

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
WINTER 2026

POL388H1S 2026
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT OF SOUTHEAST ASIA



Course Schedule: Mondays from 11:00am to 1:00pm EST

Course Instructor: I YOUNAN AN

Teaching Assistant: To Be Determined

Office Hours: Monday, 1:30pm to 3:00pm EST (in-person) and Tuesday, 1:00pm to 2:00pm EST (online)

Office Location: In person – Sidney Smith Political Science Student Lounge 3rd floor and Online - Zoom

Course website: Quercus

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the politics and governments of Southeast Asia. As a region, Southeast Asia is one of the world's most diverse regions in terms of political regimes, economic development and ethnic and religious compositions. This course will mainly focus on contemporary politics in Southeast Asia, with a nod to the broad contours of historical timelines and processes that have shaped Southeast Asia as a region, especially colonialism and nationalism. In this course, we recognise the regional diversity of Southeast Asia and leverage this strength to study and address key questions in political science including:

- Why do some states democratise while others do not?
- What explains economic development or stagnation in the region?
- How do Southeast Asian government navigate the new social risks put forth by new emerging technologies and the changing of global economy?
- How do we explain the interaction between the role of political elites, the people and civil society in Southeast Asian nation-building and development?
- Lastly, why should scholars care about Southeast Asia? How does Southeast Asia fit itself into the global political paradigm in understanding major political phenomenon?

This course will examine recent development to these questions and other topics in selected country cases. This course is divided into three sections. Section I reviews historical and contemporary issues looming the region overall. Section II digs into deeper to examine five selected country cases in Southeast Asia such as Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Philippines on various topics. Section III will present an outlook to the future of the Southeast Asian region as a whole. Assignments and class materials are designed to provide students with theoretical and applied research skills. Students are expected to complete the required readings and assignments before the class and engage with the central themes or topics during class in small-group discussions.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The objective of this course is to improve critical thinking and analytical writing skills through the study of Southeast Asian Politics and Government. By the end of the course, students should be able to ask informed questions and have the political science skills to answer those questions well. There is a heavy emphasis on writing in the course that is designed to improve students writing and editing skills, as well as learning to give constructive feedback. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Analyze historical, contemporary and future political and economic developments of Southeast Asia
- Develop a deeper understanding of politics in Southeast Asia through reading contemporary literatures
- Understand the challenges facing the region in the past, the present, and the future
- Apply Political Science theories to understand events in the region
- Demonstrate their analytical skills by critically reflecting on course readings materials

- Be able to critically evaluate the information presented in newspapers, academic literature, and policy pieces to support their research and writing output
- Integrate creative mindsets in applying theoretical perspectives and empirical evidence to produce well-informed information to enlighten the challenges facing in Southeast Asia

Course Format and Requirements:

Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade	Due Date
Participation	15%	Ongoing
Assignment 1: Critical Reflection Essay	10%	Due before day of the chosen class begins at 11:59pm
Assignment 2: Podcast and Infographic Assignment	15%	Due on February 13 th at 11:59pm
Assignment 3: Final Research Paper Proposal	5%	Due on March 2 nd at 11:59pm
Assignment 4: Final Research Paper	25%	Due on March 27 th at 11:59pm
Final Exam	30%	During Final Exam period

Participation (15%)

Active participation is expected in this course. You are expected to attend each class on-time and fully prepared to discuss the required materials. Since this is an in-person class, participation may take several forms. Participations are graded based on three main activities:

- **Attendance (5%):** in every lecture, you are responsible to sign in to receive your attendance marks.
- **Lecture participation (5%):** in every lecture, students are expected to contribute to class discussion through but not limited to answering and asking questions during the lecture, demonstrating familiarity with the week's readings in the classroom, or contributing to other class activities
- **Ticket out of the door (5%):** in the last 10 minutes of every lecture, every student will get an opportunity to partake in a ticket out of the door activity. In this activity, you will have time to answer several questions to reflect on the course readings' and course lecture.

