

Department of Political Science
McMaster University

Poli Sci 3LC3: Southeast Asian Politics

TERM 2: 2016-7

Professor: Dr. Netina Tan

Email: netina@mcmaster.ca

Office: KTH 541, Political Science Dept.

Tel: 1-905-525-9140 Ext. 21271

Office Hours: 12:30-2pm, Tuesdays OR by
appointment

Classes/Venue: Mondays (9:30-10:20am, LRW
1056) and Tuesdays (10:30-11:20am, LRW 1055)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Southeast Asia is one of the world's most diverse and dynamic regions. In this course, we will focus on the contemporary political issues of four countries in Southeast Asia, namely Burma/Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore. Drawing from comparative politics and regional studies, we begin the course by examining the rise of nationalism and state-building challenges in the postcolonial period before focusing on issues such as the role of the military, ASEAN, elections, gender equality and democratization in the region.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By end of this course, students should be able to: (1) have a broad conceptual and empirical understanding of the dynamic processes in Southeast Asia; (2) think comparatively and locate Southeast Asian political developments within the larger global context, and (3) demonstrate verbal communication skills through discussions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Discussion and Participation (15%)

Punctual class attendance and active discussion will count towards 15% of your total grade. 5% of this grade will be based on your self-evaluation, while the other 10% will be derived from attendance and quality of your in-class contributions. You will be evaluated based on the quality of your participation, regularity of your class discussions and the degree to which your interventions advance the discussion or lead to fresh insights about the ideas under consideration. *Note: students are only eligible for self-evaluation if they do not miss more than 2 classes throughout the term. You cannot earn participation grade if you are absent, regardless of illness or MSAF.*

2. Weekly Reading Response (Weeks 2-7 and 9-11) (10%)

You are expected to complete all the required readings for the week before class. In addition, you are also required to write a short response (about one paragraph) on one of the week's assigned readings and upload it on the A2L's discussion forum. **You will need to include at least one question about the reading in your response.** All responses will have to be submitted on the A2L every Sunday night by 11pm.

3. Case Study and Oral Presentation (20%): DUE: 14 Feb

You will pick a Southeast Asian country of your choice and write a 3-page (no more than 1,500 words, single-spaced, excluding bibliography) report on the quality of democracy or political development in the country. You may choose to focus on a single-pertinent topic

such as the military, political parties, political leader, current election or significant event in your country. Be sure to include: 1) a brief historical background; 2) some key socio-economic-religious demographics of the country; 3) 1-2 reasons why you selected this country; 4) 1 key problem or challenge facing the country; and 5) your policy recommendation or solution to alleviate the problem. You will need to include at least 10 academic bibliographic sources in your case study. The grade of this case study (15%).

You will also spend **60 secs** each to talk about your case study in class (14 Feb). Given the time limit, you will need to carefully craft what you'll like to say and time yourself prior to your presentation. This component of class presentation will be peer-graded (5%). You may like to prepare handouts or notes prior to your 60 secs presentation, but it is not mandatory.

4. Mid-Term Quiz (25%): 7 Mar

A test will be conducted in class on **7 Mar**. This test will cover all the materials introduced in Weeks 1-9. This 45-minute quiz will consist of multiple-choice questions, fill-in-the-blanks and short concept answers. The test will begin at 2:30pm sharp and end at 3:20pm. Students are advised to arrive on time, and will not be excused from the test until the time is up. **NB: if you miss the quiz, do not assume a re-write is possible.**

5. Research paper (30%): DUE: 28 Mar

You will write a research paper (about 2,500 words, no more than six pages, single-spaced, excluding bibliography) based on the questions listed below. Focus on your question early in the course so that you can become familiar with the country's problems and history. You can draw on sources in the list enclosed under "Additional Resources". Please see me during office hour, at least once during the course to discuss your research paper. You will submit the paper in hardcopy in class and also upload the soft-copy on A2L. **Note: Only hardcopy submissions will be graded.**

List of Research Questions: Select ONE from the following.

