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Political Economy of Southeast Asia (8753.677)
SNU GSIS
Spring 2022

Thursday 10:00-13:00.
Building 140-2, Room 201

Instructor: Oh, Yoon Ah (yoonah.oh@snu.ac.kr)
Office Hours: By appointment
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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)

The default mode of instruction: In-person classes

Synchronous online classes on Zoom when necessary

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1	Class attendance and participation	20 %
2	Research proposal and presentation	30 %
3	Mid-term	20 %
4	Final exam (Cumulative)	30 %

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

2. **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. Submit the proposal via eTL.

3. Mid-term: Students will take a **3-hour take-home exam**.

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 (Mar 3): Introduction and Course Overview

No readings

Week 2 (Mar 10): Historical Overview of Southeast Asian Development

Coxhead, Ian. 2015. *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*. Routledge. Chapters 1 and 6

Week 3 (Mar 17): Understanding Southeast Asian Development

Perkins, Dwight H. 2013. *East Asian development: Foundations and Strategies*. Harvard University Press, Chapters TBC

Coxhead, Ian. 2015. *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Economics*. Routledge. Chapters 8,15, and 17

Weeks 4 (Mar 24): Southeast Asian Development: Transition Economies

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

Myanmar reading TBC

Weeks 5 (Mar 31): Agrarian Problem, Land Reform, and Southeast Asia Development

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.

* Recommended:

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.

Weeks 6 (April 7): Population, Demographic Change and Urbanization in Southeast Asia

Jones, Gavin W. 2013. "The Population of Southeast Asia." Asia Research Institute Working Paper Series No. 196. National University of Singapore.

Peng, Tey Nai. 2017. "Southeast Asia's Demographic Situation, Regional Variations, and National Challenges." *Southeast Asian Affairs 2017*. ISEAS Publishing. pp. 55-82.

* Recommended:

Yap, Kioe Sheng and Moe Thuzar. 2012. *Urbanization in Southeast Asia: Issues and Impacts*. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Martinez, Rafael, and Irna Nurlina Masron. 2020. "Jakarta: A city of cities." *Cities* 106: 102868.

Morley, Ian. 2018 "Manila." *Cities* 72: 17–33.

Morley, Ian. 2013. "Rangoon." *Cities* 31: 601–614.

Weeks 7 (April 14): Southeast Asian Corporate Sector

Carney, Richard W., and Travers Barclay Child. 2013. "Changes to the ownership and control of East Asian corporations between 1996 and 2008: The primacy of politics." *Journal of financial economics* 107(2): 494-513.

Menon, Jayant and Thiam Hee Ng. 2013. "Are Government-Linked Corporations Crowding Out Private Investment in Malaysia?" *Asian Development Bank Economic Working Paper Series* No. 345.

Bertrand, Marianne, Simon Johnson, Krislert Samphantharak, and Antoinette Schoar. 2008. "Mixing family with business: A study of Thai business groups and the families behind them." *Journal of financial Economics*. 88(3): 466-498.

* **Research Proposal Topic Due**

Week 8 (April 21): Economic Linkages between Southeast Asia and China

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.

Kubo, Koji, Bill Pritchard, and Aye Sandar Phyo. 2021. "How Chinese demand for fresh fruit and vegetables is creating new landscapes of rural development and vulnerability in Southeast Asia: Insights from the Myanmar melon frontier." *Geoforum* 122: 32-40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2021.03.008>

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.

Week 9 (April 28): Mid-Term

Week 10 (May 5): Land Tenure and Development in Southeast Asia (Public holiday but we will meet online)

Cleary, Mark, and Peter Eaton. 1996. *Tradition and Reform: Land Tenure and Rural Development in South-East Asia*. Oxford University Press, Chapters TBC

* 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 11 (May 12): Land Titling 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 TBC

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

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.

* Recommended:

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

Week 12 (May 19): Land Governance 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 13 (May 26): 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, and 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 14 (June 2): Student Presentations

Week 15 (June 9): Review and Final Exam

* Research Proposal Due at 10 am

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