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Fall 2012

DIPL 6611 International Relations of Southeast Asia

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Murphy, Ann Marie PhD, "DIPL 6611 International Relations of Southeast Asia" (2012). *Diplomacy Syllabi*.
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

DIPL 6611
FALL 2012

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Thurs. 1-3

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class examines the international politics of Southeast Asia from a systems perspective. As secondary states geographically located in an area of great power interest, Southeast Asian countries have traditionally operated in an international system in which the "rules of the game" were largely written by great powers. These rules, in turn, create the context within which Southeast Asian states operate. This course explores how and why Southeast Asia evolved from a region of Western colonies to Cold War dominoes and later to one of economic dynamism. It then examines the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997, changes in the balance of power between the United States, China and Japan, and the rise of transnational challenges such as terrorism, environmental challenge and pandemic disease. The course attempts to determine how these contemporary events affect the ability of Southeast Asian countries to pursue key political, economic, and security interests, both individually and collectively through regional institutions such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Regional Forum, and the East Asian Summit.

REQUIREMENTS

The instructor presumes that students have a general understanding of Southeast Asian domestic politics and the foreign policies of China, Japan and the U.S. toward the Southeast Asian region. Students whose background is weak in Southeast Asian politics should read David J. Steinberg, ed., *In Search of Southeast Asia* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1987) p. 347-442 which is available on electronic reserve at Walsh Library.

A textbook, Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia: The Struggle For Autonomy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), second edition, has been ordered at the book store. The second edition varies greatly from the first, so make sure you purchase the correct book.

All students are expected to do the required reading and come to class prepared to participate in class discussions. Class attendance and participation account for 10% of the final grade. A take home essay exam that will be distributed on September 20 and due September 27 will account for 30% of your grade.

Michael Schaller, *Altered States: The United States and Japan Since the Occupation* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1997).

John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1982).

Key Questions: What role did Southeast Asia occupy in Western colonial policy? What impact did the Japanese interregnum have on Southeast Asia? What was American policy toward Southeast Asia in the immediate postwar period? How did the Cold War come to Southeast Asia and what role did Southeast Asia occupy within it? How was Southeast Asia connected to broader American strategic goals? Once the Cold War system began, what rules governed the relations between Southeast Asian countries and well as their relations with the superpowers?

Sept. 13 Class 3: The Height of the Cold War in Southeast Asia: The Vietnam War

Required:

Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia: The Struggle For Autonomy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), pp. 63-79.

D.R. Sar Desai, *Vietnam: Past and Present*, (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1998) p. 65-91. Very general history of the Vietnam War.

Charles Morrison, "Vietnam" in Charles E. Morrison and Astri Suhrke, *Strategies of Survival: The Foreign Policy Dilemmas of Smaller Asian States* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1978). This chapter examines the foreign policies of the two Vietnamese states, particularly their negotiations with their key external allies, China and the Soviet Union for the DRV and the US for South Vietnam.

For the end of the Indochina wars on Laos,

Arnold R. Isaacs, *Without Honor*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983) pp. 153-181

For the end of the Indochina War on Cambodia

Arnold R. Isaacs, *Without Honor*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983) pp. 188-240

For a controversial assessment of the lessons of Vietnam for U.S. foreign policy writ large by the Defense Secretary

Robert McNamara, *In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam* (New York: Random House, 1995) pp. 2-16.

Recommended:

As you read Chanda's account of the diplomatic negotiations between Vietnam, Cambodia, China, the US and Moscow during this period, at what critical points could history have been altered such that US-Vietnamese relations were restored and the war against Cambodia averted?

Sept. 27 Class 5 Conference on Southeast Asian Foreign Policy at Columbia

***Essays Due**

Oct. 4 Class 6 Southeast Asian Economic Miracles & the Crash of 1997

Required Readings: General Introduction:

Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia: The Struggle For Autonomy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), pp. 201-232.

For the international conditions of Southeast Asia's economic rise and fall:

Greg Felker, "Southeast Asian Development in Regional and Historical Perspective" in Mark Beeson, *Contemporary Southeast Asia* (New York: Palgrave, 2000) p. 50-74.

For an assessment of the crisis and its regional dimension:

T.J. Pempel, "Introduction" and "Regional Ups, Regional Downs" in T.J. Pempel *The Politics of the Asian Economic Crisis* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1999), pp. 1-16, and 62-78.

For a good discussion of postwar development in a key Southeast Asian country:

Richard Doner and Ansil Ramsey, "Thailand: from Economic Miracle to Economic Crisis" in Karl D. Jackson, ed., *Asian Contagion*, (Boulder: Westview Press, 1999).

