TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE
AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

**POLS 208 / INTP 208: POLITICAL CHANGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
CRN 1289 / 15289**

2012 TRIMESTER 1
5 March to 4 July

TRIMESTER DATES
Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012
Mid-trimester break: 6–22 April 2012

WITHDRAWAL DATES
Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds.aspx

LECTURER:	Professor Stephen Levine
ROOM:	Murphy Room 534 (MY534)
PHONE:	463-6099
EMAIL:	stephen.levine@vuw.ac.nz

LECTURE TIMES:	Mondays and Thursdays 13.10-14.00
VENUE:	Easterfield Lecture Theatre 206 (EA LT206)

TUTORIALS: Tutorial allocations will be arranged *in the first week* of the trimester and tutorials will begin *during the second week*. Each student will be allocated to one tutorial group. Attendance is not taken at tutorials (or lectures) but is expected.

TUTORIAL TIMES: Mondays or Thursdays 14.10-15.00 (EA LT206)

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, 3.00-4.00; Wednesdays, 11.00 – 12.00, and by appointment (email).

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Information about any changes to the timetable or programme will be announced in lectures and posted on blackboard.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course will examine constitutional issues and broader political change in a number of Southeast Asian states. Students have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of political institutions and wider political trends in countries with very diverse systems of government, including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei. 100% internal assessment.

COURSE CONTENT

The **lectures** (using powerpoint) will provide an overview of Southeast Asian countries, followed by presentations focusing on countries' political status, political leadership, political symbols, constitutions, electoral systems, legislative systems, political parties, regional cooperation and issues pertaining to human rights. The **tutorial workshops** will review matters pertaining to the essay assignments; allow students to ask questions about matters raised in publications dealing with Southeast Asian politics or in the lectures; and – in addition – will give each student an opportunity to make a brief presentation commenting either on the significance of a photograph/image (different ones to be chosen by each student) or on the usefulness of a website relating to Southeast Asian politics.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, for each of the Southeast Asian countries covered by the course, students should have a good understanding of: the historical background to contemporary politics; the constitutional framework and political institutions; and the political parties and leading political personalities. Students should also gain insights into aspects of regional cooperation in Southeast Asia. The course will also seek to identify New Zealand's interests in Southeast Asia and its relations with the various Southeast Asian countries covered by the course. Finally, students will be expected to have gained a good understanding of the contents of selected publications related to Southeast Asian politics.

RELATIONSHIP TO ASSESSMENT

The readings and lectures are designed to give students the opportunity to gain a basic understanding of the governments and political systems in the Southeast Asian countries covered by the course. The tutorials and essay assignments allow students to develop their understanding in their own way, based on discussion, critical analysis and independent research. The in-class tests will assess students' understanding of basic elements of Southeast Asian politics and comprehension of themes drawn from the lectures and readings.

COURSE READINGS

Essential texts

Readings will be listed on blackboard.

Recommended

Damien Kingsbury, *Southeast Asia: A Political Profile*, 2nd edition, Oxford University Press, 2005.

Justin Wintle, *Perfect Hostage: A Life of Aung San Suu Kyi* – on 3-day loan in the VUW Library

Anthony L. Smith (ed.), *Southeast Asia and New Zealand – A History of Regional and Bilateral Relations*, Wellington: NZ Institute of International Affairs and Victoria University Press, 2005.

ASSESSMENT

The course will be assessed on the following basis:

- **two essays**, each of at least 1,500 words (maximum 2,500 words), will count for 60% of the overall grade. Each essay will be worth 30%. Each essay should be submitted both in hard copy, with the assignment cover sheet, obtainable from the Political Science and International Relations office; and as an electronic attachment sent by email to the lecturer. When the essays have been marked, they will be returned (with comments) to students at the lecture or tutorial.

