

Camosun College, School of Arts and Science

ASIA 111: CONTEMPORARY ASIA-PACIFIC

Instructor: Helen Lansdowne

Office: Paul 230 **Phone:** 721-7021 **Email:** lansdown@uvic.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 – 6:00

Class Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 – 4:50 pm,

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the development of the Asia-Pacific region in the modern period. Through a series of lectures, it will trace the political, economic, cultural and social developments of the various countries and areas of the Pacific, including East Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding the issues of development, nationalism, democracy, class, gender, and cultural identity.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students will identify:

1. the physical landscape, cultural heritage and identities of the different areas of modern Asia-Pacific;
2. the roles of history, literature, art, religion and philosophy of different areas of modern Asia-Pacific.
3. the political and social structures, ideologies, and changes in modern Asia-Pacific.
4. the divergent economic systems, policies and development patterns in modern Asia-Pacific.

Required Text:

1. Vera Simone. The Asian Pacific: Political and Economic Development in a Global Context. Second Edition. New York: Longmans, 2001.

Required Readings:

There will be seven additional articles assigned for this course.

All additional required readings will be available on **Reserve** in the library.

Course Requirements:

Attendance	10%
Map Quiz	15%
Mid-Term	20%
Term Paper	35%
Final Exam	20%

Letter Grades: will be assigned according to the following distribution of marks:

A+ 95-100	B+ 80-84	C+ 65-69	
A 90-94	B 75-79	C 60-64	F <50
A- 85-89	B- 70-74	D 50-59	

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

Week One: September 7th and 9th

INTRODUCTION: The Asia-Pacific Region

Week Two: September 14th and 16th

THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

Simone, Chapter 1.

Week Three: September 21st and 23rd

DECOLONIZATION: Nationalism, Independence and Socialist States

Simone, Chapter 3,

Simone, Chapter 4, pp. 111-140

AUTHORITARIAN PLURALISM: Singapore, Japan and Korea

Simone, Chapter 4, pp. 160-172.

Week Four: September 28th and 30th

NATION-STATE BUILDING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Simone, Chapter 4, pp. 140-160, pp. 172-186

MAP QUIZ

Week Five: October 5th and 7th

ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY OCEANIA

Reading #1

Hau'ofa, Epeli (1993) 'Our Sea of Islands' in Waddell, Eric, Naidu, Vijay and Hau'ofa, Epeli (eds) A New Oceania: Rediscovering Our Sea of Islands. School of Social and Economic Development, University of the South Pacific: Suva.

Reading #2

The following selections from the New Internationalist Issue No 291/June 1997 "South Pacific: The Last Resort" [www.newint.org/issue291/contents.html]

1. Emberson Bain, 'Atu "Fishy Business"

[www.newint.org/issue291/fishy.htm]

2. Johnson, Giff, "Back to Bikini"

[www.newint.org/issue291/bikini.html]

3. "Decolonizing the Mind"

[www.newint.org/issue291/interview.html]

Week Six: October 12th and 14th

COMMUNISM IN ASIA: China and Southeast Asia

Reading #3

Lucian Bianco *Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 1915-1949*. Chapter 4, "Social Causes of the Chinese Revolution" (On Reserve)

Video

Week Seven: October 19th and 21st

PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Simone, Chapter 5.

Week Eight: October 26th and 28th

COLD WAR AND POST-COLD WAR IN THE PACIFIC REGION

Simone, Chapter 7

Week Nine: November 2nd

POST-WAR SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Japan and China

Simone, Chapter 8

November 4th

MID-TERM

Week Ten: November 9th

1990s: ECONOMIC CRISIS

Simone, Chapter 9

November 11th – Remembrance Day Holiday

Week Eleven: November 16th

DEMOCRATIZATION IN ASIA

Reading #4

Phillip Hookon Park. "The Cause of the Acute Food Crisis in the Democratic Republic of Korea." Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars, Volume 30, No. 4 (October-December 1998) pp. 24-34.

November 18th

DEMOCRATIZATION: CULTURE AND VALUES

Simone, Chapter 6

Week Twelve: November 23rd

FAMILY VALUES: THE ONE CHILD POLICY

Reading #5

Tyrene White, "The Origins of China's Birth Planning Policy", *Engendering China Women, Culture and the*

State Christina Gilmartin et al (eds.) Cambridge:
Harvard University Press, 1994.

November 25th

DEMOCRATIZATION: SOUTHEAST ASIA

Reading #6

Richard Stubbs, "Performance Legitimacy and Soft Authoritarianism", *Democracy, Human Rights & Civil Society in Southeast Asia*. Amitav Acharya et al (eds.) Toronto: Joint Centre for Asia Pacific Studies.

Week Thirteen: November 29th

HIV/AIDS IN ASIA

Reading #7

Chris Breyer *War In the Blood: Sex, Politics and Aids in Southeast Asia*, Chapter 1 and 2.

December 2nd

SEX TRADE IN ASIA AND OTHER ISSUES OF TRANSMIGRATION

Reading #8

Jeremy Seabrook, *Travels in the Skin Trade*. 1996
London: Pluto Press, Chapters 1, 2, and 6.

PAPER DUE

WOMEN IN ASIA-PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT

Reading #9

Jonathan Rigg *Southeast Asia the human landscape of modernization and development*. Chapter 6, "The Factory World", pp. 216-238. "Women and Work"

Week Fourteen: December 7th

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

Reading #7

Report to the Environmental Conference on
Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam

"Long-Term Consequences of the Vietnam War"

December 9th

REVIEW

FINAL EXAM TO BE HELD DURING EXAM WEEK (DEC. 13-21)