I. COURSE REQUIREMENTS :-

Course Description: Through lectures and readings, the course surveys the modern social and political history of Southeast Asia, a region remarkable for its religious and cultural diversity. To treat two centuries in the history of ten nations in just 30 lectures requires compression and selection. Instead of discussing the history of individual nations, the course analyzes broad themes that encompass major changes in this region during different historical epochs. To animate these generalities, lectures will illustrate these broad regional themes with detailed discussions of events in individual countries from the eighteenth century to the present.

As the most intensely colonized region in the world, Southeast Asia offers an ideal arena for exploring the impact of European empires upon indigenous societies. Through this study we can understand the role of imperialism and resistance in the shaping our modern world, both in the independent nations and the global economy.

In the nineteenth century, imperial historians once celebrated their achievements and ignored indigenous history. In our own era, Southeast Asian historians have done the reverse, documenting the nationalist struggle and dismissing the imperialists. This course seeks a synthesis by examining the interaction between European colonial states and emerging national elites. More broadly, the course seeks a similar synthesis between political and social history by placing ordinary lives within the context of their elite-dominated nation states.

With all the world's major religions, an extraordinary ethnic mix, a past with both ancient empires and colonial conquest, and a present of war and revolution, democracy and dictatorship, Southeast Asia has inspired a stimulating scholarly literature. The syllabus below offers an introduction to this writing in the "required reading" and a more extensive sampling in both the "suggested reading" and the "reading for texture" for those who wish to do more.

Class Meetings: Lectures are held in Humanities 1217 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.

Office Hours: Room 5131 Humanities, Thursdays, 12:00-2:00 p.m. and other hours by appointment (TEL: 263-1855). Messages sent via e-mail to: <awmccoy@wisc.edu>.

Readings: To follow the lectures, students should read selections from the "required readings" before the relevant lecture. The "Required Readings" and many of the "Suggested Readings" are found in the textbooks (listed below) and a “Course Pack” sold at the Humanities Copy Center. To gain some sense of the temper of times long past and prepare for the final exam, students are also urged to sample the fiction and autobiographies under “Readings for Texture” which are held in Closed Reserve at the College Library.

Undergraduate Grading: Students shall attend lectures, participate in discussions, and complete three (3) pieces of written work:

Mid-term: During the lecture on, Thursday, March 8, a list of questions--based on the material covered in the lectures and the required reading through Week 7--will be distributed in class. Students will be expected to write one short essay (maximum 5 typed pages) and submit their typed exam at the start of class on Tuesday, March 13. In
completing this exam, students are required to footnote their answers and follow the essay format outlined below in Part V.

**Essay:** At the start of lecture on *Thursday, April 12*, students will submit a one-page outline for their major essays with a one-paragraph abstract of the argument, an outline of the paper’s main points, and a preliminary bibliography. Students who have questions are urged to come to office hours to discuss these outlines with the instructor.

At the start of lecture on *Tuesday, April 24*, students shall submit a 2,500 word research essay (about 8 to 10 pages) with footnotes and bibliography. A list of topics is appended below in Part IV, and the format for the essays is detailed in Part VI below.

**Final Exam:** Students shall take a two-hour final examination on *Friday, May 18, from 5:05 to 7:05 p.m.*, at a place to be announced. Students will be required to answer three questions—(1.) one on a broad theme from the lectures, (2.) a multi-part question requiring summaries of the arguments from some of the “Required Readings” listed below, and (3.) a reflection on how literature illuminates history based on any three of the “Texture Readings.”

**Final Grade:** Mark in the course shall be computed as follows:

- mid-term exam: 20%
- research essay: 40%
- final exam: 40%

**Graduate Grading:** Graduate students shall submit a 5,000-word research essay with notes and annotated bibliography examining the interface between theory and empirical evidence for a major theme in the course. The instructor must approve paper topics in advance.