Your two lowest participation scores will be dropped.

Assignment 1: Critical Reflection Essay (10%)

This assignment aims to help students thoughtfully engage with the core arguments advanced in the readings, critically reflect on the topic of each week, and develop critical thinking and writing skills.

The due date of this assignment is due at 11:59pm before the chosen class begins. Students will write a 1,000 word essay on the theme of their chosen week. In this essay, students will critically engage in assessing and evaluating the core arguments of each reading in each week and understand how the arguments fit into the overall theme and literature.

Assignment 2: Podcast and Infographic Assignment (15%)

Students will produce a 5-minute podcast to present a comparative analysis of TWO countries from the region on one of issues being discussed in class from Week 3 to Week 6. For example: a comparative analysis of colonialism experience in Malaysia vs Indonesia or democratization process in Thailand vs Philippines. The podcast should pose an overarching question to help you illuminate a deeper understanding of your two selected countries to the listeners.

Students should also provide a one-page (either vertical or horizontal orientation) infographic summarizing their comparative analysis of the two selected countries.

Assignment 3: Final Essay Proposal (5%)

Students will write a 300-400-word essay proposal providing their intended research question, their hunches or argument, their outline, and their case studies to support their analyses for the research questions on one of themes discuss in class.

Assignment 4: Final Research Paper (25%)

Student will write a research paper approximately 2,000 to 2,250 word research paper (8-9 pages double-spaced excluding cover page, footnotes and bibliography) on their chosen topic. The research paper should encourage students to utilize theoretical approaches and empirical materials taught in class to answer their research questions. For their research papers, students can utilize a single case study on their topics or a comparative analysis of two countries in Southeast Asia.

Final Exam (30%)

The exam will evaluate students' knowledge on required readings materials and lecture content. The final exam's format will be a combination of multiple choice questions, short answers and a short essay. The final exam will cover all weeks of the course. More details on the final exam will be shared in the last week of class.

Course Outline:

Week	Topic
Week 1: January 5 th	Course Introduction
Week 2: January 12 th	Introduction: What is Southeast Asia?
Week 3: January 19 th	Colonialism, Nationalism, and Political Identity
Week 4: January 26 th	Regime and Regime Change: Democracy and Authoritarianism
Week 5: February 2 nd	Patronage Politics and Clientelism
Week 6: February 9 th	Technology, Media and Politics in the Digital Age – Guest lecture by Dr. Irene Poetranto

Week 7: February 16 th	NO CLASS – Reading Week
Week 8: February 23 rd	The Southeast Asian Miracle: Political Economy of Development and Welfare State
Week 9: March 2 nd	Indonesia: From Democratization to Democratic Backsliding
Week 10: March 9 th	Cambodia and Singapore: Authoritarian Durability and Resiliency
Week 11: March 16 th	Vietnam: New Emerging Economic Player – Guest lecture by Dr. Marnie Ginis
Week 12: March 23 rd	Philippines: Labor Politics and Migrant Workers
Week 13: March 30 th	Looking Forward: Southeast Asia and Beyond

Course Policies:

Syllabus: It is a student’s responsibility to read and understand the course syllabus. Questions regarding the syllabus should be directed to the Course Instructor.

Quercus: It is a student’s responsibility to check the course page regularly for any announcements or information regarding the course. You must submit your assignments electronically through Quercus on time. It is a student’s responsibility to ensure that submitted assignments do not contain errors and can be accessed or opened by the grader; otherwise, a late penalty will be applied. If students run into a technical issue with Quercus submission close to the deadline, they should email their completed work to me at i.an@mail.utoronto.ca before the deadline to prove that it is complete. They should then upload their work to Quercus as soon as possible after the deadline once the technical issue is resolved.

