Core Area:

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence social behavior.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course examines security relations in Asia-Pacific. Following a discussion of war and decolonization (1932-1949), we will take a closer look at Cold War security structures in the region (hub-and-spokes relationships with the U.S., the creation of ASEAN, the need to “enmesh” Japan, deal with an increasingly powerful China, etc.). We will then focus on non-traditional security challenges such as piracy, illegal trafficking of people and goods, infectious diseases, environmental disasters, etc. Paying particular attention to Southeast Asia, we will come to appreciate that countries like Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Singapore not only have a different conceptualization of sovereignty than their western allies who are trying to aid them in tackling these challenges, but that, due to the great political heterogeneity of these Southeast Asian countries, there are also significant differences within the region when it comes to curtailing a state’s autonomy. Core concepts such as non-interventionism, non-use of force, consensus decision-making, sovereignty, and the protection of human rights will feature prominently in our discussions.

In addition to its substantive focus, the course is designed to sharpen your listening, analytical, and communication skills through active participation in the seminar, writing assignments, as well as a presentation and simulation exercise.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to use their knowledge of various state/ non-state actors in Asia Pacific in a practical problem-solving way to address issues of immediate concern to these actors. Students should be aware of the diverse cultural/ethnic backgrounds of these international actors and the many challenges that arise from their heterogeneity. Students, moreover, will demonstrate the ability to describe the causal and determinant relationships between various actors and their security concerns and will be able to explain specific cases where human security is threatened. Students should also be able to express their arguments clearly and effectively both in written reports and in their research and oral presentations; and work in small groups in a way that demonstrates respect for their colleagues and efficiency in working collaboratively towards projects and goals.
Required Text:

Other readings will be uploaded to Canvas


Course Requirements

Students must have completed all their readings for each class and are expected to participate in classroom discussions. Students must also keep up with current events in world politics by regularly reading a high quality news source like the *New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times*, etc.

The course grade will be as follows:

Class participation 25%
Simulation 25%
Research Paper 50% (an analytical paper of 20 pages that deals with a Pacific security issue; further instructions will be provided and the paper topic needs to be approved)

No screens (open laptops, tablets, phones) will be permitted during class to facilitate active engagement and minimize interruptions.

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance is expected and essential for obtaining a passing grade.

Honor Code:

The Georgia Tech Honor Code is available online: [http://www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9](http://www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9). If caught cheating, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

Students with Disabilities:

Georgia Tech is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities through the ADAPTS program (http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/). Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate his/her educational opportunities. Students with disabilities must be registered with the ADAPTS-Disability Services Program prior to receiving accommodations in this course. The ADAPTS-Disability Services Program is located in Smithgall Student Services Building, phone 404-894-2564 or TDD only 404-894-1664.
Readings

Aug. 20  Introduction
Syllabus, Autobiography

Aug. 22  War and Decolonization


Aug. 27  Reconciliation


(video from the Korean History Foundation)

Aug. 29  Security Developments in Asia-Pacific During the Cold War


http://www.eai.or.kr/type/panelView.asp?bytag=n&code=eng_enewsletter&idx=14058&page=9

Sept. 3  Southeast Asia Before the Arrival of the Europeans

Milton Osborne, chapters 1-4

***bring paper proposal: a clear thesis statement, outline and abstract

Sept. 5  From European Colonialism until World War II

Milton Osborne, chapters 5-8

Sept. 10  World War II in Southeast Asia

Milton Osborne, chapter 9
Sept. 12  Paths to Independence

Milton Osborne, chapters 10-13

Sept. 17  Regional Organizations: Asia’s New Multilateralism

Michael Green and Bates Gill, Asia’s New Multilateralism: Cooperation, Competition, and the Search for Community, (New York: Columbia University Press, 2009), chapters 1 & 2. (Canvas)

Sept. 19  Regional Organizations: ASEAN

http://www.aseansec.org for a discussion of ASEAN’s history, rationale, etc.


Sept. 24  Regional Organizations: ARF

http://aseanregionalforum.asean.org for a discussion of ARF’s history, rationale, etc.


Sept. 26  Southeast Asia’s Modern History

Milton Osborne, chapters 14-15

Oct. 1  China/Japan & Southeast Asian Relations


https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Portals/10/JIPA/journals/Volume-01_Issue-2/03-Chand%20et%20al.pdf
Oct. 3 (MIDTERM for undergrads); grads work on paper

Oct. 8 Non-Traditional Security Challenges (Human Trafficking)


http://bigstory.ap.org/article/b9e0fc7155014ba78e07f1a022d90389/ap-investigation-are-slaves-catching-fish-you-buy

http://bigstory.ap.org/article/197048ef871f4b56b4a129d0e3c0f129/fishermen-rush-be-rescued-amid-indonesian-slavery-probe


Oct. 10 Non-Traditional Security Challenges (Piracy)

“Non-Traditional Security Challenges in Asia: What Role for Multilateralism”? (5 March 2007)

https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/nts/2436-non-traditional-security-chall/#.WFcwLbGZN0s


Oct. 15 RECESS (no class)

Oct. 17 Student Presentations on NTS Challenges in Asia Pacific (Infectious Diseases)

Oct. 22 Student Presentations on NTS Challenges in Asia Pacific (Environmental Disasters)

Oct. 24 Student Presentations on NTS Challenges in Asia Pacific (South China Sea)
Oct. 29  
Student Presentations on NTS Challenges in Asia Pacific (Food Security)

Oct. 31  
Non-State Actors; The Responsibility to Protect


Alex Bellamy and Mark Beeson, “The Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia: Can ASEAN Reconcile Humanitarianism and Sovereignty”? *Asian Security*, 6, no. 3 (2010), pp. 262-279. (Canvas)

Nov. 5  
The ICC & Southeast Asia


David Cohen et. al., “A Well-Reasoned Opinion? Critical Analysis of the First Case Against the Alleged Senior Leaders of the Khmer Rouge (Case 002/01), (Honolulu: East-West Center, 2015). (skim)


Nov. 7  
Singapore: A Multicultural Melting Pot

Viewing of film “1965” by Daniel Yun

Nov. 12  
Viewing of film “1965” by Daniel Yun continued, followed by discussion

Nov. 14  
Terrorism and Southeast Asia


Nov. 19  
Orientation Session for Simulation on International Security
(Hand out Scenario and Tasker; Group Assignments)

**PAPERS DUE!**

**Nov. 21**  
**Team Meetings for Simulation**  
(in-class discussions and development of a 2-3 page position paper)

**Nov. 26**  
**Inter-Team Meetings for Simulation**  
(bring copies of your position papers for each team; in-class negotiations with members from other delegations)

**Dec. 3**  
**Simulation**  
(bargaining and negotiation among different teams; closing remarks)