Instructor: Nancy Eberhardt  
Office: 307 GDH, ext. 7242  
Class schedule: MWF 3rd period  

Textbooks available at the Knox Bookstore:  
*In Search of Southeast Asia* edited by David Steinberg  
*The Balinese* by J. Stephen Lansing  
*Feasts of Honor: Ritual and Change in the Toraja Highlands* by Toby Volkman  
*Thai Women in the Global Labor Force* by Mary Beth Mills  
(Additional readings are on reserve in Seymour Library.)

Organization of the course:  
The course is divided into two parts. It will begin with an historical and cultural overview designed to introduce you to the people and cultures that comprise the area of the world currently known as "Southeast Asia." During this section, you will read about the development of the early and traditional states of Southeast Asia, their later experiences with European and Japanese colonial powers, and their eventual emergence as modern nation states, along with descriptions of traditional Southeast Asian life and culture during these various historical periods.

The second part of the course will focus on case studies of contemporary Southeast Asian societies. Your readings about the Balinese (in the text by Lansing), the Toraja (in the text by Volkman), and the Thai (in the text by Mills), will be supplemented by material from my research on the Shan of northwest Thailand and reserve readings on various other groups. In contrast to the macroscopic focus of the first part of the course on large-scale processes and state formation, the second part of the course will concentrate on a more in-depth look at local events and processes situated in specific Southeast Asian communities. Particular attention will be given to indigenous notions of person, power (or "potency"), and the cosmos, as well as to the complex relationship between religious change and ethnic identity. We will end the course with a look at rural-urban migration, to see how these traditional identity issues are played out in an urban context.

Throughout the term, you will also be working on two independent projects: a group project on contemporary issues in a given region of Southeast Asia, and a short research paper on a topic of your choice. (See details in separate hand-out.) One day near the middle of the term has been set aside for the reports on regional news. The research papers will be due at the end of the term.

Class format will be a combination of lecture and discussion. The various course requirements will be weighted roughly as follows:

- Map quiz: 5%
- Group project: 10%
- First exam: 20%
- Second exam: 35%
- Paper: 20%
- Class participation: 10%
COURSE SCHEDULE

Please note: When there is more than one reading assigned for a given day, try to read them in the order listed, as the first reading often provides helpful background for understanding the second one.

1/3  introduction to Southeast Asia and to the course

1/5  Early Southeast Asian states
Reading: “The Land and Its People” by D.R. Sardesai (on reserve)
        Steinberg: Intro, Ch.1 and Ch.2

1/7  Traditional life in Southeast Asia
* Map quiz *
Reading: Steinberg: Ch.5, Ch.6, and choose one chapter from Ch.7-11

1/10 The colonial era
Reading: Steinberg: Intro to Part Two (pp. 99-100), Ch.18 (Java), and your country chapter for group project from Ch.12-19
        “A Sentimental Education: Native Servants and the Cultivation of European Children in the Netherlands Indies” by Ann Stoler (on reserve)

1/12 Social change, urbanization, and the rise of nationalism
Reading: Steinberg: Ch.21, Ch. 24, and your country chapter for group project from Ch.25-31
        “Ritual and Social Change: A Javanese Example” by Clifford Geertz (on reserve)

1/14 World War II and its aftermath
Reading: Steinberg: Ch.32, your country chapter for group project from Ch.33-39, and Ch.40

1/17 Non-state peoples of Southeast Asia  (N.B.: Shortened period today, class begins at 9:50!)
Reading: Excerpts from Peoples of the Golden Triangle: Preface and Ch.1 (Intro), Ch.7 (on the Akha), and “The Dialectics of Akhazang” by Leo Alting von Geusau (all on reserve)

1/19 Film: “The Split Horn” (56 min.)
Reading: Ch.4 (on the Hmong) Ch.10 (on change) from Lewis’s Peoples of the Golden Triangle; “Culture Crash” by John Krich (on reserve)
* Team Assignment due * (see hand-out)
1/21  Modern statecraft and its historical legacies
Reading: “Prologue” by Keyes, “Merit and Power in the Thai Social Order” by Hanks, and “The Ordination of a Tree: The Buddhist Ecology Movement in Thailand” by Susan Darlington (all on reserve)

1/24  Modern statecraft continued
Reading: “The Idea of Power in Javanese Culture” by Benedict Anderson (on reserve)

1/26  * First exam *

1/28  * Student presentations on current events *

1/31  Film: “The Three Worlds of Bali” (58 min.)
Reading: Chapters 1-3 of *The Balinese* by Steve Lansing

2/2  Balinese life-worlds
Reading: Finish reading *The Balinese*

2/4  Traditional notions of person, power, and cosmos (a Balinese example)
Reading: “Managing the Heart to Brighten Face and Soul: Emotions in Balinese Morality and Health Care” by Unni Wikan (on reserve)
* Paper topic due * (see hand-out)

2/7  Traditional notions of person, etc., continued (a Shan example)
Reading: “Souls into Spirits” by Eberhardt (on reserve)

2/9  Religious change and ethnic identity (Hmong and Akha examples)
Reading: “The Impact of Missionary Christianity Upon Marginalized Ethnic Minorities” by Nicholas Tapp; “Customs and Christian Conversion among Akha Highlanders of Burma and Thailand” by Cornelia Kammerer (on reserve)

2/11 Religious change and ethnic identity, continued (Sumatran, Javanese and Toraja examples)
Reading: “Salā in Indonesia: The Social Meanings of an Islamic Ritual” by John Bowen (on reserve); Chapters 1-2 of *Feasts of Honor* by Toby Volkman

2/14 Film: “Religion in Indonesia: The Way of the Ancestors” (60 min.)
Reading: Chapters 3-4 of *Feasts of Honor*
* List of sources for paper due * (see hand-out)

2/16 Religious change and ethnic identity, concluded (Toraja examples)
Reading: Finish reading *Feasts of Honor*
2/18  Tourism and ethnic identity
Reading: “Hill Tribe Tourism” by Eric Cohen; “Visions and Revisions: Toraja Culture and the Tourist Gaze” by Toby Volkman; and “Ethnic Tourism and the Renegotiation of Tradition in Tana Toraja” by Kathleen Adams (all on reserve)

2/21  Responses to economic change
Reading: “Which Way to Grow? Notes on Poverty and Prosperity in Southeast Asia” by Goodno and Miller; “Japanese Factories, Malay Workers” by Aihwa Ong (both on reserve); begin reading Thai Women in the Global Labor Force by Mary Beth Mills (including the “Pronunciation Guide” on pp. 187-188)

2/23  Cities and urban problems
Film: “Bangkok Zigzag”
Reading: Read through Chapter 3 (up to p. 74) of Thai Women in the Global Labor Force

2/25  Cities and urban problems
Reading: “A Javanese Metropolis and Mental Life” by Steve Ferzacca (on reserve) and Chapters 4-6 of Thai Women in the Global Labor Force

2/28  Cities and urban problems
Reading: Finish reading Thai Women in the Global Labor Force

3/2  Catch-up and review

3/4  * Second exam *

3/7  * Term papers due in my office by 11:00 a.m. *