Communication and response times: Please ask your questions during in-person lectures and during office hours with your TA or the Course Instructor. For concerns that are personal or confidential in nature, please contact your TA or the Course Instructor directly. POL388 has more than 70 students but only one Course Instructor and one TA, so please keep email messages to a minimum. Emails sent on weekdays will be replied to within 48 hours. Emails sent on weekends will not receive a reply until the following business day. Please be respectful in interacting with others in the course and treat all communication with the instructor and your TA as a professional form of communication with proper grammar, sentences, and formal greetings and sign-offs.

Office hours and penalty for no-shows: Office hours are drop-in hours for students to meet with the Course Instructor or TA. Please make sure to read the syllabus and Quercus before asking questions. The Course Instructor’s office hours will be posted on Quercus homepage. The TA is available for office hours by appointment only in 15-minute increments. Please cancel appointments in advance if you know you will not be able to attend. Penalty for no-shows is no appointment for the next seven business days.

Classroom etiquette: It is a student’s responsibility to read and understand the “Classroom Etiquette” section on the Quercus page for the course and UofT’s [Code of Student Conduct](#).

Absence declaration: If students are unable to attend class, then they must notify the Course Instructor via email ahead of time. The documentation for absences can be an [Absence Declaration](#) (via ACORN) or the University's [Verification of Student Illness or Injury](#) (VOI) form or a letter from the College Registrar, Academic Advisor, or the Accessibility Office.

Accommodations: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have a disability or health consideration that requires accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services by email at accessibility.services@utoronto.ca or visit [Accessibility Services'](#) webpage. Please provide a **copy of the accommodation letter** to the Course Instructor at i.an@mail.utoronto.ca.

Citation style: This course uses the [Chicago Manual of Style 17th edition](#) author-date citation style (not footnotes). Consistent and accurate use of citations would help students avoid committing plagiarism in their writing. Cheating and plagiarism are serious academic offences.

Academic integrity: It is a student's responsibility to include accurate citations of sources and to understand what constitutes academic integrity at UofT. Plagiarism is a very serious academic offense punishable by the university. Examples of plagiarism include copying another's work without attribution, falsifying records, cheating on tests, and submitting your own previous work. For advice on how to avoid plagiarism see [How not to plagiarize](#).

Please note that no outside assistance is permitted on any of the course assignments, including tools like ChatGPT and other AI writing assistants. This course policy is designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you reach course learning outcomes. Read more about the use of ChatGPT on [UofT's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#).

Extensions: Extensions for assignments must be requested **before** the deadline. Assignments in other courses, conflict with other courses or events, or late registration in the course are **not** grounds for an extension – you should plan your calendar for the semester accordingly. Supporting documentation is required **before** any extension is granted, and the appropriate documentation must be submitted within one week of the late assignment. All requests for extensions or deferrals, along with the appropriate documentation, must be submitted to the Course Instructor. If you need more time or support, please contact your academic advisor. at your College's Registrar's Office.

2 (two) Days 'life happens' extension: This extension must be requested **before** the deadline. Students are allowed to request an extension for 2 (two) days without explanation or documentation, except for Assignment 1 (Critical Reflection Essay). To use this extension, students should email the Course Instructor with the subject line "Life Happens," and a 2-day extension will be automatically applied without any questions. **This extension can be used once per semester (so use them carefully).** Late penalties will be imposed after the two days have passed. If you need more time or support, please contact your academic advisor at your College's Registrar's Office or provide official documentation.

Late penalty: Assignments handed in late without appropriate medical or other official documentation will be penalized **5% per day late (including weekends)**. Assignments submitted past the seven days after the due date will not be accepted.

Assignment 1 Special Requirement: Due to the nature of the assignment 1 (Critical Reflection Essay), late submission will be not accepted and will be marked as zero. There will be no extension granted for this assignment. The Critical Reflection Essay submitted in any given week must be on that week's required readings. Essays written on past weeks/topics will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.

