

## SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

### Department of History History 2364.2 - Southeast Asia since 1800 January - April 2007

**Instructor:** Dr. James H. Morrison, Professor and Coordinator Asian Studies  
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**Class Time:** MW 4:00 – 5:15 p.m.  
**Class Location:** Loyola 283  
**Office Hours:** MW 1:00 – 4:00 or by appointment  
**Department**  
**Website:** [www.smu.ca/academic/arts/history](http://www.smu.ca/academic/arts/history)

#### Course Outline

This course will concentrate on the vibrant and at times turbulent nations of Southeast Asia. This area, including Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Brunei, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, has served as a crossroads for commercial trade and cultural influences for centuries. The course will examine pre-colonial period, European colonial administrations and American expansion over the last two centuries and trace the various nationalist movements that led to independence in the last half of the twentieth century.

The aim of the course is to present a political, economic, and cultural context for the individual to better understand this important part of Asia on the Pacific Rim. Many of the most rapidly industrializing economies in the world are concentrated in this region and an awareness by Canadians of the historic origins of these societies as well as their continuing dynamism is vital in the twenty-first century. Students will have an opportunity to develop research skills and expand their written and oral capabilities through film and book reviews, groups and individual class presentations and class participation.

#### Course Texts

Norman G. Owen, edited (2005) *The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History*

Karen Connolly (1992) *Touch the Dragon: A Thai Journal*

### **Method of Assessment/Deadlines**

A. Map quiz	10%	(January 24, 2007)
B. Book review – minimum 1,000 words	10%	(January 31, 2007)
C. Mid-term test (chapters 1-6, 12-14, 22, 24)	25%	(February 14, 2007)
D. Film analysis – minimum 1,500 words	20%	(March 28, 2007)
E. Final exam	25%	(TBA)
F. Class marks (participation/attendance)	10%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**Explanation of assignments: please read carefully**

#### **A. Map Quiz**

It is impossible to understand the region's development without a good knowledge of the main geographical features. You should know the present-day political boundaries of the Southeast Asian nations, the locations of the major mountains, cities and rivers, the major islands and island groups (Java, Sumatra, Kalimantan) and major bodies of water.

#### **B. Book Review**

Book review (minimum 1,000 words) – students are to review *Touch the Dragon* by Canadian writer Karen Connolly. As we can't take the class to Thailand, this text was chosen as the next best thing. It is a means to immerse you in the Thai culture through Karen's eyes, ears and feelings. Your review should include your reaction to her experiences and may include your own experiences if you have traveled to similar locales. Please follow the departmental style guide as regards footnoting and citation of sources. Check department website.

#### **C. Mid-Term Test**

This test will be held during one full-class period and consist of identifications and/or essay questions.

#### **D. Film Analysis (minimum 1,500 words)**

Please note immediately that this is an "analysis" not a "review". In other words, yet another review of *Killing Fields* drawn from various web sites is not wanted here. Later in the term, a list of questions about the film will be distributed and these will require you

to not just view the film, but also assess its accuracy and how it relates to the history of Cambodia and the wider world. The film will be shown in class if there is time in the term.

**E. Final Exam**

The final exam will include only material not covered by the mid-term. It will have the same format as the mid-term and be held during the scheduled exam period.

**F. Class Marks**

This mark is based on class attendance and class participation. In the latter case, it is based on the quality of the participation not the quantity.

**Readings**

<b><u>Classes</u></b>	<b><u>Lectures</u></b>	<b><u>Readings</u></b>
Jan. 3	Introduction to course	
Jan. 8	Introduction to Southeast Asia	Text pp. xvii-xxiii Text Introduction, Ch. 1
Jan. 10	Personal tour	Hong Lysa "What is Southeast Asian History?"
Jan. 15	Themes & Issues in SEA	Text Chs. 2, 3, 4
Jan. 17	Creating Modern Bureaucracies	Text, Ch. 14
Jan. 22	Economic Transformation	Text, Ch. 12
Jan. 24	Map Quiz	
Jan. 29-31	Social Change: Urban/Rural Resistance	Text, Ch. 13
Feb. 5-7	Thailand/Burma: Monks and Militants	Chs. 5, 22 (Burma) Chs. 6, 24 (Thailand)
Feb. 12	Philippines: From Monastery to Hollywood	Chs. 11, 19
<b>Feb. 14</b>	<b>Mid-Term</b>	
<b>Feb. 19 – 23</b>	<b>Study Break</b>	
Feb. 26-28	Vietnam/Cambodia: French Colonial Rule	Chs. 7, 23 (Vietnam) Chs. 6, 25 (Cambodia)

<b><u>Classes</u></b>	<b><u>Lectures</u></b>	<b><u>Readings</u></b>
March 5-7	Indonesia/Malaysia: Differing Decolonization	Chs. 9, 20 (Indonesia) Chs. 10, 21 (Malaysia)
March 12-14	Indonesia/Malaysia: Merdeka	Chs. 20, 31 (Indonesia) Chs. 21, 29, 30 (Malaysia)
March 19-21	Thailand/Burma: Old Rivals New Ideologies	Chs. 22, 37 (Burma) Chs. 24, 32 (Thailand)
March 26-28	Vietnam/Cambodia: The War that Wouldn't End	Chs. 23, 34 (Vietnam) Chs. 25, 35 (Cambodia)
April 2	Philippines: Huks, Marcos and Aquino	Chs. 19, 33
April 4	Consultancy	

## **Readings**

Below is a list of readings for History 2364.2. Lectures are contextual to the readings and the lecturer is one resource among many which must be consulted in order to be successful in the course. Assigned readings as well as the suggested readings in the accompanying list are integral to a comprehensive understanding of the lectures. Also check the WebCT site for readings, maps and visuals.

