



SYLLABUS

NGOs of South-East Asia
Instructor Name: Dyana Mason
Contact Hrs: 40
UO Quarter Credits: 4
Language of Instruction: English

Chiang Mai and Bangkok, Thailand and Siem Reap and Phnom Penh, Cambodia

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an immersion into the nonprofit sector in two developing nations, Thailand and Cambodia. Usually called nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in an international context, these organizations play crucial roles in providing basic services to the populations of developing nations. They also engage in advocacy for human rights and environmental protection. This course will consist of coursework evaluating the role and activities of NGOs in South East Asia. We will also have a hands on team-based project working with an NGO in the region to identify their opportunities and provide recommendations. This program will take place in Thailand and Cambodia in the summer of 2020.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Instructional Goals.

- The course will provide a cultural immersion experience in Thailand and Cambodia.
- It will allow an opportunity to analyze NGOs active in South East Asia and visit them on the ground through site visits.
- Develop understanding of the history of the region and the role of NGOs in it.

Student Outcomes. Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Understand the role of NGOs in supporting communities in SE Asia.
- Develop an understanding of the cultural and historical context that has shaped the NGO sector in the region
- Meet with NGO leaders and understand their opportunities and challenges.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

This course will make use of a wide range of instructional materials and opportunities, from readings (see below) to organizational analysis via secondary research (websites, news articles individual reflections and an analysis of and presentation to an NGO active in the region (TBD).

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

The course grade will be based on the following components:

For Undergraduate Students:

- Class participation during program 30%
- Book Report 20%
- NGO Analysis and Recommendations 50%

For Graduate Students:

- Class participation during program 20%
- Book Report 20%
- Lead discussion/lecture during program 10%
- NGO Analysis and Recommendations 50%

Grade Distribution

A	94-100%
A-	90-93.99%
B+	86-89.99%
B	84-85.99%
B-	80-83.99%
C+	76-79.99%
C	74-75.99%
C-	70-73.99%
D+	66-69.99%
D	64-65.99%
D-	60-63.99%
F	Under 60%

Graded Elements and Description

1. Class Participation

Participating in all class activities and visits during the program will comprise 30% of the grade for undergraduate students, and 20% for graduate students. Included in this assessment will be:

- Being on time for all class meeting times
- Dressed appropriately (including in business-casual attire for site visits) for all visits and activities unless otherwise noted on itinerary.
- Completing readings and website review before our visits with groups and asking meaningful questions of our hosts.
- Attending, preparing for and participating, in class debriefs.

Business-casual attire during the summer in SE Asia may comprise of light/khaki pants and blouse/polo shirt, medium-length or longer summer dress (with a shoulder covering of some sort). Dress sandals are ok. Some temple complexes also have dress codes (no shorts or short skirts or short-shorts, no bare shoulders for both men and women, no flip flops), so make sure you pack appropriately for a variety of needs and plan on being “dressed up” for cultural excursions as well as NGO visits. You can review some of those rules [here](#). Remember, you are representing your university community to an international audience, so take that into consideration as well.

2. Book Report

Students are required to read one book written by a native of either Thailand or Cambodia, and provide a 2-3 page book report. The book can be either fiction or nonfiction. Students may also include their experiences during the program as part of their reflection. For example, you may want to discuss your perceptions of the culture that you experiences in person, versus what you read in the book. The book report is due on the last day of class in-country, and uploaded to Canvas or emailed.

3. Lead discussion/lecture (Graduate students only)

During the program, graduate students will lead one class discussion about organizations we meet with, or other material as provided by the instructor. Assignments will be given out (about location and topic) prior to departure.

4. NGO Analysis and Recommendations

During the course, teams of students will have a chance to communicate with an NGO that is active in the region and produce recommendations for a challenge the organization is facing.

Components of the assignment include:

- Presentation to client during our stay (20% of final grade)
- Final 10 page report on your analysis and recommendations (80%). The report should include an overview of the organization, its mission, activities, financials and a SWOT analysis and recommendations.

COURSE OUTLINE

	Readings	Deliverables
Zero Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review websites of groups we are scheduled to visit (as made available by instructor) • Meet remotely with NGO leader for analysis project • Review pages for Cambodia and Thailand (other SE Asian nations optional) on Transparency International (www.transparency) and the Economist’s Intelligence Unit (http://www.eiu.com/) Make sure you at least review the individual tabs including “Summary”, “Politics” and “Economy”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned groups for team presentation during program (graduate students)

<p>Week 1 – Chiang Mai</p> <p>Overall review of SE Asia NGO sector, Thailand NGOs and Refugees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oh, Su-An “Education in refugee camps in Thailand: policy, practice and paucity ” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present in meetings and visits, participate in lecture and discussions
<p>Week 2 – Bangkok</p> <p>Thailand NGOs and Environmental Advocacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnson, C., & Forsyth, T. In the eyes of the state: Negotiating a “rights-based approach” to forest conservation in Thailand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present in meetings and visits, participate in discussions • Group Presentations (graduate students) • Draft Journal (to date) submitted
<p>Week 3 – Siem Reap</p> <p>NGOs in Cambodia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khieng S. and Dahles, H. “Resource dependence and effects of funding diversification strategies among NGOs in Cambodia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present in meetings and visits, participate in discussions • Present your analysis to client
<p>Week 4 –Phnom Pehn and after</p> <p>NGOs in SE Asia – future trends</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rahman, Serina (2016) “Orienting ASEAN Towards Its People: Enabling Engagement with Local NGOs” • Finish reading your choice of book written by SE Asia author 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Analysis due August 15, uploaded to Canvas or email, emailed to client

Standard citation needs to include: APA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Johnson, C., & Forsyth, T. (2002). In the eyes of the state: Negotiating a “rights-based approach” to forest conservation in Thailand. *World development*, 30(9), 1591-1605.

Khieng, S., & Dahles, H. (2015). Resource dependence and effects of funding diversification strategies among NGOs in Cambodia. *VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations*, 26(4), 1412-1437.

Oh, Su-Ann. "Education in refugee camps in Thailand: policy, practice and paucity." *UNESCO*. Retrieved February 20 (2010): 2013.

Rahman, Serina. (2016) “Orienting ASEAN Towards Its People: Enabling Engagement with Local NGOs”, Think Asia, a project of Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program and the Asian Development Bank Institute. Accessed at: <https://think-asia.org/handle/111540/6829>