Grades: It is a student's responsibility to understand what grades mean in the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. There are no extra credits available. Students earn their grades throughout the term through class participation and assignments. In other words, this course uses the additive grading strategy. A grading rubric is provided for each essay assignment and posted on Quercus. The essay assignments are graded by either the TA or the Course Instructor. Assignments are graded using the grading rubric on Quercus.

Regrade Policy: You may request a regrade of your work. Requests for a regrade may not be made within 48 hours of receiving feedback and must be made within 10 days of receiving feedback.

- If the TA originally graded your work: You must submit a written request (max 1 page) to the TA explaining the reason that you think your work should be regraded. The request for the regrade must be based on the manifest content of the work, not on external factors (such as the effort you put in, the grade you need to get into another program, etc.). If the TA does not agree to change the grade or if you are unsatisfied with the TA's resolution, you may ask the TA to escalate the appeal to the course instructor. The TA will send the course instructor a fresh (ungraded) copy of your work and he will assign it a new grade.
- If the course instructor (me) originally graded your work: You must submit a written request (max 1 page) to the course instructor explaining the reason that you think your work should be regraded. The request for the regrade must be based on the manifest content of the work, not on external factors (such as the effort you put in, the grade you need to get into another program, etc.). The course instructor will take another look at your essay and consider the points made in your appeal.
- Remember that if work is regraded, there are three possible outcomes: the grade may be higher, it may stay the same, or it may be lower than the original grade. After the regrade, the original grade will be erased, and the new grade will stand.

Course Support:

If you are struggling in the course in personal or academic ways and/or need special accommodations, here are some helpful resources available to you:

- For mental health: <https://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/>
- For writing feedback and support: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres>
- For research: <https://onerearch.library.utoronto.ca/research-help>
- For religious accommodations: <http://uoft.me/religiousaccommodation>
- For other support contact the Registrar's Office: <https://future.utoronto.ca/current-students/registrars/>

University Policies and Statements:

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Mental Health and Well-Being: As a student, you may experience challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation, financial concerns, family worries and so forth. These factors may affect your academic performance and/or reduce your ability to participate fully in daily activities. Everyone feels stressed now and then – it is a normal part of university life. Some days are better than others, and there is no wrong time to reach out. There are resources for every situation and every level of stress. There are many helpful resources available through your College Registrar or through Student Life (<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca> and <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/feeling-distressed>). An important part of the University experience is learning how and when to ask for help. Please take the time to inform yourself of available resources.

Religious Accommodations: As a student at the University of Toronto, you are part of a diverse community that welcomes and includes students and faculty from a wide range of cultural and religious traditions. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. Further to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity (such as a test or in-class assignment) due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

University's Plagiarism Detection Tool: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation website (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

University Land Acknowledgement: We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Course Materials:

Required materials must be completed before class in the week for which they are assigned. Recommended materials are for further investigation about a topic or to help students prepare to write their assignments. All readings will be made available through Quercus under course modules.

I recommend engaging with materials in the order in which they are listed. Always check Quercus since this schedule and the reading materials may be subject to substantial modifications.

Week 1: January 5th – Course Introduction

We will introduce ourselves to one another, review the syllabus, and develop ground rules for classroom participation. We will take the opportunity to review expected assignments as well.

No readings for this week

Week 2: January 12th – Introduction: What is Southeast Asia?

Required readings:

- Acharya, Amitav. 2013. *The Making of Southeast Asia: International Relations of a Region*. Cornell University Press. Read Chapter 1 and 2
- Rush, James R. 2018. “What Is Southeast Asia?” In *Southeast Asia: A Very Short Introduction*, edited by James R. Rush. Oxford University Press.
- Green, Amelia Hoover (2013). “How to Read Political Science: A Guide in Four Steps.” <https://www.ameliahoovergreen.com/uploads/9/3/0/9/93091546/howtoread.pdf>

Recommended readings:

- McVey, Ruth. 1995. “Continuity and Change in Southeast Asian Studies.” *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 26(1): 1-9.
- Rimmer, Peter J., and Howard Dick. 2018. “Gateways, Corridors and Peripheries.” In *Routledge Handbook of Urbanization in Southeast Asia*. Routledge.
- Tarling, Nicholas. 2015. “Status and Security in Early Southeast Asian State Systems.” In *Early Modern Southeast Asia, 1350-1800*. Routledge.