1. Discuss the political role of the monarchy in Thailand. What do you think will be the prospects of democracy given the recent death of King Bhumipol and his son's succession?
2. Why are some states prone to coups and withdrawal? What is the appropriate role of the military in a democracy? Discuss and support your argument with reference to at least two cases in SE Asia.
3. Corruption is a key obstacle to democratization. Discuss with reference to at least two countries in SE Asia.
4. Will elections bring about democracy? What is wrong with electoral fraud? Discuss with specific examples and references to at least two countries in Southeast Asia.
5. Is leadership important in bringing about regime stability and democratic governance? Other than more important factors? Discuss with specific examples and references to at least two countries in Southeast Asia.
6. Why do some authoritarian regimes persist in Asia? Based on the theories of democratization covered in this course, identify and discuss three key factors that impede democratization. Support your argument with reference to two SE countries.

7. It has been argued that an authoritarian regime is necessary to hold an ethnically and culturally divided society together. Do you agree? Support your argument with reference to two countries in SE Asia.
8. Why are women under-represented in Southeast Asian politics? Identify three key obstacles deterring the political participation of women and offer at least three solutions to overcome these problems. Be sure to include at least 2 empirical examples or countries in your study.
9. Is social media a form of “liberalization technology” and promotes democratization as Larry Diamond has said? Discuss with reference to two countries in SE Asia.
10. Does ASEAN make a difference to the interstate security conflicts or human rights? Discuss with reference to two specific examples from SE Asia.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments	Grade
Class discussion and participation	/15
10 X weekly responses	/10
Case study	/15
Case presentation	/5
Mid-term quiz	/25
Final research paper	/30
Total	100

COURSE SCHEDULE

Wk	Mon/Thurs	9:30-10:20am	Tue	10:30-11:20
1	5 Jan, Thurs	Course introduction		
2	9 Jan	What is Southeast Asia?	10 Jan	Approaches
3	16 Jan	Burma/Myanmar	17 Jan	
4	23 Jan	Thailand	24 Jan	
5	30 Jan	Indonesia	31 Jan	
6	6 Feb	Singapore	7 Feb	
7	13 Feb	Military and Ethnic Conflicts	14 Feb	Case Study Due Case Presentations
8	Mid-Term Recess (20-24 Feb)			
9	27 Oct	Elections and Electoral Systems	28 Oct	
10	6 Mar	Mid-Term Review Informal Course Evaluation	7 Mar	Mid-term Quiz
11	13 Mar	Gender Equality and Political Representation	14 Mar	
12	20 Mar	Democratization	21 Mar	
13	27 Mar	ASEAN	28 Mar	Final Paper Due
14	3 Apr	Course Review		

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

- Dayley, Robert and Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press.
- Kingsbury, Damien. *South-East Asia: A Political Profile*. South Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Note: Dayley and Neher's book will be available for purchase at the campus bookstore while the other books are on course reserve at the Mills library. Most of the electronic journal articles are available on Avenue.

WEEKLY READINGS

Week 1: Introduction

1. Emerson, Donald. "What's in the Name 'Southeast Asia?'" *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 15, pp. 1-21, 1984.

Week 2: What is Southeast Asia?

1. Dayley, Robert and Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, pp. 1-26.
2. Kingsbury, Damien. 2008. *Southeast Asia: A Political Profile*. U.K.: Oxford University Press, 3-23.
3. Kuhonta, Erik Martinez, Dan Slater, and Vu Tuong. 2008. "Introduction: Contributions of Southeast Asian Political Studies." In *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis*, 1–29. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.

