International Development: Critical Perspectives on Theory and Practice
Arts and Cultural Studies Track- Draft Syllabus

COURSE DESIGNATOR  MSID 4001
NUMBER OF CREDITS  4 credits
Language of Instruction  English
Contact Hours  60 hours total
(20 common topics/40 track-specific)

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This track is a part of the larger MSID 4001 course. The track aims to develop a critical understanding of culture and development through an analysis of the literature, media arts, film, and music of Thailand. Our lives are surrounded by a universe of signs, symbols, and interactive languages. This complexity of language landscapes, especially media - its (re)production, its contextual use, and its economy – has great impacts on our daily lives, socially, culturally, and politically. From this perspective, critical study may enable us to decipher, decode, and deconstruct what we don’t see in front of ourselves by our naked eyes. The broad focus of this course is on pleasure, signification, and power within media and art culture and how those themes relate to and play a role in development discourse and practice in Thailand.

INSTRUCTOR
TBD

COURSE OBJECTIVES
• Gain an overview of Thai arts and culture and how they relate to and play a role in development discourse and practice in Thailand
• Apply cultural theories and concepts to analyse the production, reproduction, economy, and contexts of arts
• Provide opportunities to practice analysing critical ideas in Thai culture in everyday practices

METHODOLOGY
The course is delivered through in-class lectures and interactive discussions among students, guest lecturers, and course instructors. Student learning is also enhanced by visiting artist networks, museums, art galleries, and other sites. The class sessions are designed to allow student participation based on reading assignments; sharing experiences with traditional/local artists; analysing art, films and literature; and presenting topic of interest and term paper outlines.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
None

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS


CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93+</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;59</td>
<td>Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.</td>
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Summary of how grades are weighted:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class participation</th>
<th>5%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>End term examination</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Grade</td>
<td>50%</td>
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50% of the grade will be determined by assessments done in the common topics section of this course.

Assessment Descriptions:

**Class participation:** Students actively participate in class by doing the readings before class, asking questions, contributing to discussions and participating in small group projects and presentations.

**Term paper:** Students choose a topic of interest and present an outline for their paper during the classroom phase before going to their internship/research site with the completed paper due during the final week of the semester. The case studies in the paper should be based on internship/research experiences. This assignment encourages student to link development theories and concepts with a topic of interest and compare Thai culture and values with those of student’s home country.

**Examination:** In the final week, students take a written examination to assess their understanding of the critical ideas in Thai art and culture and their ability to apply theoretical knowledge to concepts related to arts and culture.

### CLASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEK 1-3
- Orientation
- Common topics (20 hours)

#### WEEK 4

Common topics (continued)
Introduction to arts and cultural studies
- Neo-marxism
- Visual cultural studies
- Post-colonial studies
- Media studies

#### WEEK 5
- Performance arts
- Literature
WEEK 6
• Local/traditional arts
• Architecture

WEEK 7
• Contemporary arts
• Roles of art networks and contemporary arts in social development

WEEK 8
• Wrap-up
• Presentation of student’s topic of interest and outline of term paper

WEEK 15
• Term paper due
• Final examination

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student’s responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT
The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.