



ASEAN in Today's World 2020
Multiculturalism in Asia

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Course Overview

This course focuses on multicultural dimensions in Southeast Asia and surrounding countries. The course introduces students to the evolution of nation state and society in Southeast Asia through the traditional, colonial and post- independence periods. Through this temporal and thematic approach, the course helps students to understand how Southeast Asia became multicultural. Part 1 of the course focuses on the theme of religion and culture in the region, in particular the dynamics of the religious and cultural experiences that are both diverse and multicultural. Part 2 of the course will delineate the evolution of multiculturalism in SEA as witnessed through the early formative years of the Age of Commerce and colonialism in Southeast Asia and the variations of the practice of multiculturalism by nation-states in SEA today.

Instructor:

Part 1: 24 – 28 Feb 2020 Dr. Hiroko Ikuta (KU)
Part 2: 2 - 4 March 2019 Dr. Mala Rajo Sathian (UM)

Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. Gain better understanding of Southeast Asian society from social and cultural perspectives.
2. Understand the evolution of multiculturalism in Southeast Asia.
3. Relate to his/her own society and culture through comparative perspectives.

Course evaluation

Group Work	20%
Presentation (Based on Report)	30 %
Report	30 %
Attendance and Participation in Class	20 %

Evaluation Scheme

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Schedule PART 1: Dr. Ikuta

ASC 1 (24 Feb 2020): Introduction to ASEAN and Harmony Building.

All hard copies of reading materials during ASC 2 to 5 will be provided during the class.

ASC 2 (25 Feb 2020): “Language, Culture, and Communication”

ASC 3 (26 Feb 2020): “Identity and Multiculturalism in ASEAN”

ASC 4 (27 Feb 2020): “Religion and Society in Contemporary Asia.

ASC 5 (28 Feb 2020): “Final Presentation and Current Topics in Southeast Asia” and wrap up the first half of the course.

Schedule PART 2: Dr. Sathian

ASC 6 (1 March 2020)

Diversity of People and Cultures of Southeast Asia

REF: Winzeler. R. 2011. *The Peoples of Southeast Asia Today: Ethnography, Ethnology and Change in a Complex Region*. US: AltaMira Press.

Video/Documentary Screening

ASC 7 (2 March 2020)

Colonialism and ‘Divide and Rule’ in Southeast Asia

REF: Anthony Reid. 2015. *A History of Southeast Asia, Critical Crossroads*. UK: Wiley Blackwell.

Video/Documentary Screening

ASC 8 (3 March 2020)

Nationalism and Nation Building in Southeast Asia

REF: Suryadinata, Leo. 2015. *The Making of Southeast Asian Nations: State, Ethnicity, Indigenism and Citizenship*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd.

ASC 9 (4 March 2020)

Multicultural Societies: Malaysia ‘Truly Asia’ and Other Case Studies

REF: Goh, Daniel P.S., Gabrielpillai, Matilda, Holden, Philip & Khoo, Gaik Cheng. 2009 (Eds.). *Race and Multiculturalism in Malaysia and Singapore*. New York: Routledge.
Video/Documentary Screening

** Specific References and other related reading materials, videos and newspaper clippings will be provided with the respective lecture slides in class.

Class Policies:

1. All students are encouraged to actively participate in the class. Since we are unable to have enough face-to-face dialogue, much of your learning, retention and evaluation will depend upon your ability. Make your presence known and interact with your fellow students during the discussion as well as in-class group assignment.
2. We come from countries with different cultures, manner and lifestyle. Be respectful and polite to each other. You should carefully consider the words, attitudes and keep avoiding offensive remarks during the discussion and in-class group assignment. If you strongly disagree with your professor or classmates, it is a good idea to speak with him/her after class.
3. When you have a question or comment, please raise your hand first as a courtesy to your classmates and the professor. Remember, your questions are not an imposition – they are always welcome. So, ask questions! You will learn more, it makes the class more interesting, and you are helping others learn as well.
4. Students must turn their smartphones off or turn to silence mode before the class. You can use your laptop/tablet and smartphones only when required by the instructor during in-class assignment.