: An overview of coastal land reclamation in 16 global megacities." *Applied Geography* 90: 229-238.