### **Suggested Reading List**

Abuza, Zachary. *Militant Islam in Southeast Asia: Crucible of Terror* (Boulder, 2003).

Andaya, B.W. and L.Y. *A History of Malaysia* (New York 1982).

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities* (New York, 1983).

Aung San Suu Kyi. *Freedom From Fear* (NY, 1991).

Carey, Peter (edtd). *Burma: The Challenge of Change in a Divided Society* (New York, 1997).

Chandler, David P. *The Tragedy of Cambodian History* (Boulder, 1991).

Chandler, D.P. *A History of Cambodia from Indianisation to Independence* (Boulder 1983).

Christie, Clive. *A Modern History of South East Asia* (New York, 1996).

Duiker, William J. *Ho Chi Minh* (N.Y. 2000).

Ghosh, Amitav (novel). *The Glass War* (New York, 2000).

Gottesman, Evan. *Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge: Inside the Politics of Nation Building* (New Haven, 2003).

Hall, D.G.E. *A History of Southeast Asia* (London 1968).

Hildebrand, George & Porter Goreth. *Cambodia: Starvation and Revolution* (New York, 1976).

Hong, Lysa. A History@ from *An Introduction to Southeast Asian Studies* (London 1996).

Jones, F.C. *Japan=s New Order in East Asia 1937-1945* (London, 1974).

Karnow, Stanley. *In Our Image: America=s Empire in the Philippines* (New York, 1989).

Karnow, Stanley. *Vietnam: A History* (New York, 1983).

Kartini, Radan Ajang. *Letters of a Javanese Princess* (New York, 1964).

Kiernan, Ben. *The Pol Pot Regime: Race, Power and Genocide in Cambodia Under The Khmer Rouge* (New Haven, 2001).

Kosut, Hal (edtd.). *Cambodia and the Vietnam War* (New York, 1971).

Lam, Truong Buu. *Colonialism Experienced: Vietnamese Writings on Colonialism 1900-1931*.

Lloyd, Grayson & Shannon Smith. *Indonesia Today: Challenges of History* (Singapore, 2001).

Martin, Marie Alexander. *Cambodia: A Shattered Society* (Berkley, 1994).

Power, Samantha. *A Problem From Hell* (N.Y., 2003).

Pramoedya, Ananta Toer (novel), *This Earth of Mankind* (N.Y., 1995).

Purcell, V. *The Chinese in Southeast Asia* (New Haven 1964).

Ramusack, Barbara & Sharon Sievers. *Women in Asia: Restoring Women to History* (Bloomington, 1999)

Ricklefs, M.C. *A History of Modern Indonesia* (MacMillan: London 1981).

Rizal, José. *Noli Me Tangere* (in translation) (1886).

Rizal, José. *Political and Historical Writings* (Manila, 1961).

Ross, R.R. (ed). *Cambodia: A Country Study* (Washington, 1990).

Shawcross, William. *The Quality of Mercy: Cambodian Holocaust & Modern Conscience* (Glasgow, 1984).

Shawcross, William. *Sideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia* (N.Y., 1987 and 2002).

Suryadinata, Leo (edtd.). *Ethnic Chinese as Southeast Asians* (Singapore, 1997).

Turnbull, C. Mary. *A History of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei* (Wellington, New Zealand 1989).

Vickery, Michael. *Cambodia (1975-1982)*, (Boston 1984).

Wyatt, David K. *Thailand: A Short History* (New Haven 1984).

## **Reference**

Embree, Ainslee T. *Encyclopedia of Asian History*, 4 volumes (New York, 1988).

## **Films**

Students should be aware that all films are written/filmed from a particular point-of-view and are not always historically accurate nor do they express a variety of perspectives. The following represents a selection of films that may be referred to during the course and may be useful to provide a context to the history of Southeast Asia. If you know of others that may be of interest, please let me know. Google away! Please note: Watching all or even some of these films will not guarantee passing the course!

Anna and the King of Siam (1946)	Thailand
Three Came Home (1950)	Borneo/Sarawak
Outpost in Malaya (1952)	Malaysia
Harp of Burma (Birumano Tategoto (1956)	Burma
Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)	Thailand/Burma
The Ugly American (1963)	Southeast Asia
Apocalypse Now (1978)	Vietnam
The Deer Hunter (1978)	Vietnam
Killing Fields (1983)	Cambodia
Saigon: The Year of the Cat (1983)	Vietnam
The Year of Living Dangerously (1983)	Indonesia
Platoon (1986)	Vietnam
Indochine (1990)	Vietnam
The Scent of Green Papaya (1993)	Vietnam
Heaven and Earth (1993)	Vietnam
Beyond Rangoon (1995)	Burma
Anna and the King (1999)	Thailand (remake of 1946)
The Quiet America (2002)	Vietnam