The first essay involves selection by students of an article dealing with some aspect of Southeast Asian politics, published either in an academic journal or a scholarly book. The purpose of the first essay is to give students the opportunity to read a work of appropriate academic scholarship on a topic relevant to the course and to prepare a critique of that article. The critique will need to identify the purpose(s) of the article; any theoretical or conceptual material used in the article; the research method employed by the author; the kinds of evidence used by the author in developing their analysis; and the overall conclusions of the author. The essay will also give students the opportunity to consider other ways (if any) that the topic of the article or book chapter could have been investigated (and alternative conclusions that might have been reached). The purpose of this essay assignment is to give students the opportunity to learn more about Southeast Asian politics and, secondly, to assist students in developing critical analytical skills in relation to the scholarly literature in political science and international relations.

Note: each article or book chapter must be approved by Professor Levine prior to the essay being submitted. A copy of the article or book chapter needs to be submitted with the essay. **Essays submitted on articles or book chapters that have not been approved will not be assessed.** Students are encouraged to consult Professor Levine about their choice of article or book chapter; in any case students will be asked to indicate their choice by **Monday 19 March**.

The first essay of **1,500 – 2,500 words** is worth **30%** of your overall grade and is due **5 pm, Monday 2 April.**

The second essay involves selection by students of a research topic on some aspect of Southeast Asian politics. A one-paragraph statement of the research topic – what it is about; why it is significant; why it is worth investigating – needs to be submitted in order for approval of the topic to be given. **Essays submitted on topics that have not been approved will not be assessed.** This essay is an opportunity for students to select their own topic, one of personal interest, and carry out independent and original research on it. The purpose of this essay assignment is to give students the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of some aspect of Southeast Asian politics; to give students greater experience in developing a brief research proposal; to give students greater experience in carrying out original research; and to provide students with greater experience in writing up their research findings. Students are encouraged to consult Professor Levine about their research paper topic; in any case students will be asked to indicate their choice of research paper topic, and to submit their one-paragraph statement, no later than **Monday 23 April**.

The second essay of **1,500 – 2,500 words** is worth 30% of your overall grade and is due **5 pm, Monday 28 May.**

- **in-class test** (50 minutes) (20%). This test will be held on **Thursday, 26 April**.

- **in-class test** (50 minutes) (20%). This test will be held at **Thursday, 7 June.**

These tests will be composed of essay and/or short-answer questions. As noted above, the purpose of the in-class tests is to assess students' understanding of basic elements of Southeast Asian politics. The required tutorial presentation will be graded; if the grade is better than one of the test grades, it will be averaged into that test's grade result (counting for 33% of the test).

Essays must be submitted by the due date. Extensions will be granted only in special circumstances (e.g.

illness covered by a medical certificate, a family bereavement, or critical personal circumstances beyond the student's control). Late essays <u>must</u> be handed directly either to Professor Levine or to the Programme Administrator who will record on the essays the date and time received.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS
To gain a pass in POLS 208/INTP 208 each student must:

1. submit one essay due **5 pm, Monday 2 April.**
2. submit one essay due **5 pm, Monday 28 May**
3. sit the first in-class test on **Thursday 26 April**
4. sit second in class test on **Thursday 7 June**
5. give a tutorial presentation

PLEASE NOTE that **7 June** is the FINAL DATE on which any written work can be accepted by the Programme, since this is the date on which we must determine whether students have met the course requirements. This means that the provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply beyond this date. Permission to submit work after 3 June must be sought in writing from the Head of Programme, and will only be granted for <u>serious</u> medical reasons (supported by medical certificate), or in case of <u>serious</u> personal crisis.

NB: A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course, will receive a K grade for that course, while a course mark less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D or E).

PENALTIES
Students will be penalised for late submission of essays—a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

WORKLOAD
In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, the overall workload for this course is 200 hours. This includes two hours of lectures and one hour of tutorials per week.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE
A Class Representative will be elected in class and the person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The Class Representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinators on behalf of students.

THE USE OF TURNITIN
Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<u>http://www.turnitin.com</u>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted

materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: *http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx*

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at *www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study*. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at *www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress*. Most statutes and policies are available at *www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy*, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at *www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx* (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at *www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic*.