**Text Books** (Sold at Rainbow Bookstore, 426 W. Gilman Street, just off State Street):
- Steinberg, David, ed., *In Search of Southeast Asia* (Honolulu, 1987).

**Reference Volumes:**

**II. REQUIRED READINGS:** (N.B.: Readings in the Course Pack*):

**WEEK 1 (January 24): UNDER MT. MERU--THE TRADITIONAL STATE**

*Required Reading:*
Suggested Reading:
Culture and Politics in Indonesia (Ithaca, 1972), pp. 1-70.
Anderson, Benedict, “Introduction,” The Spectre of Comparisons: Nationalism,
Benda, Harry, “The Structure of Southeast Asian History: Some Preliminary
Observations,” Continuity and Change in Southeast Asia: Collected Journal

WEEK 2 (January 31): EUROPEAN EMPIRES

Required Reading:
Phelan, John Leddy, The Hispanization of the Philippines (Madison, 1967), pp. 3-28,
41-71.*
Reid, Anthony, Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680: Volume Two:
Steinberg, David J., ed., In Search of Southeast Asia (Honolulu, 1987), pp. 49-59, 91-
95.

Suggested Reading:
Andaya, Leonard Y, “Interactions with the Outside World and Adaptation in Southeast
Asian Society, 1500-1800,” in, Nicholas Tarling, ed., The Cambridge History of
Southeast Asia: Volume One (Cambridge, 1992), pp. 345-95.
Braudel, Fernand, The Perspective of the World: Civilization and Capitalism--15th-
Cushner, Nicholas P., Spain in the Philippines (Quezon City, 1971), pp. 127-52.
Ricklefs, M.C., A History of Modern Indonesia Since c. 1300 (Stanford, 1993), pp. 22-
31, 61-80.

WEEK 3 (February 7): ISLANDS IN THE EARLY MODERN AGE

Required Reading:
Andaya, Barbara Watson, “Political Development between the Sixteenth and Eighteenth
Centuries,” in, Nicholas Tarling, ed., The Cambridge History of Southeast
Asia: Volume One (Cambridge, 1992), pp. 403-54.*
Reid, A.J.S., “Economic and Social Change, c. 1400-1800,” in, Nicholas Tarling, ed.,
The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia: Volume One (Cambridge, 1992),
pp. 460-504.*
Steinberg, David J., ed., In Search of Southeast Asia (Honolulu, 1987), pp. 139-170.

Reading for Texture:

Suggested Reading:
Carey, Peter, “Waiting for the ‘Just King’: The Agrarian World of South-Central Java
from Gyianti (1755) to the Java War (1825-30), Modern Asian Studies 20, no. 1
Cushner, Nicholas P., Spain in the Philippines (Quezon City, 1971), pp. 101-26, 153-
85.
Reid, Anthony, Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, 1450-1680: Volume Two:

**WEEK 4 (February 14): MAINLAND RESPONSE TO COLONIALISM**

*Required Reading:*

*Reading for Texture:*
Landon, Margaret, *Anna and the King of Siam* (New York, 1944), pp. 1-3, 23-78.

*Suggested Reading:*

**WEEK 5 (February 21): ECOLOGICAL & ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS**

*Required Reading:*

*Reading for Texture:*
Jose, F. Sionel, *Po-on* (Manila, 1984 ), Part I (chapters 3-9).
Suggested Reading:
Steinberg, David J., ed., *In Search of Southeast Asia* (Honolulu, 1987), pp. 219-44.

WEEK 6 (February 28): PLANTATION & PROLETARIAT

Required Reading:

Reading for Texture:

Suggested Reading:

{N.B.: Thursday, March 8, Take-Home Midterm Exam Distributed in Class}

WEEK 7 (March 7): HIGH COLONIALISM

Required Reading:

**Reading for Texture:**


**Suggested Reading:**


{N.B.: Tuesday, March 13, Midterm Exam Due at Start of Class}

**WEEK 8 (March 13): ORIGINS OF NATIONALISM**

**Required Reading:**


**Reading for Texture:**


**Suggested Reading:**


WEEK 9 (March 20): MODERN NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS

Required Reading:

Reading for Texture:
U Nu, Saturday’s Son: Memoir of the Former Prime Minister of Burma (New Haven, 1975), pp. 87-101.

