Southeast Asia in Context: The Region at a Glance (22 Jun - 24 July 2020)

NOTE: This is a Fieldtrip Module. So 3hr classes twice a week

Teaching Staff: Dr. Effendy seameah@nus.edu.sg
Teaching assistant: Ms Violet
Classroom: To be announced

Schedule:

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<td>22 June (Monday-10am-1pm)</td>
<td>Southeast Asia Introduction to Southeast Asian history and culture: Emphasis on Indonesia.</td>
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<td>2) Lecture 2</td>
<td>23 June 2020 (Tuesday-10am-1pm)</td>
<td>Post-Colonial Indonesia and the complexities of Nation building.</td>
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<td>3) Lecture 3</td>
<td>29 June 2020 (Monday 10am-1pm)</td>
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<td>5) Fieldtrip</td>
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<td>5) Lecture 5</td>
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<td>7) Lecture 7</td>
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<td>This will be a short lecture on what makes an effective essay and presentation. Followed by individual and group consultations. If you need help, just ask me in this session.</td>
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Assessments 100% C.A

1) Participation in lectures/seminar 20% of the final grade

Sharing your ideas with your peers and debating with them will be crucial. So speak up and have fun exchanging ideas!

2) Individual essay 2500 words 40% the final grade. Date of submission 21 July 2020 (Tuesday) before 1159pm

This is an academic essay of between 2000 and 2500 words (Word count excludes bibliography and footnotes. Essay must be double-spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12).

Essays must be constructed by students individually and based on any topic of their choice. The essay must revolve around an aspect of Southeast Asia and/or Indonesia discussed in the lecture(s). Essays should not be mere descriptions of a social phenomena e.g. "Indonesian society in Singapore". They must contain a good research question that attempts to bring new insights to our understanding of Southeast Asia and Indonesia.

Papers must contain a title and a subtitle. Examples of possible titles include:

1. Neo-Slavery: Understanding the abuse of Indonesian domestic workers in Singapore
2. I bought my expensive Nasi Ayam Penyet at U-town: Problematizing the effects of globalisation on Indonesian food in Singapore and Southeast Asia.

How to submit: I only need you to submit your soft copy to the module’s SE2880A LumiNUS student submission folder entitled “Individual Essay”. Check it for plagiarism via Turnititin and make sure your scores are less than 20%. If your scores are more than 20%, we are obliged to report you to the University authorities. Any submission after 1159pm on deadline day (21 July 2020-Tuesday) is considered late.

3) Group presentation and Q&A based on the field trip 40%

Students will present a group presentation on an important phenomenon that they have observed during their fieldtrip. Follow these steps:
Step 1: Form a group- this will be done during the trip in Jogjakarta. Size of group- minimum 2- maximum 5.

Step 2: Decide on a theme to work on and design a research question for the group presentation.

Examples of questions:

- Poverty in Indonesia: Rethinking the gap between policy implementation and effectiveness.
- Fast-food in Indonesia: Examining the impact of MNCs on local foodscapes
- The bus ride as the expression of Neo-Orientalism: Understanding tourism as a pandora’s box.
- Corruption and museums: Examining the continuity of cultural exploitation in Jogjakarta.

Step 3: Discuss what is the best way to present the project: Skit, video documentary, PowerPoint presentation, a rap video, a hip-hop dance etc etc.

Total: 100%

*More information to be updated at a later date.

Lecture 1: Southeast Asia Introduction to Southeast Asian history and culture: Emphasis on Indonesia. 22 June (Monday-10am- 1pm)

Readings:


Optional Readings:


Lecture 2: Post-Colonial Indonesia and the complexities of Nation building. - 23 June 2020 (Tuesday)

Readings:


Optional readings:


Lecture 3: 29 June 2020 (Monday)

A lecture on the Javanese diaspora in Singapore with guest lecturer, Mr Suryakenchana Omar.

Mr Suryakenchana will share how he is grappling with his Javanese roots as a born and raised Singaporean. Is Javanese-ness tied to a ‘place’, or is it an identity that can be ‘location-less’?

Readings TBA

Lecture 4: 30 June 2020 – (Tuesday). On the remnants of a violent past: The Bugis community in Singapore & Southeast Asia. -

Venue: In U-town

In this lecture, we will understand how pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial processes have affected the society, culture, economy and politics of the Bugis people who once dominated regional trade and politics in the 18th and 19th century. Feared by the Malays, British and the Dutch for their martial prowess, the power of the Bugis community waned in the early 20th century. However, there is a resurgence in Bugis ethno-nationalism today and we will try to understand the factors that have led to it.

There will be a Bugis martial art hands-on experience as well. Don’t miss this.

Readings:
Fieldtrip 5th to 12th July 2020 Jogjakarta

(See Itinerary)

Lecture 5- 13 July 2020 (Monday)

Making sense of your Java experience. What have you learnt, observed and experienced? How to frame your experiences and observations in useful ways.

It will be good if you can discuss the pictures that you took during the trip. Choose the most memorable ones and we shall learn how to use them to enhance our understanding of your experiences during the fieldtrip.

Use these readings below to contextualise/frame what you have observed:

Readings:


Poedjosoedarmo, Soepomo. "Javanese Speech Levels." Indonesia, no. 6 (1968): 54-81. (JSTOR)


Lecture 6- Documentary and debate- 14 July 2020 (Tuesday)

We shall watch a documentary on a pressing issue about Indonesia’s environment today and discuss this question after that.

The debate will scenario based and students will choose their groups for the role-play.

Location: United Nations.

Event: Crisis meeting with all concerned parties.

Parties: Choose 1
1) The Indonesian military
2) President of Indonesia
3) An opposition party in Indonesia
4) The headman/headwoman of a village in Indonesia
5) The Multi-National Corporation (could be Unilever, Nestle...you choose)

Question for debate: What are the solutions for Indonesia’s alarming environmental crisis?

Lecture 7- Essay and presentation clinic – 20 July 2020 (Monday)

This will be a short lecture on what makes an effective essay and presentation. Followed by individual and group consultations.

Lecture 8: Group presentation and Q&A based on the field trip 40% of the final grade & submission of essays worth 40% of the grade as well – 21 July 2020 (Tuesday)

Date of submission of individual essays- 21 July 2020 (Tuesday) before 1159pm.

How to submit the individual essays: I only need you to submit your soft copy to the module’s SE2880A LumiNUS student submission folder entitled “Individual Essay”. Check it for plagiarism via Turnitin and make sure your scores are less than 20%. If your scores are more than 20%, we are obliged to report you to the University authorities. Any submission after 1159pm on deadline day (21 July 2020-Tuesday) is considered late.

Students will present a group presentation on an important phenomenon that they have observed during their fieldtrip.