

PIA3033: CULTURE AND CHANGE IN ASIA

Effective Term

Semester B 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Culture and Change in Asia

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

3033

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

AIS3033 Culture and Change in Asia

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course provides an introduction to Asian societies and cultures, with an emphasis on basic cultural patterns, social structure and social changes in East and Southeast Asia. It is a historical and anthropological journey through which

students will come to see the region as a cultural and geographical unit with complex linguistic complexities and ethnic diversity, and also a region undergoing massive changes. Students will have a chance to handle cultural projects with selected topics that interest them.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Distinguish and evaluate emerging dynamics and patterns of social, cultural, and political change in Asia	20	x		
2	Critically analyze Asian societies and cultures	20	x	x	x
3	Apply learned concepts to analyze nuanced features of social and cultural change in Asian societies	20	x	x	x
4	Develop individual research paper or group projects	20	x	x	x
5	Demonstrate the ability to organize data and accomplish research writing	20	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Students will learn from lectures and tutorials	Lectures will present key concepts, theories, and cases, and tutorials will involve more in-depth discussions of specific cases	1	
2	Students will engage in small group discussions	Students will discuss key concepts, theories, and cases with their peers and share their ideas with the lecturer	2	

3	Students will conduct research on a chosen topic and present their findings	Students will form groups to conduct research on a chosen topic and write a research paper. The paper will require a clear, sufficiently narrow research question and a sufficient engagement with scholarly sources.	3	
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Quiz	1	20	Students will work on a quiz in class to show their understanding of course material.
2	Tutorial	1, 2, 3	30	Students will study reading materials and engage in team discussion regarding various topics in the course.
3	In-class discussions	2, 3	15	Short writing exercises will be conducted in class to assess students' understanding of lectures and readings.
4	Group research paper	3, 4, 5	35	Students will write a research paper on topics related to the course.

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. In-class writing

Criterion

Understanding of Asian cultures, peoples and social changes.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Sophisticated understanding and effective use of cultural concepts and theories

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good understanding and appropriate use of relevant concepts and theories

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Evidence of basic understanding of the course content

Marginal (D)

Little evidence of basic understanding of the course content

Failure (F)

No evidence of understanding of course material

Assessment Task

2. Group research paper

Criterion

Original content and good research material and good understanding of existing literature

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Highly original content, appropriate use of concepts, and good arguments substantiated by evidence

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good research effort and application of learned concepts

Fair (C+, C, C-)

A satisfactory attempt to conduct original research

Marginal (D)

Below-average research and writing

Failure (F)

Poor research with little understanding of learned material

Assessment Task

3. Quiz

Criterion

Show ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Marginal (D)

Limited ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Failure (F)

Poor ability to identify and describe the significance of theories, concepts, events, persons, and entities covered in the course

Assessment Task**4. Tutorial****Criterion**

Show ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Marginal (D)

Limited ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Failure (F)

Poor ability to understand and interrogate reading materials and conduct simple research related to the course content

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Anthropology, social change, cultural diversity, cultural system, cultural politics, local knowledge, Southeast and East Asian ethnography

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Alexander, J. & Seidman, S. eds., 1990. Culture and Society: Contemporary Debates. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2	Brown, M. ed. 1996. Negotiating Ethnicities in China and Taiwan. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies.
3	Chan Y. W. , D . Haines and J. H. X. Lee, eds. 2014. The Age of Asian Migration: Continuity, Diversity, and Susceptibility (Volume I). Newcastle : Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
4	Emmerson, D. 1984. ‘ “Southeast Asia” : What is in a Name?’ Journal of Southeast Asian Studies 15(1): 1-21.
5	Geertz, C., 1973. The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays. New York: Basic Books
6	Hawkins, B. K. 2004. Asian Religions: An Illustrated Introduction. New YorkL Pearson Longman.
7	Keyes, C. F. (1995) The Golden Peninsula: Culture and Adaptation in Mainland Southeast Asia. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
8	King, V . T. and W. D. Wilder . 2003 . The Modern Anthropology of South-east Asia: An Introduction. New York: Routledge.
9	Leinbach, T. R. and R. Ulack, eds. 2000. Southeast Asia: Diversity and Development. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

10	Mackerras, C ., ed. 2003 . Ethnicity in Asia . New York: RoutledgeCurzon.
11	Popkin, S. L., 1979. The Rational Peasant: The Political Economy of Rural Society in Vietnam. Berkeley and L.A.: University of California Press.
12	Osborne, M . 2004 . Southeast Asia: An Introductory History . Crows Nest, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin.
13	Reid, Anthony (1988) Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, vol. 1&2. New Haven: Yale University Press.
14	Reid, A. 1996. Sojourners and Settlers: Histories of Southeast Asia and the Chinese. St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin.
15	Reid, A. 2010. Imperial Alchemy: Nationalism and Political Identity in Southeast Asia. New York: Cambridge University Press.
16	Rosaldo, R. ed., 2003. Cultural Citizenship in Island Southeast Asia: National and Belonging in the Hinterlands. Berkeley and L.A.: University of California Press.
17	SarDesai, D. R. 2010. Southeast Asia: Past & Present. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press.
18	Sen, K. and M. Stivens, eds. 1998. Gender and Power in Affluent Asia. New York: Routledge.
19	Sponsel, L. ed., 2000. Endangered Peoples of Southeast and East Asia – Struggle to Survive and Thrive. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
20	Tan, C. B., ed. 2011. Chinese Food and Foodways in Southeast Asia and Beyond. Singapore: NUS Press.
21	Wangsgard, D. B. ed., 2008. Culture and Development in Southeast Asia. Bangkok: White Lotus Co. Ltd.
22	Winter, T., P. Teo and T.C. Chang eds. 2009. Asia on Tour: Exploring the Rise of Asian Tourism. New York: Routledge.
23	Yamashita, S., Bosco, J. & Eades, J. S., 2004. The Making of Anthropology in East and Southeast Asia. New York: Berghahn Books.
24	Yoshino, K. ed., 1999. Consuming Ethnicity and Nationalism: Asian Experiences. Honolulu: University of Hawai’ I Press.