Aim
This course explores the making of modern Southeast Asia as a ‘region’ in the 19th and 20th centuries. Situated between the civilisations of China and India, Southeast Asia is an area with much political, socio-cultural and environmental diversity. Yet, the period under study – c.1800 to 1975 – also brought a degree of coherence to the region, with an early period of Western colonial domination followed by the emergence of nation-states. The course examines the various paths of Southeast Asian countries towards modernity, nationhood and development, while paying close attention to the experiences and lives of Southeast Asians. It introduces students to key texts and documents in the political, economic, socio-cultural, and environmental history of modern Southeast Asia.

Course Objectives
• Demonstrate a sound understanding of political, economic, socio-cultural and environmental change and continuity in modern Southeast Asian history;
• Critically appraise key texts and historical documents;
• Explore history through a variety of learning activities such as group work and discussion, appraisal of primary sources, response papers and assignments;
• In written work and class discussions, develop a thesis supported by a logical argument and historical evidence.

Requirements
Seminars
The seminars are a space for encountering, exploring and evaluating new ideas in modern Southeast Asian history. Students are to prepare beforehand by reading the assigned texts. The course revolves around texts and documents so it is important to organise a good reading schedule and cultivate reading skills.

NB. Some texts are being acquired.

Response Papers
There are 3 response papers to complete. Each paper reviews one weekly set of assigned readings. The purpose is to express your ideas succinctly. It consists of two parts:

1. Summarise in your own words the aims, approach and arguments of the texts (What is the text about?)
2. Think critically about the strengths and weaknesses of the texts (Is it any good?)
The second part is personal and analytical. Don’t take the text as the gospel truth, but learn to develop an informed opinion. Remember, there are no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ answers in history, only ‘good’ and ‘bad’ ones, which depends on the argument and supporting evidence. The response paper is thus also based on historical knowledge and research, not just what you ‘feel’ about the text.

Cover Page: Write your name, Student ID number, Course Number, and my name
Length: 1,000 words maximum (indicate the number of words at the end of the paper and do not exceed the word limit)
Line spacing: 1.5 or 2
Deadline: The response papers are due the Monday following the seminar.

Major Assignment
Topic: based on a research question to be decided in consultation with me.
Various formats:
1. Essay
2. Photo-essay
3. Archival records
4. Stories
Cover Page: Write your name, Student ID number, Course Number, and my name
Length: 5,000 words
Line spacing: 1.5 or 2
 Deadline: 3 June 2013

For the response papers and major assignment, it is necessary to cite your references and compile a bibliography.
Use the Chicago style for citation:
http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

Plagiarism is unacceptable in this course and will be severely penalised.

Evaluation
Your assessment in the course will be based on the following criteria:
Seminar attendance and contribution 10%
Response papers 60%
Major assignment 30%
Total 100% (there are no examinations in this course)

Consultation
Pls feel email me at lkshis@gmail.com or make an appointment to see me (Room 214).

Reference Texts


**Readers and Primary Documents**


SEMINARS
INTRODUCTION
Week 1, 4 March 2013
Southeast Asia as a Region


Week 2, 18 March 2013
Practitioners and Politics of Southeast Asian History


PART I: BROAD STROKES
Week 3, 22 March 2013 (make-up)
Western Imperialism

* Norman G. Owen ed. The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History (pages to be confirmed).
* Nicholas Tarling ed. The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, Volume II: The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999 (pages to be confirmed).
From (pages to be confirmed):

Week 4, 25 March 2013
*Centralised States and Capitalist Economies*


From (pages to be confirmed):

Week 5, 1 April 2013
*Plural Societies and Primate Cities*

* Norman G. Owen ed. *The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History* (pages to be confirmed).
* Alfred W. McCoy and Ed. C. de Jesus eds. *Philippine Social History: Global Trade and Local Transformations*. Quezon City, Metro Manila: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 1982 (pages to be confirmed).

* From (pages to be confirmed):

**Week 6, 8 April 2013**

**Imagined Communities and Nationalism**


* Norman G. Owen ed. *The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History* (pages to be confirmed).

* From (pages to be confirmed):
Week 7, 15 April 2013 – No lesson

Week 8, 22 April 2013


* Norman G. Owen ed. *The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History* (pages to be confirmed).

* From (pages to be confirmed):

Week 9, 27 April 2013


Sukarno, collected speeches. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dJJb3F4sC8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dJJb3F4sC8)

Life in Indonesia under Sukarno. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8kgGJC0Ljw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8kgGJC0Ljw)
The Independence of Vietnam. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7o-Urhg5YA
* Norman G. Owen ed. The Emergence of Modern Southeast Asia: A New History (pages to be confirmed).

From (pages to be confirmed):

PART II: ISSUES AND CASE STUDIES
Week 10, 6 May 2013
Islam and Buddhism

* Donald K. Swearer. The Buddhist World of Southeast Asia. Suny Press, 2010 (pages to be confirmed).

Week 11, 13 May 2013
Medicine and Disease


Week 12, 20 May 2013

**Transnational Histories**


Week 13, 27 May 2013

**Experts and Emergencies**


Loh Kah Seng. ‘Squatters, Colonial Subjects and Model Citizens: Informal Housing in Southeast Asia and Hong Kong after World War Two’. Forthcoming in *ResearchAsia*.


Week 14, 3 June 2013

**Oral History and Memory Wars**

Thongchai Winichakul. ‘Remembering/Silencing the Traumatic Past: The Ambivalent Memories of the October 1976 Massacre in Bangkok’. In Shigeharu Tanabe and Charles


**Week 15, 10 June 2013**

*History of the Environment*


* Peter Boomgaard. *Southeast Asia: An Environmental History*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2007 (pages to be confirmed).


**Week 16, 17 June 2013 – No lesson**