Week 3: January 19th – Colonialism, Nationalism, and Political Identity

Required readings:

- Andaya, Leonard Y. 2014. “Ethnicity in Pre-Colonial and Colonial Southeast Asia.” In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian History*. Routledge.
- Amirell, Stefan Eklöf. 2023. “Nationalism, Colonialism and Decolonisation in Southeast Asia: The Rise of Emancipatory Nationalism.” In *The Routledge Handbook of Nationalism in East and Southeast Asia*, 361–74. Routledge.
- Acharya, Arabinda. 2023. “Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Regional Conflict in Twenty-First-Century Southeast Asia.” In *The Routledge Handbook of Nationalism in East and Southeast Asia*, 388–403. Routledge.

Recommended readings:

- Kratoska, Paul H. 2014. “Southeast Asia From the Japanese Occupation to Independence.” In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian History*. Routledge.
- Amrith, Sunil. 2014. “Ethnicity in Post-Colonial Southeast Asia.” In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian History*. Routledge.
- Reid, Anthony, ed. 2009. “Understanding Southeast Asian Nationalisms.” In *Imperial Alchemy: Nationalism and Political Identity in Southeast Asia*, 25–48. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 4: January 26th – Regime and Regime Change: Democracy and Authoritarianism

Required readings:

- Croissant, Aurel. 2021. “Democratization, National Identity, and Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia.” In *Democratization, National Identity and Foreign Policy in Asia*, 9–27. Routledge.
- Croissant, Aurel. 2022. “Government and Political Regimes in Southeast Asia: An Introduction.” In *Comparative Politics of Southeast Asia: An Introduction to Governments and Political Regimes*, edited by Aurel Croissant, 1–20. Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Curato, Nicole, and Diego Fossati. 2020. “Authoritarian Innovations: Crafting Support for a Less Democratic Southeast Asia.” *Democratization* 27 (6): 1006–20.
- Jayasuriya, Kanishka and Garry Rodan. 2007. “New Trajectories for Political Regimes in Southeast Asia” *Democratization* 14 (5): 767-772.

Recommended readings:

- Mietzner, Marcus. 2021. *Democratic Deconsolidation in Southeast Asia*. of Elements in Politics and Society in Southeast Asia. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Slater, Dan. 2012. “Southeast Asia: Strong-state Democratization in Malaysia and Singapore” *Journal of Democracy*, 23 (2): 19-33.
- Thompson, Mark R. 2023. “The Paradoxes of ‘Vernacularised’ Liberalism in Southeast Asia.” *Asian Studies Review* 47 (1): 16–35
- Ockey, James. 2023. “Democratic Decline and Rising Autocratization in Southeast Asia: An Organizing Framework.” In *Democratic Recession, Autocratization, and Democratic Backlash in Southeast Asia*, edited by James Ockey and Naimah S. Talib, 1–32.

Week 5: February 2nd – Patronage Politics and Clientelism

Required readings:

- Aspinall, Edward. 2015. “Money politics: Patronage and clientelism in Southeast Asia” In *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Democratization*.
- Aspinall, Edward and Allen Hicken. 2020. “Guns for hire and enduring machines: clientelism beyond parties in Indonesia and the Philippines.” *Democratization*, 27(1): pp. 137-156.

- Tomsa, Dirk and Andreas Ufen. 2012. Introduction: Political parties and clientelism in Southeast Asia in *Party Politics in Southeast Asia: Clientelism and Electoral Competition in Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines*.

