

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Nov. 29, 2010



Postcard from the field: Cambodia

Anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood, left, and students from her summer 2010 field school spell out their connection to NIU at Angkor Wat. From right, the NIU students include Emily Dow (undergraduate, anthropology), Jordan York (graduate student, anthropology), Emily Kruse (contract major, Southeast Asian studies), Eleanor Fritz (undergraduate, anthropology), and Shawn McCafferty (Ph.D. student, political science). Dane Crowton, second from left, a field school student from Utah State University, volunteered to help complete the “N” for the “NIU” picture. Ledgerwood recently returned from a five-month research sabbatical in Cambodia.

Weekly lectures will resume in January 21, 2011, with a lecture by Paul Rausch, “Women and Southeast Asian Cinema.” Thanks to all presenters and attendees for participating in the Fall 2010 series.

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CSEAS Quick Links

1. Southeast Asia course schedule posted for spring



The spring 2011 NIU course list for Southeast Asian studies undergraduate minors and graduate students has been posted on the [center website](#). Thirty-three courses are on the list, including several new offerings. [POLS 672-2](#), The State and Illegality in Southeast Asia, taught by assistant professor and center associate Michael Buehler (political science), introduces students to the phenomenon of political corruption and the study of its incidence, using historical examples and analytical articles on contemporary developments, dealing with the nature, causes and effects, and proposed cures of political corruption, as well as the ethical dilemmas inherent in political life. The material will draw on scholarship focusing on Southeast Asia. [POLS 672-1](#), The Politics of Identity: Ethnicity, Religion, and Conflict, taught by assistant professor and center associate Kikue Hamayotsu (political science), surveys various sources and forms of identity politics with special reference to Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. For undergraduates, associate professor and center associate Eric Jones (history) is teaching [HIST 398](#), Global Islam, an examination of the faith worldwide, the peoples with whom it intersects, its interactions with colonialism, and the implications for the modern world.



2. Center visitors: A delegation from the Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) came by the center Nov. 22 while at NIU to sign a memorandum of understanding and to discuss cooperating with the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology and the center. From left are Associate Provost Deborah Pierce; Rozita Rosli, education attaché from the Education Malaysia in Evanston, Ill.; Dr. Wan Norlidah Al Qadri, Director, International Office, UMP; center director Jim Collins; Dr. Daing Mohd. Nasir bin Daing Ibrahim, UMP vice chancellor; Dr. Badrulhisham Abdul Aziz, UMP deputy vice chancellor; and Mohd. Raizalhilmy bin Mohd. Rais, UMP senior assistant registrar.

3. Papers, presenters wanted for Southeast Asia Club spring student conference



Mark Bradley

Students who want to polish their presenting skills will have the chance to do so Saturday, **April 23**, at the Southeast Asia Club's annual spring [student conference](#). The club is now accepting abstracts from both graduate and undergraduate students through Friday, **Jan. 14**, with final papers due Wednesday, **March 23**. The theme of the conference is "Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia." Papers may be submitted outside the theme, but must have some connection to Southeast Asian studies. The keynote speaker will be University of

Chicago historian Mark Bradley, whose areas of specialty include postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history. Bradley, who received his Ph.D. in history from Harvard University in 2005, is the author of *Imagining Vietnam and America: The Making of Postcolonial Vietnam* (University of North Carolina Press, 2000), which won the prestigious Harry J. Benda Prize from the Association for Asian Studies. All papers must be submitted in English; presentations will be limited to 15 minutes to be followed by five minutes of discussion. A cash prize will be awarded to best undergraduate and graduate papers. The conference is free and open to all.

4. Summer study abroad in SEA through NIU: Malaysia/Brunei and Thailand

NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia next summer with NIU faculty members and center associates. Andrea Molnar, associate professor (anthropology), is leading a group to Thailand to explore cultural diversity while associate professor Eric Jones (history) will take students to Malaysia and Brunei. Both are NIU study abroad programs offering course credit for graduate and undergraduate students. For information about programs, financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.



Eric Jones makes the case for studying abroad at a Nov. 19 lecture capping International Education week.