Suggested Reading:

WEEK 10 (March 27): WORLD WAR II & JAPANESE OCCUPATION

Required Reading:
Steinberg, David J., ed., In Search of Southeast Asia (Honolulu, 1987), pp. 349-55.

Reading for Texture:
Baw Maw, Breakthrough in Burma (New Haven, 1968), pp. 51-137.
Keith, Agnes Newton, Three Came Home (Boston, 1947), pp. 29-44.
U Nu, Saturday’s Son: Memoir of the Former Prime Minister of Burma (New Haven, 1975), pp. 102-34.

Suggested Reading:
Ricklefs, M.C., A History of Modern Indonesia Since c. 1300 (Stanford, 1993), pp. 199-211.


{N.B.: SPRING BREAK, March 31—April 8}

WEEK 11 (April 10): NATIONAL REVOLUTIONS

**Required Reading:**


**Suggested Reading:**


{N.B.: Thursday, April 12, Essay Outlines Due at Start of Class.}

WEEK 12 (April 17): COMMUNIST MOVEMENTS

**Required Reading:**


**Reading for Texture:**


Suyin, Han, *And the Rain My Drink* (London, 1956), chapters 1-4 (pp. 11-69).


**Suggested Reading:**


{N.B.: Tuesday, April 24, Essays Due at Start of Class.}

**WEEK 13 (April 24): DECLINE OF DEMOCRACY**

*Required Reading:*


*Reading for Texture:*


*Suggested Reading:*


**WEEK 14 (May 5): DICTATORSHIP**

*Required Reading:*

Steinberg, David J., ed., In Search of Southeast Asia (Honolulu, 1987), pp. 387-93.

Reading for Texture:
Spence, Hartzell, Marcos of the Philippines (Cleveland, 1969), pp. 7-48, 123-93, 298-324.

Suggested Reading:

WEEK 15 (May 8): PEOPLE-POWER REVOLUTIONS

Required Reading:

Reading for Texture:

Suggested Reading:
McCoy, Alfred W., *Closer Than Brothers: Manhood at the Philippine Military Academy* (New Haven, 1999), chapter 7.

{N.B.: Final Examination at 5:05 p.m. Friday, May 18}

**IV. ESSAY TOPICS:**

1.) Analyze the impact of export agriculture upon the emergence of the modern Filipino elite in the 19th and 20th centuries.

2.) Discuss the historical causality of the outbreak and defeat of the Philippine Revolution of 1896.

3.) Explain the factors underlying the Filipinos unique allegiance to its colonial power, the United States, during World War II.

4.) Would you agree with Benedict Kerkvliet that the Huk peasant rebellion after World War II can be traced largely to the decline of patron-client relations, or did it spring from more complex factors?

5.) Assess the impact of American colonialism upon Philippine society and politics.

6.) Analyze the impact of the culture system upon Java in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

7.) Explain the rise of secular nationalism in Indonesia before and during World War II, and assess its success in achieving its goals.

8.) Explain the impact of the Japanese occupation on Indonesia in terms of social, economic and political change.

9.) Analyze the factors underlying Indonesia's move from parliamentary democracy to military dictatorship in the two decades after World War II.

10.) Can the events of September 1965 in Indonesia be interpreted as a failed communist coup?

11.) Analyze the reasons for the failure of armed communist uprisings by the Malayan Communist Party and the Philippine Huks.

12.) Would it be correct to style Thailand's Chakri dynasty from 1782 to 1850 as a typical Hindu-Buddhist mainland Southeast Asian state?

13.) Is it right to call Mongkut (1851-1868) a “modern” monarch in contrast to his predecessors?

