MSID Thailand Country Analysis
Draft Syllabus

COURSE DESIGNATOR MSID 4002
NUMBER OF CREDITS 4 credits
Language of Instruction English
Contact Hours 60 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores the history of modernization, conditions of social transition, and current issues that characterize Thailand and influence relationships among various social groups. Students will enhance their understanding of the process of modernization and multi-level adjustment of Thai society in different historical contexts. The cultural diversity, political transition, and economic development are involved in the analysis of the topics.

INSTRUCTOR
Mr. Napakadol Kittisenee

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To gain an overview of the history of Thailand with a focus on key transition periods.
2. To understand the background of the current political, social, and economic situation.
3. To enhance students’ analytical skills in regards to observations from field studies and other sources of information, such as, films and mass media.

METHODOLOGY
This course is conducted through weekly class lectures, seminar discussions on topical issues, field excursions and in class presentations by students. At the end of the course, students will submit a final research paper and sit for final examination. Therefore, students are required to carry out research on an appropriate topic of their choice.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
None

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

Harrison, Rachel V. and Peter A. Jackson (eds.). 2010. The Ambiguous Allure of the West: Trace of Colonial in Thailand, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.


Kittiarsa, Pattana. 2014. The “Bare Life” of Thai Migrant Workmen in Singapore, Chiang Mai: Silkworm Books.


**GRADING**

**CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Rubric</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 93+</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A- 90-92</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+ 87-89</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B 83-86</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B- 80-82</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ 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 73-76</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- 70-72</td>
<td>Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.</td>
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Summary of how grades are weighted:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Class presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Grade</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Assessment Descriptions:

1. Class participation: Students are actively participating in class by completing the readings before class, asking question, and contributing to discussions.
2. Class presentation: Students are required to present in class on what do learn from the excursions and how the experiences relate to current issues or changes occurring in Thailand.
3. The term paper encourages students to review the literature related to their topic of interest, and use them to critically analyze and contextualize how their daily living experiences in Thailand relate to national and global development issues and other political, economic, and social changes. The paper will be 12-15 pages.
4. Final exam: This final written exam will evaluate the student’s overall understanding of the course content and ability to analyze social, political, and economic issues in Thailand.

CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK 1</th>
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<td>Orientation</td>
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<th>WEEK 2</th>
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<td>Thailand history in the regional colonization era.</td>
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<tr>
<td>National identity construction after World War II.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modernization and National Economic Development Plan.</td>
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| WEEK 3 |
- Democratization and capitalist growth.
- Environmentalism movement and power shifting.
- Decentralization process in Thailand.

### WEEK 4
- Otherness in development discourses.
- The ambiguity of boarder land.
- Ethnicity and tourism.
- Political movement of ethnic groups.

### WEEK 5
Thai pop culture in development contexts:
- A case study of migrant labors.
- A case study of teenagers.
- A case study of middle class.

### WEEK 6
- The diversity of Thai sexuality.
- Gender, love, sex, and marriage.
- Gender and development.

### WEEK 7
- The influence of Buddhism in Thailand.
- Islamic society in Thailand.

### WEEK 8
- Thailand and Chiang Mai’s position in the Asean Economic Community (AEC).
- Regional development impacts and local adaptation.

### WEEK 15
- Submit research paper on the chosen topic.
- 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.