Recommended readings:

- Hamayotsu, Kikue. 2015. “Patronage, Welfare Provisions, and State–Society Relations: Lessons from Muslim-Dominant Regimes in Southeast Asia” in *Religion and Politics of Development*.
- Mietzner, Marcus. 2013. *Money, Power, and Ideology. Political Parties in post-authoritarian Indonesia*. Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press.

Week 6: February 9th – Technology, Media, and Politics in the Digital Age – Guest lecture: Dr. Irene Poetranto

Required readings:

- Nuraniyah, Navhat. 2024. “Indonesia’s 2024 Presidential Election: Sectarianism Out, Dynasty In, Democracy Tethered.” *Asia Policy* 19 (4): 96–107.
- Mendoza, Maria Elize H. 2022. “Philippine Elections 2022: TikTok in Bongbong Marcos’ Presidential Campaign.” *Contemporary Southeast Asia* 44 (3).
- Huang, Roger Lee, and Chavalin Svetanant. 2022. “Challenging Digital Authoritarianism: Milk Tea Alliance and Transnational Solidarity.” In *Activism and Authoritarian Governance in Asia*. Routledge.

Recommended readings:

- Lanuza, Jose Mari Hall, and Jonathan Corpus Ong. 2024. “From Disinformation Campaigns to Influence Operations: New Campaign Tactics and Legacy Media Bypass in the Philippines.” In *The Routledge Handbook of Political Campaigning*. Routledge.
- Lim, Merlyna. 2023. “‘Everything Everywhere All At Once’: Social Media, Marketing/Algorithmic Culture, and Activism in Southeast Asia.” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* 24 (2): 181–90.
- Tapsell, Ross. 2021. “Social Media and Elections in Southeast Asia: The Emergence of Subversive, Underground Campaigning.” *Asian Studies Review* 45 (1): 117–34.

Week 7: February 16th

(Reading week – NO CLASS)

Week 8: February 23rd – The Southeast Asian Miracle: Political Economy of Development and Welfare State

Required readings:

- Booth, Anne. 1999. "Initial Conditions and Miraculous Growth: Why Is South East Asia Different From Taiwan and South Korea?" *World Development* 27 (2): 301–21.
- Carroll, Toby. 2020. "The Political Economy of Southeast Asia's Development from Independence to Hyperglobalisation" in *The Political Economy of Southeast Asia. Studies in the Political Economy of Public Policy*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham
- Rosser, Andrew and John Murphy. 2022. *Contesting Social Welfare in Southeast Asia*. Read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.

Recommended readings:

- Doner, Richard F. 1991. "Approaches to the Politics of Economic Growth in Southeast Asia." *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 50, no. 4: 818–49.
- Doner, Richard F., and Ben Ross Schneider. 2016. "The Middle-Income Trap: More Politics than Economics." *World Politics* 68, no. 4: 608–44.
- Hameiri, Shahar and Lee Jones. 2020. Theorising Political Economy in Southeast Asia. In *The Political Economy of Southeast Asia. Studies in the Political Economy of Public Policy*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Felker, Greg. 2009. "The political economy of Southeast Asia." In *Contemporary Southeast Asia: The Politics of Change, Contestation, and Adaptation*.

Week 9: March 2nd – Indonesia: From Democratization to Democratic Backsliding

Required readings:

- Aspinall, Edward. 2018. "Democratization: Travails and achievements." *Routledge handbook of contemporary Indonesia*, 83-94
- Setiawan, Ken M. P. 2020. "A State of Surveillance? Freedom of Expression under the Jokowi Presidency." In *Democracy in Indonesia: From Stagnation to Regression?*, edited by Thomas Power and Eve Warburton, 254–74. ISEAS Publishing.
- Warburton, Eve and Edward Aspinall. "Explaining Indonesia's Democratic Regression: Structure, Agency and Popular Opinion." *Contemporary Southeast Asia* 41, no. 2: 255–85.