14.) In what sense did the reforms of King Chulalongkorn lead to the “Revolution” of 1932?

15.) Why did the military dominate the Thai government from the 1930s to the 1970s?

16.) Were pre-colonial states in Southeast Asia “feudal,” “oriental despotisms,” “segmental states” or something else?
17.) Drawing evidence from two or more countries and using appropriate theory, analyze the impact of colonial rule on the evolution of the modern Southeast Asian state since World War II.

18.) Compare the conditions of slavery in Siam with those in the Sulu Sultanate.

19.) Compare the character of nationalist opposition to colonialism in any two Southeast Asian colonies.

20.) Compare the reasons for the failure of the communist parties in postwar Indonesia and the Philippines.

21.) Analyze the difference in the impact of export agriculture upon peasant societies in Central Luzon and Lower Burma.

22.) In what way did the Japanese occupation during World II transform Southeast Asian political history? Draw your evidence from across the region, or compare any two or three countries.

23.) Compare the economic and political impact of Dutch colonialism on Indonesia with Spanish and American colonialism upon the Philippines.

24.) Explain the persistence of authoritarian rule in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

25.) Compare the character of authoritarian leadership in postwar Indonesia and the Philippines, and explain why Suharto’s rule proved much more tenacious than Marcos’s.

26.) Explain the causality underlying the mass urban uprisings against authoritarian rule in the Philippines (1986), Thailand (1991), and Indonesia (1998).

V. HOW TO WRITE A RESEARCH ESSAY—A THREE-STEP METHOD:

1.) *STEP ONE--Reading & Research:*

   a.) *Conceptualization:*
   
   1. All good essays begin with the three “Rs”— reflection, reading, and research.
   2. The quality of an essay’s expression and analysis usually reflects the depth of its author’s reading.
   3. *Definitions:* Much of the conceptual content in History courses is conveyed through a limited number of basic terms that must be defined to be understood. As you read, try to identify and define the concepts and/or terms central to your essay.
   4. *Questions:* Most students approach the study of history as a pursuit for answers, while many historians view their discipline as a search for better questions. As you read, try to articulate your essay’s central question or problem clearly and succinctly.

   b.) *How to Read for an Essay:*
   
   1. Faced with a mass of information, students must learn to read both intensively and extensively—summarizing key theses and skimming a range of sources for evidence.
   2. Using the course syllabus, begin with a general text to get an overview of the problem.
   3. Using the syllabus or textbooks, select more specific sources.
4.) As you read, begin forming ideas in your mind about (a.) your overall hypothesis, and (b.) the evidence you need to support your argument.
5.) As you read and take notes, make sure you have the bibliographic information for your source: author, title, place of publication, publisher, and relevant pages.
6.) Towards the end of your reading, draw up an outline of the essay. If you are missing sources for the argument you would like to present, then do additional reading.

c.) Citing Your Sources:
1.) Assuming three paragraphs per page, you should have one source or note per paragraph.
2.) Every idea that is not your own and all significant data you use in your essay should be sourced. In particular, quotations must be sourced.
3.) Use end notes or footnotes in the following format:


4.) For a second, non-sequential citation of the same work a short citation:
   27. McCoy, Southeast Asia Since 1800, pp. 77-78.

5.) If you are citing the same source in sequence, use Ibid for second citation:
   27. McCoy, Southeast Asia Since 1800, pp. 77-78.
   28. Ibid., pp. 79-80.
   29. Ibid., pp. 80-81.


2.) STEP TWO—Framing the Argument:-
a.) Outline: With your reading done, you are ready to outline your argument. Begin by articulating the single, central question you will ask and answer in the course of this paper. Next, write a one- or two-page outline of your essay with the basic components discussed below.

b.) Overall structure: Every scientific report, whether natural or social, has three basic elements—the problem/hypothesis, the evidence/argument, and the conclusion. To summarize very broadly, the introduction asks a question and poses a hypothesis, the argument arrays evidence to explore that hypothesis in the form of an analytical narrative, and the conclusion reflects upon the original hypothesis in light of the evidence presented.