Week 2: Approaches

1. Case, William. "Comparing Politics in Southeast Asia." *Politics in Southeast Asia: Democracy or Less*. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon, 2002, Chapter 1.
2. Kuhonta, Erik Martinez. 2008. "Studying States in Southeast Asia." In *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis*, 30–54. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.
3. Rodan, Garry, Kevin Hewison, and Richard Robinson. "Theorising South-East Asia's Boom, Bust and Recovery." In *The Political Economy of South-East Asia: Conflict, Crises, and Change*, 1–43. Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Week 3: Burma/Myanmar

1. Jones, Lee. "The Political Economy of Myanmar's Transition." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 44, no. 1 (January 2, 2014): 144–70.
2. Croissant, Aurel, and Jil Kamerling. 2013. "Why Do Military Regimes Institutionalize? Constitution-Making and Elections as Political Survival Strategy in Myanmar" 21 (2): 105–25.
3. Blažević, Igor. "The Challenges Ahead." *Journal of Democracy* 27, no. 2 (April 15, 2016): 101.

Recommended:

1. Englehart, Neil A. 2012. "Two Cheers for Burma's Rigged Election." *Asian Survey* 52 (4): 666–86.
2. Zin, Min. 2016. "The New Configuration of Power." *Journal of Democracy* 27 (2): 116–31.
3. Dayley, Robert and Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, pp. 73-104.
4. Callahan, Mary. 2012. "The Generals Loosen Their Grip." *Journal of Democracy* 23 (4): 120–131.

Week 4: Thailand

1. Dayley, Robert and Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, pp. 27-72.
2. Baker, Chris. 2016. "The 2014 Thai Coup and Some Roots of Authoritarianism." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 46 (3): 388–404.
3. Kongkirati, Prajak. 2014. "The Rise and Fall of Electoral Violence in Thailand: Changing Rules, Structures and Power Landscapes, 1997–2011." *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 36 (3): 386–416.
4. Kuhonta, Erik Martinez, and Aim Sinpeng. 2014. "Democratic Regression in Thailand: The Ambivalent Role of Civil Society and Political Institutions." *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 36 (3): 333–55.

Recommended:

1. Prasirtsuk, Kitti. 2015. "Thailand in 2014: Another Coup, a Different Coup?" *Asian Survey* 55 (1): 200–206.
2. Chachavalpongpun, Pavin. 2011. "The Necessity of Enemies in Thailand's Troubled Politics." *Asian Survey* 51 (6): 1019–41.
3. McCargo, Duncan. "Network Monarchy and Legitimacy Crises in Thailand." *The Pacific Review* 18, no. 4 (December 1, 2005): 499–519.

Week 5: Indonesia

1. Dayley, Robert and Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, pp. 223-258.
2. Aspinall, Edward. 2014. "When Brokers Betray: Clientelism, Social Networks, and Electoral Politics in Indonesia." *Critical Asian Studies* 46 (4): 545–70.
3. Hamayotsu, Kikue. 2015. "Indonesia in 2014: The Year of Electing the People's President." *Asian Survey* 55 (1): 174–83.

Recommended:

1. Mjuani, Saiful, and R. William Liddle. 2013. "Personalities, Parties, and Voters." *Journal of Democracy* 21 (2): 35–49.
2. Mietzner, Marcus. 2013. "Praetorian Rule and Redemocratisation in South-East Asia and the Pacific Islands: The Case of Indonesia." *Australian Journal of International Affairs* 67 (3): 297–311.
3. Pepinsky, Thomas B., R. William Liddle, and Saiful Mujani. 2012. "Testing Islam's Political Advantage: Evidence from Indonesia." *American Journal of Political Science* 56(3): 584–600.
4. Davidson, Jamie S. 2009. "Dilemmas of Democratic Consolidation in Indonesia." *The Pacific Review* 22 (3): 293–310.

Week 6: Singapore

1. Dayley, Robert, Clark D Neher. 2013. *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, pp.303-322.
2. Tan, Netina. 2013. "Manipulating Electoral Laws in Singapore." *Electoral Studies* 32 (4): 632–43.
3. Morgenbesser, Lee. 2016. "The Autocratic Mandate: Elections, Legitimacy and Regime Stability in Singapore." *The Pacific Review* 0 (0): 1–27.

