

# SA.770 (SOUTHEAST ASIA STUDIES)

## SA.770.000. Southeast Asia Independent Study. 4 Credits.

### SA.770.611. Demystifying Indonesia: The Political Economy of an Important Southeast Asian State. 4 Credits.

This course examines the dynamics of power, business, politics and economic growth in Indonesia. The course begins with a review of modern Indonesian history, its political, social and economic development, and the multiple crises that have brought chaos and opportunity to the world's most populous Muslim state. It examines contemporary Indonesian politics and Indonesia's complex relationships with global capital markets, international financial institutions and donors. [Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/courses/southeast_asian_studies.html#SEA770611)

**Prerequisite(s):** Students may not register for this class if they have already received credit for SA.770.610[C]

### SA.770.631. Democracy in Asia. 4 Credits.

The course is designed to provide both a conceptual understanding of democratic theories and an empirical knowledge of experiences of democratic transition and consolidation in a number of different Asian countries. It will investigate different forms of democracy, focussing particularly in new- or late-democratizing countries of East and Southeast Asia. The course begins by looking at the various models of democracy, and the tension between institutional and societal-based theories of democratic change. The course will then apply these theories to Southeast Asia, examining the role of formal democratic institutions, the processes of democratic consolidation, and the relationship between democracy and development. [Click here to see a video introduction for the course.](https://jh.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=556cd3e8-2797-4633-aa36-a872013e8c8e) [Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios](http://bit.ly/1bebp5s)

### SA.770.709. American Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia. 4 Credits.

This is a course about foreign policy analysis in one of the most dynamic, fluid and conflict-prone regions of the world. From China's challenge in the South China Sea to the threat of radical Islamic terrorism to the perturbations of emerging markets, U.S. foreign policy faces diverse political, economic, trade and security issues in Southeast Asia. 'American Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia' analyzes the U.S. policy making process, investigates the key players in the region and beyond, and assesses the instruments of hard and soft power employed by the U.S. in implementing policy. Students will also have the opportunity to collaborate in planning and writing a Southeast Asia policy for the new U.S. administration. [Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios](http://bit.ly/1bebp5s)

### SA.770.712. International Relations of Southeast Asia. 4 Credits.

Considers the contemporary foreign policies and international relations challenges of major countries in Southeast Asia. Surveys key regional issues: evolution of ASEAN; security arrangements; trade conflicts and territorial disputes; the role of China, Japan and the United States; regional integration; transnational issues; and terrorism. Limited to 20 students. [Click here to see a video introduction for the course.](https://jh.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=385b20da-9854-44ef-8dbc-a872013e8d20) [Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios](http://bit.ly/1bebp5s)

### SA.770.721. Leaders, Followers, and Political Power. 4 Credits.

National leaders are the essence of politics and the most prominent feature of international relations. This course analyzes how leaders attain power utilizing different combinations of coercion, charisma, traditional authority, economic reward, or appeals to identity, ideology and nationalism. Special attention will be given to Southeast Asian women who have led their nations: Megawati Soekarnoputri; Aung San Suu Kyi; Cory Aquino, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, and Yingluck Shinawatra. Students from different concentrations are encouraged to participate and their term paper topics are not limited to Southeast Asian political leaders. [Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios](http://bit.ly/1bebp5s)

### SA.770.731. Introduction to Economic Growth and Development of Southeast Asia. 4 Credits.

This course is designed to familiarize students with Southeast Asia's dramatic rise from modest beginnings after the Second World War to a dynamic, rapidly growing region deeply integrated with the global economy and with close economic ties to its giant neighbors, especially China. The course will also highlight Southeast Asia's many economic fault lines – notably rising inequality, weak governance, and a spotty environmental record, and it will examine the economic challenges facing the region as many of its members strive to avoid the middle income trap and become high income economies. Students will learn basic economic concepts and how they can be applied to yield powerful insights into Southeast Asia's past economic performance and its future prospects. By the end of the course, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the forces that powered Southeast Asian economic performance in the past and those that are likely to shape its future.

**Prerequisite(s):** SA.300.699[C] OR SA.300.700[C] OR SA.310.700[C] OR SA.999.699[C] OR SA.999.700[C]

**SA.770.752. Myanmar/Burma: Challenges of Transition. 4 Credits.**

Myanmar (Burma) is in the process of a challenging transition—from a centralized, authoritarian, military-run political system to a pluralistic “disciplined-flourishing democracy;” from a socialist, then dirigiste economy to one more market oriented and open to foreign investment; from a society characterized by personalized power to institutional norms; from centralized media and social control to one more open; from a single dominant ethnic group to a more multicultural system; and from a skewed foreign policy to a more balanced approach to international affairs. This attempt at transition, in less than half a decade, is virtually unprecedented in Asia. Such a complex set of changes is difficult, inviting a clash of vested interests, historical memories, foreign pressures, and advocacy and resulting in asynchronous growth and change. Myanmar/Burma: Challenges of Transition explores the nature of these challenges, their likely trajectories, the roles of foreign pressures and planning, and the lessons that might be drawn from such a complex process. The course objectives are: (1) to understand the internal and external dynamics of political, socio-economic, and security change in a Southeast Asian democratizing state; (2) to examine the nature, process, and inherent difficulties of Myanmar/Burma’s democratic transition; and (3) to research and write an original paper on the challenges of transition in Myanmar of sufficient quality to merit submission to an academic journal. The course will be taught by a team of specialists on Myanmar. \*This is a cross-listed course that can fulfill a requirement for International Development and Conflict Management. <a href='http://bit.ly/1bebp5s' target='\_blank'>Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios</a>

**SA.770.754. The Rohingya Refugee Crisis: Causes, Consequences, and Solutions. 4 Credits.**

This course will do a deep dive into a current, ongoing, and seemingly intractable international challenge—the humanitarian crisis of the reportedly more than 600,000 Rohingya refugees that have poured across the border from Myanmar into Bangladesh. It will involve a simulation in which students will act as members of a task force constituted by the UN Secretary General to research, analyze and diagnose the interests of all stakeholders involved in or touched by the crisis, and answer the following questions: how and why did this happen; how can the crisis be resolved; and how can the United Nations, ASEAN, and the rest of the international community help? By the end of the course, not only will students develop a detailed and multidimensional understanding of the Rohingya refugee crisis, but will learn skills that are demanded by all large organizations: the capacity to do high quality research under intense time pressure, apply sharp analytical tools to dissect complex issues, employ oral and written skills to convey ideas clearly and succinctly, work constructively in teams, and negotiate trade-offs with other team members to reach consensus. <a href='https://jh.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=205a4f71-d04b-4360-b1ad-a872013f2834' target='\_blank'>Click here to see a video introduction for the course.</a><a href='http://bit.ly/1bebp5s' target='\_blank'>Click here to see evaluations, syllabi, and faculty bios</a>