Southeast Asia is a region that today consists of ten independent nations: Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia (Kampuchea), Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, each with its own history, cultural complexities, and political and socio-economic conditions. This course is intended to provide a general introduction to this region and to explore several topics and themes relating to its past and present. The textbook for the course will be:


This book is available at People's Bookstore (458 W. Gilman). The textbook will be supplemented with readings in the form of a coursepack that will be sold at the Humanities Copy Center (in the basement of the Humanities Building). Students are advised to acquire copies of the textbook and the coursepack as early as possible during the semester.

Students will also be required to read three short literary works by Southeast Asian authors. They are:

- *The Girl From the Coast*, by Pramoedya Ananta Toer (Indonesian)
- *Voices From the Thai Countryside*, by Samruan Singh (Thai)
- *Tree*, by F. Sionil Jose (Filipino)

These three books will also be available at the People's Bookstore, and will be the basis of a writing project to be described in a separate handout.

Grades in this course will be based on the following.

1) midterm examination (25%)
2) final examination (40%)
3) writing project based on the three literary works above (25%)
4) attendance and participation in the discussion section (10%)

The midterm examination will be on October 9th (Friday, during class), the writing projects should be submitted in class by December 7th (Monday), and the final examination will be, as scheduled, on December 17 (Thursday at 12:25 pm).
COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

* - indicates materials available in the coursepack

September 2, 4, 9

Introduction to the Geography, Environment, and Ethnic Diversity of Southeast Asia

READINGS: *Selected Newspaper Clippings on Southeast Asia;
D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia: Past and Present, 3-19.

September 11-14

The Classical States of Southeast Asia to ca.1300

READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 20-47;

September 16-23

Traditional States and Societies to ca.1800

READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 48-59, 70-79;
*V. Lieberman, "The Structure of Early Modern Southeast Asian History, c.1350-c.1830" (typescript): 1-37;
*K. Hutterer, The Social Nature of Late Pre-Hispanic Philippines" (1985): 1-12;

September 25-30

Religions and Religious Life

*C. Geertz, "Santri Versus Abangan" in The Religion of Java (1960): 121-130;

VIDEO: Turumba (the story of how the quest for profits of a small family enterprise disrupts traditional social and religious life in a Philippine town)
October 2-7

Early Colonial Advances to ca.1800
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 60-69.

October 9 - MIDTERM EXAMINATION

October 12-14

Establishing Colonial Rule: Conquest and Resistance
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 83-134.

SPECIAL COLUMBUS DAY FILM (October 12): Max Havelaar (a classic story of colonialism and resistance in 19th century Java as viewed from the eyes of a reform-minded colonial official)

October 16

Colonial States of the Early 20th Century

October 19-23

Economic and Social Transformations
READINGS: *D. Steinberg, et al., In Search of Southeast Asia (1987): 203-244.

October 26

Nationalism and Social Change to 1940
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 137-141, 193-194.

October 28

The Pacific War and the Japanese Occupation

October 30 - November 2

Vietnam: Nationalism, Communism, and the Anti-Colonial Struggle
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 177-185, 189-192;

November 4-6

The Vietnam Wars and Post-1975 Indochina
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 265-293;
November 9-13

The Philippines: Elite Democracy and Authoritarian Rule
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 142-156, 197-212;

November 16-20

Thailand: Monarchy, Military and the Quest for a More Democratic Society
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 172-176, 224-233;
*B. Anderson, "The Historical Context" in In the Mirror (1985): 12-40;

November 23-30

Indonesia: From Sukarno's Guided Democracy to Suharto's New Order
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 157-165, 234-245;

November 27 - Thanksgiving Recess (No Class)

December 2-4

Changing Economies and Foreign Relations in the 1980s and 1990s
READINGS: D. SarDesai, Southeast Asia, 294-299.

FILM: The Global Assembly Line ("The human story behind the new global workplace," including conditions in the Philippines)

December 7

The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia, special lecture by Alfred McCoy, Department of History

December 9

The Hmong in America

VIDEO: Hmong Tapestry (a dramatization of the history and current situation of the Hmong in the U.S., written and performed by Hmong high school students in Minnesota)

December 11

Pop Music in Indonesia, special lecture by Jennifer Munger, Department of Anthropology

December 14

Singing the "Revolution" Against Marcos: Protest and Popular Music in the Philippines