Recommended:

1. Zakaria, Fareed, and Lee Kuan Yew. 1994. "Culture Is Destiny: A Conversation with Lee Kuan Yew." *Foreign Affairs* 73 (2) (March 1): 109–126.
2. Emerson, Donald K. "Singapore and the 'Asian Values' Debate." *Journal of Democracy* 6, no. 4 (1995): 95–105.
3. Tan, Netina. "Democratization and Embracing Uncertainty in Post-2011 Singapore." In *Democracy in Eastern Asia*, edited by Edmund Fung and Steven Drakeley, Chapter 9. UK: Routledge, 2013.
4. Case, William. "Singapore: A Stable Semi-Democracy." In *Politics in Southeast Asia: Democracy or Less*, 81–98. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon, 2002.
5. Economist. 2015. "The Singapore Exception." *The Economist*, July 18.

Week 7: The Role of Military and Ethnic Conflicts

1. Kingsbury, Damien. "Security Issues." In *South-East Asia: A Political Profile*, 72–102. South Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 2005.
2. Barron, Patrick, Sana Jaffrey, and Ashutosh Varshney. 2016. "When Large Conflicts Subside: The Ebbs and Flows of Violence in Post-Suharto Indonesia." *Journal of East Asian Studies*, July.
3. Hamilton-Hart, Natasha. 2013. "The Costs of Coercion: Modern Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective." *The Pacific Review* 26 (1): 65–87.
4. Holliday, Ian. "Ethnicity and Democratization in Myanmar." *Asian Journal of Political Science* 18, no. 2 (August 1, 2010): 111–28.

Recommended:

1. Huntington, Samuel P. "I. Reforming Civil-Military Relations." *Journal of Democracy* 6, no. 4 (1995): 9–17.
2. Bajoria, Jayshree, and Carin Zissis. 2008. "The Muslim Insurgency in Southern Thailand". Council of Foreign Relations. *Council on Foreign Relations*.
3. Ian Holliday. 2008. "Voting and Violence in Myanmar: Nation Building for a Transition to Democracy." *Asian Survey* 48(6): 1038-1058.

Week 8: Mid-Term Recess**Week 9: Elections and Electoral Systems**

1. Hicken, Allen. "Developing Democracies in Southeast Asia: Theorizing the Role of Parties and Elections." In *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis*, 80–101. USA: Stanford University Press, 2008.
2. Reilly, Benjamin. "Democratization and Electoral Reform in the Asia-Pacific Region: Is There an 'Asian Model' of Democracy?" *Comparative Political Studies* 40, no. 11 (2007): 1350–1371.

3. “UNDP Study on Understanding Electoral Violence in Asia.” 2016. *UNDP*. Accessed December 3.
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/democraticgovernance/globalprogrammes/global_programmeforelectoralcyclesupport/highlights/undp_study_on_understandingelectoralviolenceinasia.html.

Recommended:

1. Ufen, Andreas. “Party Systems, Critical Junctures, and Cleavages in Southeast Asia.” *Asian Survey* 52, no. 3 (June 1, 2012): 441–464.
2. Reilly, Benjamin. “Electoral Systems for Divided Societies.” *Journal of Democracy* 13, no. 2 (2002): 156–170.
3. Hicken, Allen, and Yuko Kasuya. “A Guide to the Constitutional Structures and Electoral Systems of East, South and Southeast Asia.” *Electoral Studies* 22, no. 1 (2003): 121 – 151.

Week 10: Mid-term review and mid-term quiz

Week 11: Gender Equality and Political Representation of Women

1. Thompson, Mark. 2002. “Female Leadership of Democratic Transitions in Asia.” *Pacific Affairs* 75 (4): 535–55.
2. Krook, Mona Lena. 2010. “Studying Political Representation: A Comparative-Gendered Approach.” *Perspectives on Politics* 8 (1): 233–40.
3. Tan, Netina. 2016. “Gender Reforms, Electoral Quotas, and Women’s Political Representation in Taiwan, South Korea, and Singapore.” *Pacific Affairs* 89 (2): 309–23.