- **Study Abroad Malaysia/Brunei: History and Culture of Southeast Asia, May 15–June 3:** Three-week program led by associate history professor Eric Jones incorporates a home-stay experience with significant time spent in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Penang, the jungles of Sarawak and Borneo, and the Islamic center of Brunei. Financial aid available to qualified applicants. For a video about the program, including images from the 2007 trip, see Jones's video on [YouTube](#). **Deadline to apply: March 15.**
- **Cultural Diversity in Thailand, May 30–June 25:** Three-week program led by associate anthropology professor Andrea Molnar focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course introduces students to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand, the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups, and the practical implications of these relations in everyday Thai life. **Deadline to apply: To be determined.**

5. Kudos: Julie Edmunds

Anthropology graduate student and former Southeast Asia Club president Julie Edmunds is now on staff at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' External Programming department, where she will be working as its credit coordinator as she finishes her master's degree. Edmunds, who is scheduled to graduate in May 2011, is wrapping up her master's degree with a concentration in Southeast Asian studies. Her research focuses on Indonesia and the

cultural impact of micro finance organizations on the communities they serve with a specific emphasis on women.

6. Seeking students for intensive Lao language and culture program abroad

Applications are now being accepted for next summer's [Study Abroad in Laos](#) (SAIL), an intensive eight-week language program in Lao language and culture administered by the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies in collaboration with the Lao American College in Vientiane, Laos. Program dates are June 15 to Aug. 10. For details, see the Center for Lao Studies website. NIU students who wish to apply may be considered for possible funding and should coordinate through the center and the NIU Study Abroad Office. Call the center at 815-753-1771 or e-mail cseas@niu.edu; the Study Abroad Office may be reached at 815-753-0304 or niuabroad@niu.edu.

7. Calling all doctoral students: AAS dissertation workshop offered

The Association for Asian Studies will again offer a [dissertation workshop](#) for doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences following its annual meeting in March in Hawaii. The March 28–31 workshop is limited to twelve students and will be lead by David Szanton. The theme is “Borders, Migration, and Transnational Flows: Asia in Motion.” For details about the workshop and eligibility, contact David Szanton at Szanton@uclink.berkeley.edu. Meals, accommodations, and limited travel subsidies are offered. **Application deadline: Dec. 10.**

8. Columbia offers post-doctoral fellowship in Modern Southeast Asian Studies



The Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University, New York, invites candidates from all social science disciplines, including history, to apply for its 2011–12 post-doctoral [Fellowship in Modern Southeast Asian Studies](#). Fellows may conduct their own research half-time while teaching one course on Southeast Asia per semester. Fellows also are an integral participant in day-to-day activities at the institute. The 10-month fellowship begins Aug. 1, 2011, and comes with a stipend of \$45,000 plus benefits. Applicants must have completed all Ph.D. degree requirements (completed and filed the dissertation) between July 2007 and July 2011, within the field of modern Southeast Asian studies. Individuals who hold or have held regular faculty positions are ineligible to apply. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 19.** For details, contact Celia Bhattacharya at 212-854-9206 or atcb2462@columbia.edu.

9. Conferences and calls for papers

- **International Conference on Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia**, Jan. 4–5, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Theme is “Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia: Islam, Mergers, and Margins.” Details forthcoming; CSEAS co-sponsoring.
- **6th Biannual Northeast Conference on Indonesian Studies**, Feb. 19, New Haven, CT. Conference organizers, Yale University Indonesia Forum (YIF) and Cornell University Indonesian Association (CIA), invite submissions and are seeking reviewers. **Deadline: Jan. 5.** For details, contact YIFconference@gmail.com or visit the conference [website](#). **NEW**

10. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Cambodian-born Sokvannara Sar, who came to the United States to study ballet at the School of the American Ballet in New York and is the subject of a new film, [Dancing Across Borders](#), will dance the role of the Cavalier in two performances of “The Nutcracker” with the Evansville Dance Theatre on Saturday, **Dec. 18**, at the Victory Theatre in Evansville, Ind. For ticket information and details, see the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra [website](#).
- The Chicago-based **Friends of the Gamelan** will present a spring concert of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by artistic director Joko Sutrisno of Minneapolis, on Sunday, **May 1**, at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. Performance time and ticket information not yet available. The group also offers beginning gamelan lessons and a regular performance ensemble. Students who complete the beginning gamelan class may participate in the spring concert. For details, e-mail info@chicagogamelan.org or see the group’s [Web site](#).
- The [Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute](#) is a non-profit group dedicated to the education, preservation, and promotion of Thai culture and fine arts in the Chicago area through classes and performances. The group is located in the Boys and Girls Club, 3400 S. Emerald St., Chicago. For details, call 312-725-0640 or write Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute, 1960 Oak Knoll Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045.
- The Indonesian Consulate General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see the consulate [website](#).
- The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) holds **free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons** Sundays at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.



Sokvannara Sar aloft



CSEAS Quick Links

[CSEAS Calendar](#)

[Southeast Asia Club](#)

[Conferences and calls for papers](#)

[Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships, and more](#)

If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance at any center-sponsored event, contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.