For the very different ways in which the Asian Financial Crisis is remembered, as a well as a discussion of China's economic rise:

Donald Hellman, "A Decade After the Asian Financial Crisis: Regionalism and International Architecture in a Globalized World" *Asian Survey*, Vol. 47, pp. 834-849.

Key Questions: What were the international economic conditions under which Southeast Asian countries emerged as some of the world's fastest growing economies? What domestic factors encouraged economic growth? What combination of international and domestic factors led to the Southeast Asian economic crisis? How have Southeast Asian attitudes toward globalization changed as a result of the crisis? To what extent does the current international system approach the American "liberal international order" described by Rotter in *The Path to Vietnam*?

Required Readings:

Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia: The Struggle For Autonomy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), pp. 169-200.

Justin Hastings, *No Man's Land: Globalization, Territory, and Clandestine Groups in Southeast Asia* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2010), chapters 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8, on blackboard.

International Crisis Group Reports, TBA

Recommended:

Zachary Abuza, *Militant Islam in Southeast Asia: Crucible of Terror* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2003) or Abuza "Tentacles of Terror: Al Qaeda's Southeast Asian Network" *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, Vol. 24, 2002.

Oct. 25 Class 9 Maritime Security in Southeast Asia

Required Readings:

Lesek Buszynski and Iskandar Sazlan, "Maritime Claims and Energy Cooperation in the South China Sea" *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, April 2007, Vol. 29, No. 1, 2007.

Ian Storey, "Maritime Security in Southeast Asia: Two Cheers for Regional Cooperation" *Southeast Asian Affairs*, 2009, pp. 33-56.

US, China: Conflicting Interests in Southeast Asia, *Stratfor* August 26, 2010.

Donald Emmerson, "China's Frown Diplomacy in Southeast Asia, *Asia Times*, October 5, 2010, available at <http://www.atimes.com/atimes/China/LJ05A02.html>

Recent Articles TBA

Recommended:

Clive Schofield, "Unlocking the Seabed Resources in the Gulf of Thailand" *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, Vol. 29, No. 2, 2007.

Yoichiro Sato, Southeast Asian Receptiveness to Japanese Maritime Security Cooperation, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, September 2007.

Naary Khalid, "With a Little Help from My Friends: Capacity Building in the Straits of Malacca" *Contemporary Southeast Asia* Vol. 31, No. 2, 2009.

Marc Lantiegne, "China's Maritime Security and the Malacca Dilemma" *Asian Security*, Vol. 4, No.2.

Nan Li, "The Evolution of China's Naval Strategy: From Near Coast and Near Seas to Far Seas" *Asian Security*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 1999.

Diane K. Mauzy, "The Human Rights and 'Asian Values' Debate in Southeast Asia: Trying to Clarify the Key Issues" *Pacific Review* 10 (1997).

Key Questions: What are the key human rights issues in Southeast Asia? Are there different conceptions of democracy and human rights in Asia and the West? What is the difference between democracy and good governance? What, if anything, can and should the international community do in response to egregious human rights violations in a country like Burma during Cyclone Nagris? To what extent do you believe that external pressure on Burma by the international community helped produce its recent political opening?

Nov.15 No Class, Professor in Singapore Students to work on papers

Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 29 Class 12 ASEAN and the Future of Asian Regionalism: Southeast Asian Countries as Rule-makers?

Required:

Donald Weatherbee, *International Relations in Southeast Asia: The Struggle For Autonomy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009), pp. 91-126, and pp. 297-311.

Articles on US joining EAS, discussions over Code of Conduct in South China Sea TBA

Key Questions: How have great power security interests toward Southeast Asia changed in the postwar era? To what extent and by what means can Southeast Asia countries shape the regional post-war security system? What are the strengths and limitations of the ARF, the EAS and other ASEAN-centric regional organizations? Why did the US announce in July 2010 that it will join the EAS?

Dec. 6 Student Presentations: Class Meets 12-3:30

RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH PAPERS

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) <http://www.apecsec.org.sg>

Asia Society Asia Source Homepage <http://www.asiasource.org>

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) <http://www.asean.or.id>

BBC <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/>

Channel News Asia <http://www.channelnewsasia.com>

China Daily <http://www.chinadaily.net>

China Embassy to the United States <http://www.china-embassy.org/>

Scholarly Journals

As wonderful as the web is for finding information, scholarly journals still form the backbone of our academic work. Some journals helpful for the study of Asia and international affairs are listed below:

Asian Journal of Political Science

Asian Perspective

Asian Survey

Australian Journal of International Affairs

Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars

Contemporary Southeast Asia

Current History

Foreign Affairs

Foreign Policy

Journal of Contemporary Asia

Pacific Affairs

Pacific Review

Perspectives on Politics