Recommended:

1. Shair-Rosenfield, S. 2012. “The Alternative Incumbency Effect: Electing Women Legislators in Indonesia.” *Electoral Studies* 31 (3): 576–87.
2. Norris, Pippa. 2012. “Gender Equality in Elected Office in Asia-Pacific: Six Actions to Expand Women’s Empowerment.” *UNDP*.
http://www.mn.undp.org/content/mongolia/en/home/library/democratic_governance/Gender-equality-in-elected-office-in-Asia-Pacific.html
3. Tan, Netina. 2016. “Why Are Gender Reforms Adopted in Singapore? Party Pragmatism and Electoral Incentives.” *Pacific Affairs* 89 (2): 369–93.
4. True, Jacqui, Nicole George, Sara Niner, and Swati Parashar. 2013. “Women’s Political Participation in Asia-Pacific.” New York: SSRC Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum. http://profilesarts.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/sara-niner/files/2012/03/CPPEF_WomenInPolitics_03_True.pdf

Week 12: Democratization

1. Slater, Dan, and Joseph Wong. 2013. “The Strength to Concede: Ruling Parties and Democratization in Developmental Asia.” *Perspectives on Politics* 11 (3): 717–33.
2. Neher, Clark D. “Asian Style Democracy.” *Asian Survey* 34, no. 11 (November 1, 1994): 949–961.
3. Slater, D. 2006. The Architecture of Authoritarianism: Southeast Asia & the Regeneration of Democratization Theory. *Taiwan Journal of Democracy* 2(2): 1-22.

Recommended:

1. Chang, Alex, Yun-han Chu, and Bridget Welsh. 2013. "Southeast Asia: Sources of Regime Support." *Journal of Democracy* 24 (2): 150–64.
2. Kim, Yung-Myung. 1997. "Asian-Style Democracy': A Critique from East Asia." *Asian Survey* 37 (12): 1119–34.
3. Zakaria, Fareed. 1997. "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs* 76 (6) (November 1): 22–43.

Week 13: Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

1. Eaton, Sarah, and Richard Stubbs. 2006. "Is ASEAN Powerful? Neo-Realist Versus Constructivist Approaches to Power in Southeast Asia 1." *The Pacific Review* 19 (2): 135–55. doi:10.1080/09512740500473148.
2. Davies, Mathew. 2016. "Women and Development, Not Gender and Politics: Explaining ASEAN's Failure to Engage with the Women, Peace and Security Agenda." *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 38 (1): 106–27.
3. Acharya, Amitav. 2014. "The Evolution of ASEAN Norms and the Emergence of the 'ASEAN Way.'" In *Constructing a Security Community in Southeast Asia: ASEAN and the Problem of Regional Order*, London ; New York: Routledge, 47–80.

Week 14: Course Review

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

Citation and Style Guidelines

All written work ought to follow the author-date citation style according to the Chicago Manual of Style available here: <https://library.mcmaster.ca/citation-and-style-guides>

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due dates. Assignments turned in after the beginning of the class will not earn full credit. 10 percent of the total grade will be deducted each day after the submission deadline (weekends count as one day). Late assignments will not be accepted 48 hours after the original deadline. To avoid late penalties and ensure fairness, a MSAF or medical certification that has been presented to your Faculty Office is required. If you anticipate having problems meeting the deadlines, please contact me before the assignment is due to discuss your situation

In-class Behavior

All cell-phones must be turned off and stowed away during class.

Academic Dishonesty

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of

academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity. The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism (e.g. work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained).
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Special arrangements can be made for students with disabilities. If you need assistance because of a disability please consult with the Student Accessibility Services (SAS), MUSC Room B107, ext. 29652. Information is also available online, at <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>. Once you have consulted with a program coordinator, you need to notify me as soon as possible with respect to your accommodation needs.

McMaster Statement on Electronic Resources.

In this course, we will be using the Avenue2Learn site (avenue.mcmaster.ca). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with me.