Recommended readings:

- Ufen, Andreas. 2024. The Rise of Digital Repression in Indonesia under Joko Widodo. Vol. 1. GIGA Focus Asien. Hamburg: German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) - Leibniz-Institut für Globale und Regionale Studien, Institut für Asien-Studien. <https://doi.org/10.57671/gfas-24012>.
- Webber, Douglas. 2006. "A Consolidated Patrimonial Democracy? Democratization in Post-Suharto Indonesia." *Democratization* 13 (3): 396–420.

Week 10: March 9th – Cambodia and Singapore: Authoritarian Durability and Resiliency

Required readings:

- Ong, Elvin. 2015. "Complementary Institutions in Authoritarian Regimes: The Everyday Politics of Constituency Service in Singapore." *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 15(3): pp. 361-390.
- Rodan, Gary. 2008. "Singapore 'exceptionalism'? Authoritarian rule and state transformation" in *Political Transitions in Dominant Party Systems: Learning to Lose*, eds. Joseph Wong and Edward Friedman. London, New York: Routledge, pp. 231-251.
- Peou, Sorpong. 2018. Cambodia's hegemonic-party system: How and why the CPP became dominant. *Asian Journal of Comparative Politics*, 4(1), 42-60.
- Un, Kheang. 2020. "Weak State and the Limits of Democratization in Cambodia, 1993–2017." Chapter. In *Stateness and Democracy in East Asia*, edited by Aurel Croissant and Olli Hellmann, 133–52. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Recommended readings:

- Tan, Netina. 2020. "Digital Learning and extending electoral authoritarianism in Singapore." *Democratization*
- Un, Kheang. 2019. *Cambodia: Return to Authoritarianism*. Elements in Politics and Society in Southeast Asia. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Zakaria, Fareed and Lee Kuan Yew. 1994. "Culture Is Destiny: A Conversation with Lee Kuan Yew." *Foreign Affairs* 73:2, 109-126.

Week 11: March 16th – Vietnam: New Emerging Economic Player – Guest Lecture: Dr. Marnie Ginis

To Be Determined

Week 12: March 23rd –Philippines: Labor Politics and Migrant Workers

Required readings:

- Barber, Pauline Gardiner and Catherine Bryan. 2012. "“Value Plus Plus” Housewifization and History in Philippine Care Migration" in *Migration in the 21st Century*.
- Hutchison, Jane. 2012. "Labour Politics in Southeast Asia The Philippines in Comparative Perspective" in *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian Politics*.
- Solomon, M. Scott. 2009. "State-led Migration, Democratic Legitimacy, and Deterritorialization: The Philippines' labour export model", *European Journal of East Asian Studies* 8, 2 (2009): 275-300

Recommended readings:

- Rother, Stefan. 2023. 'The 'gold standard' for labour export? The role of civil society in shaping multi-level Philippine migration policies in *Migration Politics across the World*.
- Macabasag, Romeo Luis A. and Yasmin Y. Ortiga. 2025. "Competing policies within the sending state: Labour export and the provision of primary healthcare in the Philippines." *International Migration*, 63.

Week 13: March 30th – Looking forward: Southeast Asia and Beyond

Required readings:

- Turingan, Gil D. 2024. "Why the Rise of New Generation of Southeast Asian Leaders Should Worry Us | Review of Democracy." Review of Democracy (blog). September 11, 2024. <https://revdem.ceu.edu/2024/09/11/southeast-asian-leaders/>.
- Gong, Xue. 2019. "The Belt & Road Initiative and China's Influence in Southeast Asia." *The Pacific Review* 32 (4): 635–65.
- Shambaugh, David. 2018. U.S.-China Rivalry in Southeast Asia: Power Shift or Competitive Coexistence?. *International Security*, 42 (4): 85–127

Recommended readings:

- Ba, Alice. 2010. "Regional Security in East Asia: ASEAN's Value Added and Limitations." *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 29(3): pp. 115-130.
- Acharya, Amitav. 2021. *ASEAN and Regional Order: Revisiting Security Community in Southeast Asia*. Routledge. Read Chapter 1 and 5.