

This version: July 31, 2021

**Political Economy of Southeast Asia (8753.677)**  
**SNU GSIS**  
**Fall 2021**

Tue 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
Building 140-2, Room 202

Instructor: Oh, Yoon Ah (yoonah.oh@snu.ac.kr)  
Office Hours: By appointment  
TA: Alice Jiye Lee (ljycekllhk@snu.ac.kr)

### Course Description

This course is designed to introduce graduate students to key political economy issues of contemporary Southeast Asia. We investigate the dynamics of economic development, political crises, and social conflicts of the region while paying special attention to their interactions. Domestic issues will be linked to external relations, both at the country and regional level. While recognizing that each Southeast Asian country is unique in its economic development strategy, political system, and social relations, this course also explores whether regional integration as well as globalization has led to convergence in national experiences and how we may study them. This course provides students with opportunities to work with both qualitative and quantitative research methods.

### Instructional Methods (subject to change based on University guidance related to COVID-19)

Synchronous online classes on Zoom (September and October)

In-person classes (November and December)

### Course Requirements and Evaluation

1	Class attendance and participation	20 %
2	Replication-extension data exercise	20 %
3	Research proposal and presentation	30 %
4	Final exam	30 %

1. Attendance and participation: Students are expected to do the readings before they come to class and engage discussions.

2. Data replication and extension exercises: Detailed instructions will be provided.

3. Research proposal: Students will write a research proposal on the topics related to the political economy of Southeast Asia. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester. Toward the end of the semester, students will make in-class presentations about their proposal.

4. Final exam: Students will take a **24-hour take-home exam**. Detailed instructions will be provided.

### Course Reading

There is no single text for this course. Some of the reading materials will be available through ETL. Students are expected to find journal articles through the SNU library system.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be treated lightly. It will result in lowered or failing grades as well as the possibility of more serious punishments.

## **Use of Electronic Devices for In-Person Classes**

You may use laptops or tablets in class to take notes or consult readings. Any other use of electronic devices is prohibited. Violating this policy will negatively impact your participation grade.

## **Recording Policy**

Video and/or audio recording of any course activity is prohibited. Students with approved accommodations from the Center for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present the accommodation letter to the instructor in advance of any recording being done.

## **Course Schedule**

### **Week 1 (Sept 7): Introduction and Course Overview**

No readings

### **Week 2 (Sept 14): Historical Overview of Southeast Asian Development Performance**

Coxhead, Ian. 2015. "Introduction: Southeast Asia's Long Transition." In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*, ed. Ian Coxhead. Routledge. Pp. 3-21.

\* Data exercise workshop TBC

### **Week 3 (Sept 21): Chuseok**

### **Week 4 (Sept 28): Trade, Investment and Industrialization in Southeast Asian Development**

Perkins, Dwight H. 2013. *East Asian development: Foundations and Strategies*. Harvard University Press, Chapters 4 and 5 (For Chapter 5, focus on the Vietnam part)

### **Weeks 5 (Oct 5): Agricultural Development in Southeast Asia**

Timmer, C. Peter. 2015. "The Dynamics of Agricultural Development and Food Security in Southeast Asia: Historical Continuity and Rapid Change." In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*, ed. Ian Coxhead. Routledge. Pp. 89-113.

Studwell, Joe. 2013. *How Asia Works: Success and Failure in the World's Most Dynamic Region*. New York: Grove Press. Introduction and Part I.

Warr, Peter. 2019. "Economic Development in Post-War Thailand." In *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Thailand*,

ed. Pavin Chachavalpongpun. Routledge. Pp. 36-51.

### **Weeks 6 (Oct 12): Natural Resources, Environment, and Development in Southeast Asia**

Shively, Gerald and Tim Smith. 2015. "Natural Resources, Environment and Economic Development in Southeast Asia." In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*, ed. Ian Coxhead. Routledge. Pp. 114-135.

Hamilton-Hart, Natasha. 2017. "The Legal Environment and Incentives for Change in Property Rights Institutions." *World Development* 92 (April): 167-176.

### **Weeks 7 (Oct 19): Land Tenure and Development in Southeast Asia**

Cleary, Mark, and Peter Eaton. 1996. *Tradition and Reform: Land Tenure and Rural Development in South-East Asia*. Oxford University Press, [Chapters 1-5](#)

\* Recommended:

Boomgaard, Peter. 2009. "Labour, Land, and Capital Markets in early Modern Southeast Asia from the Fifteenth to the Nineteenth century." *Continuity and Change* 24(1): 55-78.

Pendleton, Robert L. 1947. "Land Use in Southeast Asia." *Far Eastern Survey* 16(3): 25-29.

### **Week 8 (Oct 26): Land Tenure and Development in Southeast Asia**

Cleary, Mark, and Peter Eaton. 1996. *Tradition and Reform: Land Tenure and Rural Development in South-East Asia*. Oxford University Press, [Chapters 6-10](#)

### **Week 9 (Nov 2): Land Titling and Development in Southeast Asia**

Van der Eng, Pierre. 2016. "After 200 Years, Why Is Indonesia's Cadastral System Still Incomplete? In *Land and Development in Indonesia: Searching for the People's Sovereignty*, eds. John F. McCarthy and Kathryn Robinson. ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute. Pp. 227-244.

Jones, David S. 2010. "Land Registration and Administrative Reform in Southeast Asian States: Progress and Constraints." *International Public Management Review* 11(1): 67-89.

\* Recommended:

USAID. 2017. *Land Tenure and Property Rights Regional Report: East and Southeast Asia*.

### **Week 10 (Nov 9): Land and Development in Indonesia**

McCarthy, John F., and Kathryn Robinson. 2016. *Land and Development in Indonesia: Searching for the People's Sovereignty*. ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute. [Chapters 7, 11](#).

### **Week 11 (Nov 16): Land Disputes in Cambodia and Laos**

Diepart, Jean-Christophe. 2015. *The Fragmentation of Land Tenure Systems in Cambodia: Peasants and The Formalization of Land Rights*. Paris: Technical Committee on Land Tenure and Development.

Un, Kheang, and Sokbunthoeun So. 2011. "Land Rights in Cambodia: How Neopatrimonial Politics Restricts Land

Policy Reform.” *Pacific Affairs* 84(2): 289-308.

Baird, Ian G. 2020. “Problems for The Plantations: Challenges for Large-scale Land Concessions in Laos And Cambodia.” *Journal of Agrarian Change* 20(3): 387-407.

\* Recommended:

Brickell, Katherine, and Simon Springer. 2016. *The Handbook of Contemporary Cambodia*. Taylor & Francis. [Ch 12, 14, 19](#)

Diepart, Jean-Christophe and David Dupuis. 2014. “The Peasants in Turmoil: Khmer Rouge, State Formation and the Control of Land in Northwest Cambodia.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 41 (4): 445–68.

### **Week 12 (Nov 23): Economic Linkages between Southeast Asia and China**

Booth, Anne. 2014. “Economic Relations between China, India And Southeast Asia: Coping with Threats and Opportunities.” In *Trade, Development, and Political Economy in East Asia: Essays in Honour of Hal Hill*, eds. Prema-chandra Athukorala, Arianto A. Patunru, and Budy P. Resosudarmo. ISEAS Publishing. Pp. 67-89.

Coxhead, Ian. 2007. “A New Resource Curse? Impacts of China’s Boom on Comparative Advantage and Resource Dependence in Southeast Asia.” *World Development* 35 (7): 1099-1119.

### **Week 13 (Nov 30): Student Presentations**

### **Week 14 (Dec 7): Student Presentations**

### **Week 15 (Dec 14): Final Exam**

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