Course Modifications

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The student is responsible for keeping up with the changes, which will either be announced in class or via Avenue to Learn. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-Mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Additional Resources

Asia Sentinel (<http://www.asiasentinel.com/>)
 BBC Country Profiles (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/);
 Bertelsmann Transformation Index BTI (<http://www.bti-project.org/country-reports/>)
 Economist (<http://www.economist.com/>)
 Foreign Affairs (<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/>)
 Freedom House (<http://www.freedomhouse.org/country/malaysia>)
 Guardian (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>)
 Inter-Parliamentary Union (<http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp>)
 PBS (<http://www.pbs.org/>)
 Polity IV Project (<http://www.systemicpeace.org/polity/polity4.htm>)

Transparency International (<http://www.transparency.org/country#CMR>)
 CIA World Fact Book (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>).
 World Bank Development Indicators (<http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators>)
 France 24 (<http://www.france24.com/en/taxonomy/emission/18022>)
 Channel News Asia (<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/video/index.php>)

Burma

BBC Country Profile: Burma (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1300003.stm)
 CIA Country Report on Burma (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/bm.html>)
 Movie link: Eye of the storm (<http://itunes.apple.com/podcast/wide-angle-pbs/id318782930>)
 Trailer: Future of Burma/Myanmar (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRnSOg-otQU>)

Thailand

BBC Country Profile: Thailand (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1237845.stm)
 Thailand's political turmoil (<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/11/26/f-thailand.html>)
 Protestors in Thailand
 (<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2008/08/28/world/asia/1194817477604/protesters-in-thailand.html?scp=1&sq=thailand&st=cse>)

Indonesia

BBC Country Profile: Indonesia (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1260544.stm)
 Rise and Fall of the strongman Suharto (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/903024.stm>)
 Indonesia in crisis: Struggling with history
 (<http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/indonesia/index.html>)
 Strengthening Indonesia's Democracy
 (<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2007/04/18/weekinreview/1194817106230/strengthening-indonesia-s-democracy.html>)

Singapore

CIA Country Report on Singapore (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sn.html>)
 BBC Country Profile: Singapore
 (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1143240.stm)
 Freedom House Profile: Singapore (<http://www.freedomhouse.org/country/singapore>)

ASEAN

BBC Country Profile: ASEAN (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/4114415.stm)
 ASEAN Website: <http://www.asean.org/>

Suggestions for Writing a Research Paper

Checklist

Keep to word/page limit.

Answer the question.

Ensure that you have adequate evidence to support any statement that you're going to make, which can be challenged

Use the spell-check on your computer.

Check through your work to ensure that it is free of spelling, typing, grammatical and other errors.

Plagiarism is an offence. Make sure you cite your sources.

Use Chicago Manual In-Text Citation Style, see

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html or

<https://library.mcmaster.ca/articles/chicago-manual-style-onlin>

All papers should contain a bibliography or work-cited. Consider using bibliography software such as Zotero: <https://www.zotero.org/> (is free!)

Your research paper should have at least three parts: introduction, the middle and the conclusion. The three sections include the following:

Introduction

A clear and strong thesis statement of the problem you propose to tackle (you need to take a position)

Show how the essay is constructed around a central hypothesis, question or issue.

A guide to how the essay is organized.

A preliminary statement of conclusions

For example: In this essay, I will argue that ...

The Middle

The overall structure may vary according to topic and how you tackle it.

Remember what the marker/reader is looking for.

Flesh out the issue/hypothesis you are addressing and then develop a clear argument.

Present the evidence, detailed examples or case studies. Use the course readings and lecture notes to expand on your argument. You need to demonstrate theoretical understanding (key scholars involved and their respective positions) and empirical knowledge (cases/countries/timing etc).

Conclusion

Summarize your analysis (If you do not have any conclusions, your essay is not clear enough.

But don't be afraid to be inconclusive if that's where your argument leads you. If you have to introduce new material in the conclusion to establish what you want to say, then you consider rewriting the essay and incorporating this material in the body of the text.)

Be modest but clear in your claims.