

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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| Academic School / Department: | CASS |
| Programme: | BA International History |
| FHEQ Level: | 5 |
| Course Title: | Vietnam and Cambodia: Culture and Commemoration |
| Course Code: | HST 5715 (TP) |
| Course Leader: | Michael F. Keating |
| Student Engagement Hours: | 120 (standard 3- credit BA course) |
| Lectures: | 22.5 |
| Seminar / Tutorials: | 22.5 |
| Independent / Guided Learning: | 75 |
| Semester: | Summer |
| Credits: | 12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits |

Course Description:

This course aims to provide insight into processes of identity formation and cultural practices and explores commemorative events and rituals in Vietnam and Cambodia through investigation of key historical moments and their contemporary legacy. Beginning with the French conquest of Indochina and anti-colonial resistance, the impact of World War II, and the First Indochina War, the course then focuses on the casues and the socio-cultural-political impact of the Vietnam War (the Second Indochina War), particularly on Vietnam and Cambodia. This leads to consideration of the subsequent civil war and genocide in Cambodia (leading to the Third Indochina War). The lasting impact and legacy of colonialism and conflict is examined, along with how these countries have commemorated, regenerated, and continue to reshape their contested identities today.

Prerequisites:

GEP 4180 or HST 3200

Aims and Objectives:

- To give students an insight into Vietnam and Cambodia's history and politics as a means to aid their understanding of the construction and contestation of identity, culture, and development of nationalism in the region.
- To provide students with an overview of Vietnam and Cambodia's complex relationship to colonial power and culture.
- To help students understand how almost a century of wars and mass killings have shaped the economic, political, and social development of Cambodia and Vietnam.
- To begin to interpret the Vietnam War and Cambodian genocide by seeking to understand the motives and strategies of the key players in the events covered by the course.
- To gain an appreciation of the roles and functions of commemorative events and rituals in both the Vietnamese and Cambodian contexts.
- To use a range of theoretical perspectives to demonstrate how a better understanding of Vietnamese and Cambodian history and contemporary cultural manifestations can be reached.

Programme Outcomes:

1. 5A(ii); 5B(i); 5B(ii); 5B(iii); 5C(iii); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Registry and found at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to critically assess and analyse sites visited during the Travel Programme, and understand the different ways in which these can be used to reflect on the themes of the course.
- Demonstrate detailed knowledge of the main debates around the role of war and conflict in the history and culture of Vietnam and Cambodia.
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of current debates around genocide, mass casualties, and commemoration practices associated with contemporary warfare as they apply to Vietnam and Cambodia.
- Demonstrate the ability to independently articulate arguments in written and oral form.

Indicative Content:

- Genocide, War, and Commemoration in Cambodia and Vietnam
- Identity, Nationalism and anticolonialism in Indochina
- Conflict, culture, and memory politics in Vietnam and Cambodia
- Imperialism and colonialism in South East Asia
- Economic and social/political issues in South East Asia

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Travelling Programme Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures, student presentations, class discussions, and on-site visits as part of the extended travel programme. Themes and links between the literature and locations may be complemented with films and guest lectures where appropriate.

Indicative Text(s): (all texts are available in Kindle editions for use on mobile devices)

Ang, Cheng Guan, *The Vietnam War from the Other Side*. London: Routledge 2013
London

Kiernan, Ben, *Genocide and Resistance in Southeast Asia*. London: Routledge 2017

Olick, J. K., et al. . *The Collective Memory Reader*. New York ; Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2011.

Reid, Anthony, *A History of Southeast Asia: Critical Crossroads*. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.

Said, E. W., *Culture and Imperialism*. London: Vintage, 1994..

Ward, Geoffrey & Burns, Ken & Novick, Lynn, *The Vietnam War: An Intimate History*. London: Ebury Press, 2019.

Journals

Journal of Southeast Asian Studies Cambridge University Press

Journal of Vietnamese Studies University of California Press

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

