**Course Description**

This class examines issues pertaining the modern development of Southeast Asia and its nations. In order to get into mundane experiences of the people and their changing societies, ethnographic and documentary films will be used as a medium along with related articles and other materials. The class is basically “seminar” so there will be no never-ending lecture. Students are required to make a brief presentation at the beginning of the class highlighting some crucial points and debates. Throughout the semester, we will critically discuss the wide-ranges of study cases consisting of, but not limited to, post-colonial experiences; post-war trauma and lived memories; migration and the hybridization of identity; human rights, violence and ethnic conflicts; sexes, gender and sex industries; the magic and tragic legends of urbanization; as well as the process of marginalisation and disparity. Sociological and anthropological frameworks will mostly be applied, if not dominated!!

**Contents**

**Week 1** 13 August 2015

Introduction

**Week 2** 20 August 2015

SEA, what is in the name?


**Week 3** 3 September 2015

Watching Films, Watching Societies


Rules

Late attendance is mostly unacceptable. Ten-minutes late is tolerable but later than that make me very unhappy. Three late attendances make one grade deduction.

Come to class prepared. This is not a movie night or napping party. Please consult your reading materials thoroughly prior to the class. Talking nonsense is wasting others’ time.

Again, noting that this is a seminar class. It is evaluated by your participation and contribution.

The materials are mainly in English. Basic language competency is necessary but not a must. Try your best.

Evaluation

- Presentation and participation: 30 points
- Reflections (3 pcs): 30 points
- Class attendance (be punctual!): 10 points
- Group project: 30 points
- Total 100 points

Week 4  10 September 2015
Post War Trauma, Memory and Transcendences

- Movie: The Betrayal (2007) by Ellen Kuras & Thavisook Phrasavath (92 mins)


Week 5  24 September 2015
Post-colonial Displacement and Fragmented Selves

- Movie: Daughter from Danang (2002) by Gail Dolgin & Vicente Franco (83 mins)

Week 6  15 October 2015

Sex Paradise, Sex Hell

- Macho Dancer (1988) by Lino Brocka (136 mins)

Week 7  22 October 2015

Politically Nature

- Movie: A River Changes Course by Kalyanee Mam

Week 8  29 October 2015

Urban Sprawl and Ghosts of City


Week 9 & 10  5 & 12 November 2015

XXX—Student-led Topics

Week 11 & 12  19 & 26 November 2015

Project Presentations and Wrap-Up