   Of these three elements, the opening formulation of an hypothesis is, by far, the most difficult. In your opening paragraph, try to stand back from the dense mass of material you have read and articulate a thesis, which usually explains causality (why events occurred) or analyzes significance (the particular import of an event or a pattern of events). Then identify the factors, topics, or elements that you will explore to test your thesis. Ideally, these factors should serve as a broad outline of the topics that you will explore in the next section of your essay, the argument/evidence. Here are some further reflections on each of these sections:

   1.) The Problem: In your introduction, state the problem clearly.
      a.) If necessary, you should give your definition of any key terms that require a specific usage (e.g., “revolution.”)
      b.) In stating your problem, refer to the literature in the syllabus.
c.) A standard and often effective device is to identify two differing schools of thought about a single problem and offer resolution.

d.) Make sure you are examining the main point, not a secondary or side issue.

2.) **The Evidence:** In the middle part of your essay, you must present evidence—in the form of a coherent analytical narrative—to deal with the problem posed at the beginning of your essay. Be specific. Give the reader a brief narrative of an event or provide some statistical or anecdotal evidence.

3.) **The Conclusion:** In the final page or two of your essay, reflect on the problem as stated in the introduction in light of the evidence you presented in the middle part of the essay. Stretch the data you present for clarity, but do not exaggerate or over-extend the usefulness of your data.

c.) **Level of Argument:** Some students produce papers that fill all the demands of the format but do not produce an argument that fully engages the problem.

1.) Drawing upon reading and class discussion, try to frame an argument that seems to address the question in the most direct and significant manner possible, drawing the most convincing possible evidence to support the case you are making.

2.) By reading several sources with diverse viewpoints and reflecting on the authors’ approaches, you can define an appropriate question and level of analysis.

3.) **STEP THREE—Writing the Essay:**

a.) **Procedure:**

1.) Write an outline of about 2 pages for a 10-15 page essay. Each projected paragraph in the essay should be a line in your outline.

2.) Following your outline, write a first draft taking care to introduce transitional clauses or sentences that allow the reader to follow your argument paragraph by paragraph.

3.) Reading aloud to yourself, if necessary, edit the prose and produce a second draft.

4.) In your outline, you should have 3 basic sections—(a.) *Introduction* that states your thesis clearly, (b.) *Argument*, which arrays your evidence in an analytical, annotated narrative; and (c.) *Conclusion*, which reflects on the thesis in light of the evidence.

b.) **Sentences:**

1.) Each sentence should be a complete sentence with subject, verb, and direct object.

2.) Vary your sentences to include short periodic sentences, simple compound sentences, compound sentences with clauses in apposition, and longer sentences communicating detail.

c.) **Paragraphs:**

1.) Start each paragraph with “topic sentence”—that is, a periodic or compound sentence stating the basic message of this particular paragraph. A reader should be able to gain the sense of the essay’s argument and structure by reading the first sentence in each paragraph.

2.) Varying your sentence structure, elaborate and expand this theme into a fully developed paragraph.
3.) Within the paragraph, try to link your sentences with words such as “similarly,” “moreover,” and “however” so that they flow from one sentence to another.
4.) Paragraphs should not be too long. If you need a rough guide, have 3 paragraphs to a page with 8 to 10 typed lines in each.

d.) Aspire to style:
   1.) There is a music—with melody and rhythm—to your writing. Sensitize your mind's ear to the rhythms of your prose. Try to make your writing an expression of your inner voice.
   2.) As in all forms of discourse, there is an appropriate style for an academic essay somewhere between the chatty colloquial and the overly formal.
      a.) Use a formal voice—not ponderous, just formal.
      b.) Avoid contractions (can't, didn't).
      c.) Avoid colloquialisms.